



Town of Ashland

MASSACHUSETTS

SELECT BOARD

Minutes

July 1, 2020 – 6:00 PM

Location Online/Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82642203678>

***Vision Statement** - The Town of Ashland will be a prosperous and fiscally sound community with a full range of housing, business, cultural, educational, and recreational opportunities in a safe and attractive environment for residents and visitors.*

***Mission Statement** - The Ashland Select Board is dedicated to promoting responsible fiscal management, advocating for sustainable development & growth, and providing excellent municipal services which will enhance the quality of life in our diverse community. The Ashland Select Board is committed to providing clear goals and objectives for Town management and creating effective engagement and public participation with residents, state legislators and other elected officials in order to achieve our mission.*

Call Meeting to Order

Chair Steve Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm explaining that the meeting is being broadcast live on WACA TV and livestreamed on Facebook. Board members are participating using the Zoom Video Conferencing platform. All board and committee members are participating remotely. Steve took attendance by rollcall; Yolanda Greaves-aye, Brandi Kinsman-aye, Joe Magnani-aye, Rob Scherer-aye, Steve Mitchell-aye. In addition, Town Manager Michael Herbert and Assistant Town Manager Jenn Ball were also in attendance.

Scheduled Hearings & Appearance

MAZI – Entertainment License

Steve Mitchell opened the public hearing and read the public notice.

Zach Siarkos, owner of Mazi, explained that the Entertainment License is for acoustic music played by two-piece bands Thursdays through Saturdays from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm. The bands will perform on the patio or right inside of the patio doors. There are also six televisions installed above the bar area.

Steve asked for comments in favor or against the requested Entertainment License. Howard Axelrod spoke in favor. Steve read a letter to the board from Maryann Malone, 273 Trailside Way that stated her opposition to the license.

The board discussed the specific entertainment hours that would be permitted one or two days per week.

Yolanda Greaves made a motion to close the public hearing. This motion was seconded by Joe Magnani with a vote of 5-0-0.

Yolanda Greaves made a motion to approve the Mazi Restaurant Entertainment License for acoustic amplified music on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm, with entertainment being had two of the three nights each week, outside and inside, and a review will be conducted in three months to ensure there are no noise complaints. This motion was seconded by Joe Magnani with a roll call vote Greaves-aye, Kinsman-aye, Magnani-aye, Scherer-aye, and Mitchell-aye; 5-0-0.

Citizen's Participation

Debra G, asked if the board planned to discuss issues with racial justice. Yolanda responded that the topic was not on this meeting's agenda, however the board will discuss the go-forward plans at the Board Workshop.

Old/New Business

Reorganization of the Board

Rob Scherer made a motion to nominate Yolanda Greaves as Chair, Joe Magnani as Vice Chair and Brandi Kinsman as Clerk of the Select Board. This motion was seconded by Yolanda Greaves with a roll call vote Greaves-aye, Kinsman-aye, Magnani-aye, Scherer-aye, and Mitchell-aye; 5-0-0.

Eversource Update

Rob Scherer explained that the next step is to determine how the Eversource Report written by Dr. Stanton will be used. He also indicated that the Massachusetts Attorney General (AG) is pursuing a gas energy demand review with the Dept. of Public Utilities. The board recommended writing to the AG to express their support of the review, as well as submitting Dr. Stanton's report to the AG's Office, Sen. Spilka and Rep. Lewis.

Michael Herbert reported that there were no new updates from the three areas of litigation. He also commented that the board should be aware of the balance between transparency and strategy when this topic is discussed at open meetings.

Chuck Lids reported that the Sustainability Committee is working with the Rock Mountain Institute to increase the electrification of heating in the town, in place of gas, which is supported by the Arcadia Center Report. Lynn Lids mentioned that due to the emitted toxins, reducing natural gas cooking and transitioning to induction cooking is also necessary.

Mark Dassoni commented that the slow pace of the project is in Eversource's favor.

Rob Scherer made a motion to support the recommended actions as discussed. This motion was seconded by Steve Mitchell with a roll call vote Kinsman-aye, Magnani-aye, Scherer-aye, Mitchell-aye, and Greaves-aye; 5-0-0.

