

Selectmen's Meeting

Police Community Room, 135 Nahatan Street

March 24, 2020

Meeting is Recorded

Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 6:45 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 in the Police Community Room, 135 Nahatan Street, with Pledge of Allegiance, moment of prayer and reflection.

Present: Chairman Paul Bishop, Selectmen William Plasko, Thomas Maloney, Allan Howard and David Hajjar. Clerk Christina Mulvehill.

Chairman Bishop announced that per Governor Charlie Baker's proclamation, the attendance in this room has been limited to ten people, and there are ten people currently in the room. This excludes the public access which we are required to have for public hearings. Anyone with questions or comments during the 7:15 p.m. public hearing can call 781-255-0003 or email selectmen@norwoodma.gov.

Appointments

6:45 P.M. – Executive Session:

Purpose 6 - To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the Chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body. On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Maloney and on roll call vote of Selectmen Plasko, Howard, Maloney Hajjar and Chairman Bishop, voted to enter executive session for purpose stated above.

7:15 P.M. (PH)– Attorney Elizabeth A. Lashway, Lashway Law, LLC:

Submitting application for Transfer of All Alcoholic Beverages License, Change of Type and Change of Location from Bamboo Café, Inc., dba Bamboo Café, 663 Washington Street to The Skating Club of Boston, 750 University Avenue, John Jepson, Manager. Attorney Lashway introduced herself as representing the Skating Club of Boston for the purpose of the license transfer stated above. The Skating Club has been in existence since 1912 and they are a 501c3 nonprofit