End of Year Account Reconciliation

Michael Herbert reviewed the yearend reconciliation and requested approval to move money out of the salary contingency account, the employee retirement account, inspections, and Town Counsel legal service, and transfer them into several town accounts.

Joe Magnani made a motion to recommend transferring the balance of \$321,900.00 to the appropriate line items at the request of the Town Manager. This motion was seconded by Brandi Kinsman with a roll call vote Kinsman-aye, Magnani-aye, Scherer-aye, Mitchell-aye, and Greaves-aye; 5-0-0.

June 30th Annual Town Meeting Update

Michael Herbert reported that a quorum was reached, and all five Articles passed. Michael thanked the Moderator and the Select Board for their efforts. The board thanked Joe Richardson and his staff.

There was a discussion concerning the logistics for the fall town meeting if the Covid-19 restrictions remain in place, as there is currently no legislation that will allow for a virtual and open Town Meeting and it would require a Charter change.

Discuss Outdoor Dining and Reopening

Michael Herbert and Jenn Ball reported that there have been no outdoor dining issues reported. Restaurants have been allowed to open and the establishments and patrons are following the procedures. Board members mentioned their recent positive experiences partaking in both in and outdoor dining.

Discuss Potential Days for Select Board Workshop

The Select Board Workshop will be held remotely via Zoom on Saturday July 11, 2020 at 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. An Executive Session with Lisa Mead, Town Counsel, will be held on July 15, 2020 prior to the scheduled Select Board meeting.

Consent Agenda

- A. Acceptance of Minutes – June 3rd Regular Session Minutes.
- B. Notification of Town Manager's Appointment of Talia Seavey as the DAET Project Coordinator and waiver of 15 day waiting period.

Steve Mitchell made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. This motion was seconded by Joe Magnani with a roll call vote Kinsman-aye, Magnani-aye, Scherer-aye, Mitchell-aye, and Greaves-aye; 5-0-0.

Priority Project Update

Rail Transit District

Michael Herbert reported that he sent a revised development agreement to UGC, however they have not agreed to all the terms.

Downtown Project/Riverwalk/Mill Pond

Concerning the Downtown Project, Michael is working with the winning bidder on the contract terms. Additional work with Eversource is needed with regards to moving forward with the underground utilities.

The Mill Pond effort is awaiting additional materials to finish the project. Work to replace the boardwalk next to the Historical Society is pending.

Public Safety Building

Michael Herbert and Joe Magnani met with the Fafards to finalize the deed that transfers the land to the town. An access easement to the back area of the site, as specified in the Letter of Intent, also needs to be finalized.

Warren District and Valentine Estate

The Valentine Committee meeting is pending. Concerning the Warren District, a meeting is scheduled for next week with the architect.

Town Manager Report

COVID Update

Michael reported that Covid-19 cases are slowing down. Phase 3 of the reopening plan has been delayed. The board recommended consulting the Conservation Commission regarding when they plan to open the parking lot at Warren Woods.

Housing Assistance Program

Jenn Ball provided an update on the Rental Assistance Program that provided residents with rental and mortgage assistance by utilizing the Cares Act money made available due to Covid-19 impacts. The program's income eligibility requirements can be found on the Town website. Anyone under Section 8 housing aid or already receiving government housing funding is not eligible. Joe Magnani noted that once the first tranche of \$400,000 of Cares Act monies are depleted \$250,000 from the Affordable Housing Trust will be made available.

Board Reports

Yolanda Greaves

Yolanda reported that the Mindess Feasibility Project study was approved to move forward with the schematic design. The next step is to submit a schedule for town vote and construction.

She mentioned that Natick is now a Select Board as a result of their recent election.

Yolanda noted that Phil Williams has stepped down from the Planning Board and thanked him for his service. She also thanked Preston Crow for his fifteen years on the Planning Board.

Brandi Kinsman

Brandi is working with the Ashland School Board on the Reopening Plan.

Joe Magnani

Joe reported that the Ashland Day Committee has canceled this year's event. Joe also raised concern regarding mosquito borne EEE virus and the need to be cautious.

Steve Mitchell

Steve acknowledged Jenn Ball and Emma Snelling for their work on the Housing Assistance Program.

He reminded all that the Ashland Farmer's Market is open.

Rob Scherer

Rob reported that Chapter 90 funding will be \$200 million, \$100 million less than expected. Michael noted that Ashland typically receives \$450,000 for road paving.

Rob gave a shout-out to Toby, a recent graduate, for the clean-up work he has done at the State Park.

Rob commented that the Massachusetts State Pension Fund has no policy concerning the divestment of fossil fuels, and he suggested the board take a stance on this topic, which the members agreed.

Adjournment

Steve Mitchell made a motion to adjourn. This motion was seconded by Joe Magnani with a roll call vote Kinsman-aye, Magnani-aye, Scherer-aye, Mitchell-aye, and Greaves-aye; 5-0-0.

This agenda is subject to change and includes those items reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting. Not all agenda items may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

LEGAL NOTICE
Town of Ashland

Notice is hereby given that the Select Board will conduct a hearing regarding an application for an Entertainment License.

MAZI
320 Pond Street
Ashland, MA 01721

A public hearing will be held on Wednesday July 1, 2020 using Zoom. Meeting information will be posted on the agenda which can be found on the town website www.ashlandmass.com. The hearing will take place at 6:00 PM.

Parties wishing to be heard on this matter should attend the meeting as noted above. Interested parties who are unable to attend the hearing may submit written comments to the Select Board's Office, Town Hall 101 Main Street, Ashland, MA 01721 or by e-mailing Susan Robie at srobie@ashlandmass.com.

Steve Mitchell, Chair
Select Board



Town of Ashland MASSACHUSETTS

Annual License Fee: **\$100.00**

License Year: **2020**

SELECT BOARD, LICENSING BOARD
101 Main Street Ashland, MA 01721

ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE APPLICATION

Name of Applicant: Zacharias Siarkos

Address of Applicant: 111 Main Street

Telephone: 508-253-1111

E-mail: zsiarkos@ashlandma.com

Federal ID: 51-1234567

Or Social Security #: _____

Business Name: Mazi

Business Address: 320 Pond Street

Telephone: 508-253-1111

E-mail: zsiarkos@ashlandma.com

Description of Entertainment: T.V.'s + Live Music

Days/Hours of Entertainment: Live music 1-2 days a week
Saturday 7pm-11pm

(Floor Plan/Site Plan/Parking Plan must be submitted with application)

Floor Plan:

Parking Plan:

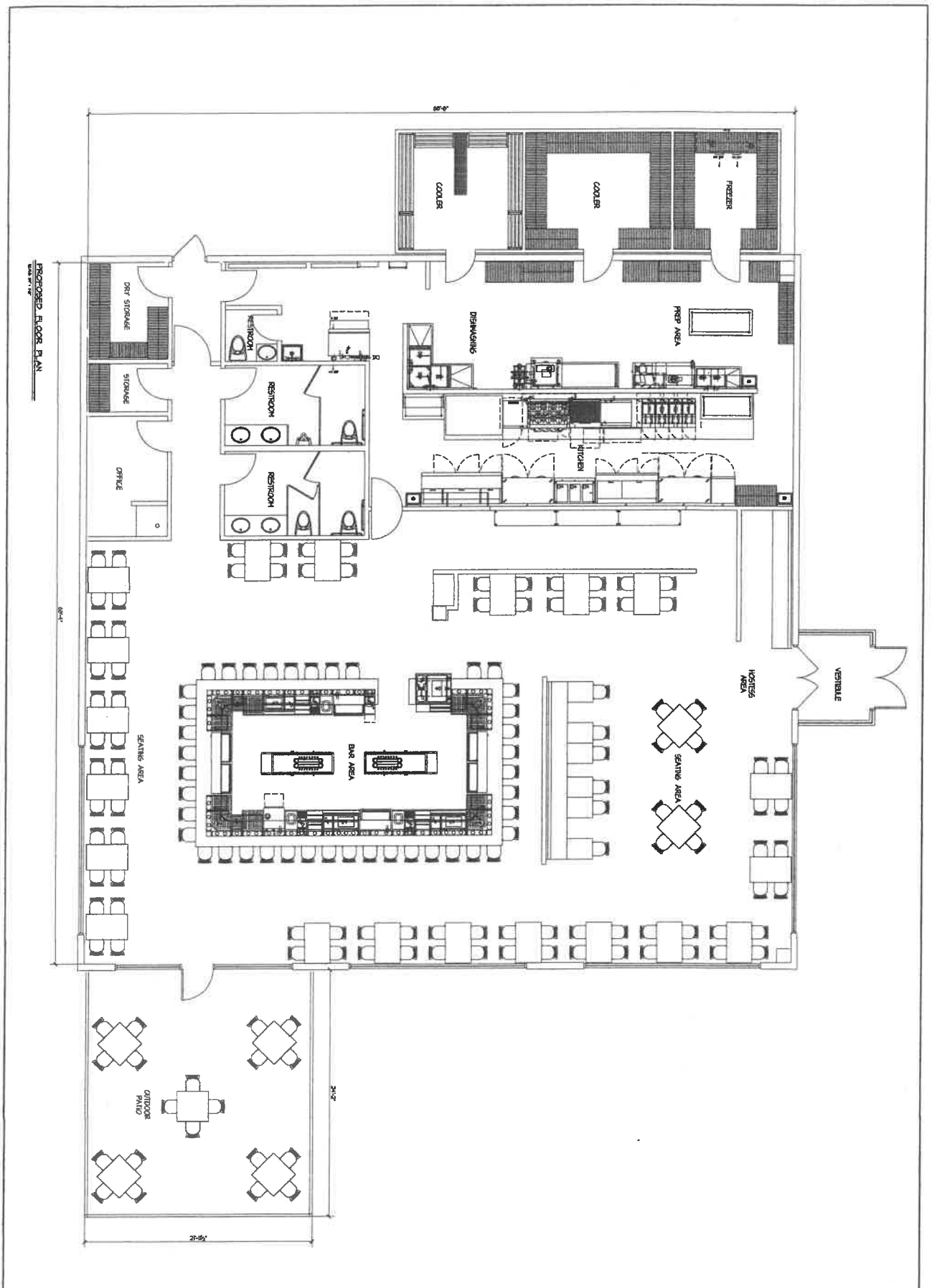
Site Plan:

I the undersigned, state that the information provided in this application, and associated documents, are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I certify under penalties of perjury, that

all taxes, fees and fines owned to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Town of Ashland have been paid.

Zacharias Siarkos
Applicant's Signature

6-10-20
Date



C & G
Ashtand
 320 Third Street
 Ashland, MA 01721

RESTAURANT SPACES



JFA
 J. Farrell Associates, Inc.
 250 State Street, Suite 200
 Ashland, MA 01721
 413-982-1111
 Fax: 413-982-1112

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS

PROPOSED FLOOR PLAN

Job No.	1800
TITLE	
DATE	1/10
SCALE	1/8" = 1'-0"
DRAWN	06-06-2009
CHECKED	

A-1



Town of Ashland

M A S S A C H U S E T T S

SELECT BOARD Minutes June 3, 2020 – 6:00 PM Location Online/Zoom Meeting

Vision Statement - *The Town of Ashland will be a prosperous and fiscally sound community with a full range of housing, business, cultural, educational, and recreational opportunities in a safe and attractive environment for residents and visitors.*

Mission Statement - *The Ashland Select Board is dedicated to promoting responsible fiscal management, advocating for sustainable development & growth, and providing excellent municipal services which will enhance the quality of life in our diverse community. The Ashland Select Board is committed to providing clear goals and objectives for Town management and creating effective engagement and public participation with residents, state legislators and other elected officials in order to achieve our mission.*

Call Meeting to Order

Chair Steve Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm explaining that the meeting is being broadcast live on WACA TV and board members are participating using the Zoom Video Conferencing platform. All board and committee members are participating remotely. Steve took attendance by rollcall; Yolanda Greaves-aye, Brandi Kinsman-aye, Joe Magnani-aye, Rob Scherer-aye, Steve Mitchell-aye. In addition, Town Manager Michael Herbert, Assistant Town Manager Jennifer Ball, and Executive Assistant Susan Robie were also in attendance.

Scheduled Hearings & Appearances

Eversource Hearing – Grant of Location

Steve Mitchell opened the public hearing by reading the public hearing notice.

Christine Crosby explained that Eversource is submitting a petition to add 45 ft. of conduit across Oak Street and along Independence Way for approximately 1,650 ft and add four manholes to provide electric service to the new senior community on Robert Hill Way.

Yolanda asked if the manholes would be a new to Independence Way. Christine responded that they would be new because the current service requires more than what they have access to currently. Christine explained that time frame is 70 days and the roads would be restored.

Joe asked how the road would be repaired and where the road would be dug up. Christine mentioned that the work would be done in the center of road. Joe asked what would happen if ledge is encountered. Christine responded she would have to get back to the board with an answer.

Michael explained that blasting is not allowed within a certain radius because there is a high-pressure gas line in the area. He recommended investigating if the rock removal can be done mechanically as part of the road opening fund.

Rob asked why the starting point is Oak Street and not Oregon Road. Christine explained that the route selected was the shortest route from the closest source and the conduit will be placed approximately 3 ft. below the surface.

Brandi wanted to understand the impact on the neighbors. Christine explained that the work is done in sections and a police detail is hired, if needed. Christine explained that if they could double the work crew, they could shorten the timeframe.

Michael explained that most of the newer developments have underground utilities. Joe asked if the roadway is going to be paved curb to curb or only a patch.

Steve asked for comments from the public.

Preston Crow clarified that this project has not and was not required to go before the Planning Board.

Wendy and Brian Siet, Independence Road explained that this is the first they are learning about the project and wanted to know more about the plans, the manhole locations, and the impact to the residents during construction, such as any outages.

Michael explained that if the request is delayed it would extend the construction project.

Yolanda asked about the material that would be used to cover the manholes and suggested several conditions such as a certified mail notification, a tentative timeline, 24-hour notice via email to Independence Lane concerning power outages and notify Town Hall.

Marie Kourtelidis, 84 Independence Lane asked if it is possible to require construction finish by 2:00 pm or 3:00 pm in the afternoon to allow children time to play outside. Michael explained that the board has the authority to change the time but shortening the hours may extend the number of days to complete the work. She also mentioned that walking during construction is not a good option because it is not safe and given the EEE situation we had last year it could happen again and impact getting children outside.

Rob questioned whether safety requirements and protocols should be considered.

Yolanda Greaves made a motion to close the hearing. This motion was seconded by Rob Scherer with a vote of Greaves-aye, Kinsman-aye, Magnani-aye, Scherer-aye, and Mitchell-aye; 5-0-0.

Yolanda made a motion to approve the construction Grant of Easement for the purpose of providing electrical service to be done on Independence Lane with four manholes and four manhole covers with the following conditions included. A certified mail notification to be sent out 2 weeks prior to work starting, a tentative timeline including addresses impacted, a 48 hour notification via email if possible but no less than 24-hour notification of power outage, repave curb to curb in the area of the construction, no work to start prior to 7:00 am and after 5:00 pm, the plates covering the construction must include a tar patch to limit vibration, and police detail must be hired and onsite. This motion was seconded by Rob with a vote of Greaves-aye, Kinsman-aye, Magnani-aye, Scherer-aye, and Mitchell-aye; 5-0-0.

COVID Financial Assistance Programs

Michael reviewed the Mortgage and Rental Assistance, and the Business Assistance Programs, funded by the \$1.5 million COVID relief funds allocated to the town. Michael explained that these funds would be used before allocating the Affordable Housing Trust monies earmarked for housing assistance. Michael is also working with the Metro Area Planning Council (MAPC) to apply for \$400,000 in funding to develop a Micro-Enterprise Assistance program, which is a regional application. The virtual public hearing hosted by Ashland is being held tomorrow at 6:00 pm. Jen Ball provided an overview of the disbursement process that will follow existing models established by the Affordable Housing Trust.

Community Choice Aggregation Program

Michael explained that the board had requested that we look to make the changes to program to include renewable options. Frank Nakansian, Sustainability Coordinator, explained the Community Choice Aggregation Program and how it has changed. The current contract with Colonial Power is expiring at the end of the year. The new aggregation program was posted on the website and the plan modifications are under review.

Yolanda made a motion to approve the Aggregation Plan as prepared by Community Choice Power as presented. This motion was seconded by Joe with a vote of Greaves-aye, Kinsman-aye, Magnani-aye, Scherer-aye, and Mitchell-aye; 5-0-0.

Citizen's Participation

Chuck Lidz wanted to know how the town is managing the current Black Lives Matter movement. Steve explained that he checked in with the Police Chief Alfano this morning and he is hoping to bring him to a future meeting and talk about this and policing in the 21st century. Rob appreciated Chuck's question and Steve's response and thanked the resident that took time to send an email about policing and training.

Mark Dassoni wanted to congratulate the Town Manager on his evaluation. Mark also asked Michael if he received his email which Michael acknowledged. Lastly, Mark told Yolanda that he likes her show Around the Clock.

Old/New Business

Town Manager Evaluation

Steve Mitchell explained the board members each completed an evaluation on the Town Manager. Collectively the evaluation average rating score was 4.4 out of 5.0. Steve read Michael's written evaluation that supported his high marks. The board mentioned they would like Michael to continue to work on communication and the strategic plan.

Michael thanked the board for their kind words and said he takes the process and comments seriously. Michael said he could not do what he does without Jenn Susan and Diane.

Steve agreed that we have a great staff and it is constantly improving. He also feels that the board is a great group as well.

Yolanda felt that she was pushing Michael to finish the review and felt that Steve put together a very good statement. She felt Michael has grown in his role as Town Manager and he works well with the board.

Rob felt one of Michael's strongest points is his ability to listen to people and find solutions. He is a strong leader and has worked hard on the financial planning. Rob also thanked the staff for their assistance.

Joe said he is honored to sit with this board that works well together. He felt that Michael works well with the board and he has surrounded himself with people that complement him. He said that there is a lot that go on behind the scenes and thanked Jenn, Susan, and Diane for all their hard work as well. The only issue he has with Michael is that he keeps adding items to list and he feels that this will push him too far. Michael did an outstanding job with the financials that has put us in a great position.

Brandi felt that Michael's patients is amazing and even though he is not a resident he treats the community as if he lives here. Ashland is lucky to have Michael and he is a very strong Town Manager.

Michael explained that typically the next step is to extend the contract another year. Given the extension was not on the agenda, Steve deferred completing that step until a future meeting.

Boston Marathon

Steve Mitchell explained that the 2020 Boston Marathon has been cancelled and he wanted to discuss giving the runners the option to participate in the 2020 virtual race or defer until 2021.

Yolanda explained that if someone is going to participate in the virtual race that is their choice but anyone that chooses not should have the option to defer. Other board members agreed that we can defer.

Yolanda made a motion to allow the runner who have 2020 Ashland bibs to decide if they would like to participate and fundraise for the virtual race or defer and run in the spring. This motion was seconded by Joe with a vote of Greaves-aye, Kinsman-aye, Magnani-aye, Scherer-aye, and Mitchell-aye; 5-0-0.

Town Meeting

Michael Herbert explained that per the Town Moderator's order Town Meeting has been moved to June 30th. Also, the town has received guidance from the Massachusetts Moderators Association to ensure the democratic process is upheld. The Board of Health agreed that the plan is sound and safe.

Outdoor Dining and Reopening Guidelines

Jenn Ball explained that she has been working with Town Counsel, Beth Reynolds Economic Development Director, the Planning Staff, Mike Crisafulli Building Commissioner, and the Board of Health to determine how to best utilize outside spaces to allow for outdoor dining when restaurants reopen. The application will include a sketch plan so that there is a clear vision and a safety plan that needs to be included. Liquor licensing has changed, and it will now allow the Local Licensing Authority to approve without the ABCC requirement.

Beth Reynolds explained that she currently has eight restaurants that want to submit applications and she expects to have a couple more submit.

Steve summarized that the board would need to approve the guideline process and set a meeting to approve the liquor licenses. Jenn explained that any establishment that is looking to use a sidewalk we would have to have the signed agreement for that as well.

Joe asked if establishments that already have outside space need to file anything. Jenn explained that this is geared toward establishments that are expanding their serving area.

Yolanda wanted to understand how restroom access and the impact on parking. Beth explained that inside restrooms would need to be accessible and mentioned that certain parking spaces will go unused based on the overall occupancy load and spaces being repurposed into dining space.

Brandi asked how the occupancy will be determined. Beth explained that in the diagram it shows a 6 ft. distance and that will determine the number of individuals.

Rob asked Beth how businesses in Ashland are faring. Beth said that the 3R program helped many and the other businesses are doing the best they can. Unfortunately, the Dosa Temple restaurant was forced for close.

Yolanda Greaves made a motion to approve the Temporary Outdoor Dining Program as presented excluding entertainment. This motion was seconded by Joe Magnani with a vote of Greaves-aye, Kinsman-aye, Magnani-aye, Scherer-aye, and Mitchell-aye; 5-0-0.

Home Rule Petition – Meals Tax

Michael Herbert explained that in the 3rd reading the Governor recommended amendments contained in H4543 and he is asking that the board accept the amendments to the Meals Tax Home Rule Petition.

Yolanda Greaves made a motion to approve the Meals Tax Home Rule Petition changes and submitted back to the state. This motion was seconded by Joe Magnani with a vote of Greaves-aye, Kinsman-aye, Magnani-aye, Scherer-aye, and Mitchell-aye; 5-0-0.

Prior Meeting Minute Approval

Yolanda Greaves made a motion to accept the May 20th Select Board Minutes and Tri-Board Meeting Minutes from May 18, 2020 as presented. This motion was seconded by Joe Magnani with a vote of Greaves-aye, Kinsman-aye, Magnani-aye, Scherer-aye, and Mitchell-aye; 5-0-0.

Donations

Yolanda Greaves made a motion to accept with thanks the generous gift of \$5,000.00 for the 3R Program from the Friends of the Ashland Council on Aging. This motion was seconded by Rob Scherer with a vote of Greaves-aye, Kinsman-aye, Magnani-aye, Scherer-aye, and Mitchell-aye; 5-0-0.

Town Manager's Appointment

Yolanda made a motion to accept the Town Managers Appointment of Carol Harvey as the Temporary Food Pantry Coordinator. This motion was seconded by Joe Magnani with a vote of Greaves-aye, Kinsman-aye, Magnani-aye, Scherer-aye, and Mitchell-aye; 5-0-0.

Priority Project Update

Rail Transit District

Michael said there is no new update at this time.

Downtown Project/Riverwalk/Mill Pond

Michael explained that Mill Pond is progressing and recommended visiting the site. He is hoping that it will be open in early to mid-July.

Downtown Project bids came in much higher than anticipated and Michael has been working to close the gap. He explained that if the work starts this summer and the subsurface and surface work is split up, it may be possible to save money, use some of the MassWork grant funds or go back out to bid.

Public Safety Building

Michael explained that the committee decided to move forward with a Geothermal with solar panels. The estimate currently is \$35 million including sustainability features and soft costs.

Joe explained that the project is within the approved budget and Geothermal provides the sustainability and green element. Joe explained that they are seeking Federal funds to assist as well.

Warren District and Valentine Estate

Michael reported that David Foster and Jenn Ball have been working with Framingham State University on the Warren Milking Barn and Hall House. Jenn is also working with the purchasers of 433 Eliot Street to execute the memorandum of understanding (MOU) that includes removing the structure but keeping the foundation which is the historic part of the building. The new structure will be a replica.

Town Manager Report

2020 Town Election Voting Process

Cindy Livingston and Tara Ward have been working on the election. They have had over 260 absentee ballots requested. Jenn explained the voting venue process to allow for safe social distancing, and that

staff members will be working the polls in place of the usual poll workers. Jenn will clarify when the final date is to request an absentee ballot.

FY21 Budget

Michael explained that there have been no changes, but we should anticipate a large borrowing for project that were previously approved.

COVID Reopening

Michael reported that Town Hall has opened by appointment only. There have been a couple issues that needed to be addressed and working through those problems as they arise.

Current Situation

Michael spoke to the joint statement he put out with the Police Chief and he said that he had referenced putting out another statement later in the week. As the week has progressed, he felt that it was more important to listen than speak.

Steve thanked Michael for his comments and agreed that listening and teaching our children well is important. He also acknowledged that none of them understand what it means to be a black person in America and how that feels.

Board Reports

Yolanda Greaves

Yolanda reported that the Scholarship Subcommittee met and selected the recipients of the scholarships, Lauren Burke, and Arman Bazarian, which will be announced this Sunday.

The MetroWest Regional Collaborative meeting will be held via Zoom tomorrow morning. The MAPC annual meeting was held last week.

Brandi Kinsman

Brandi thanked Joe for sharing his feelings. Brandi explained that she is a white woman living in the suburbs and understands that makes her privileged, but she can support peaceful protests and her promise is to help to change systemic racism by listening and asking questions.

June is Pride month and Brandi was happy to see the Pride flag handing at Town Hall.

Superintendent Adams hosted a community forum concerning opening of schools. He expects that guidance from the state Commissioner of Education should be substantial.

Brandi passed along condolence to the Lindberger-Jensen Family.

Joe Magnani

Joe asked Michael about the MWRA connection. Michael responded that the vault and pumps are in and only the formal acceptance is outstanding.

Joe made a statement regarding the recent racial climate and said that those people should never have worn a badge and uniform. He expressed that until change is made this will continue to exist. Joe shared that he is concerned that so many voices are not being heard.

Rob Scherer

Dr. Stanton finished and submitted the Eversource report and Rob mentioned that it did not change much but he will send it out to the board. Rob asked if the town has heard from the Citing Board, and Michael explained that Brian Winner contacted him, but it was in general not specially to Ashland.

Rob mentioned that on Memorial Day he spent some time at the cemetery and noticed Grand Army of the Republic markers and markers of residents who served in the Civil War and fought to end slavery.

Steve Mitchell

Steve mentioned that on Sunday there will be a parade in their honor, and he encouraged everyone to get out and cheer them on.

Adjournment

This agenda is subject to change and includes those items reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting. Not all agenda items may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.



Town of Ashland, Massachusetts

Office of the Select Board and Town Manager

101 Main Street, 01721-1191

(508) 881-0100

Michael Herbert, Town Manager, Ext 7911
Jennifer Ball, Assistant Town Manager, Ext 7901
Susan K. Robie, Executive Assistant, Ext. 7921
Diane Mortensen, Personnel and Financial Assistant, Ext. 7933

Select Board
Steve Mitchell, Chair
Yolanda Greaves, Vice Chair
Joseph J Magnani, Jr., Clerk
Brandi Kinsman, Member
Rob Scherer, Member

June 24, 2020

Ms. Talia Seavey

Dear Ms. Seavey:

We were impressed with your skills and accomplishments and feel your background and experience is a good match for our present needs. It is with great pleasure that the Town of Ashland offers you the position of **DAET Project Coordinator** with the following compensation package.

- The position is **full-time, 40 hours/week, exempt** and is offered at an **annual salary rate of \$50,000**.
- You will have a **six-month probationary period**.
- Schedule will follow Town Hall hours, in addition to occasional evening meetings as scheduled:
 - Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
 - Wednesday 8:00 am – 7:00 pm
 - Friday 8:00 am – 12:30 pm (*Town Hall is closed to the public on Fridays*)
- Annual **COLA** and Performance-based **increases**, based on a positive review;
- Vacation, Sick and Personal Paid Time Off (**PTO**), and Town-paid holidays will also be per the employee handbook;
- Insurance **benefits**, if selected, and participation in Middlesex County Retirement System.

We will plan for a starting date of Monday, July 6; please contact us if this needs to change. On your first day, Kristin French will meet you at the Ashland Community Center. ***Prior to your start date, please be in touch with Kathy Arsenault, Payroll Coordinator, in our Human Resources Office to complete full-time employment forms.***

If you are in acceptance of this employment offer, please sign below and return to Human Resources at your earliest convenience. Once we've received your acceptance, I will request for consent of your appointment at the next available Select Board meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Congratulations and we look forward to this new chapter in your career with the Town of Ashland!

Sincerely,

Michael Herbert

Michael Herbert

Cc: Lisa Ugliodoro, Human Resources
Jennifer Ball, Assistant Town Manager
Kristin French, DAET Project Director
Joanne Duffy, Community Center Director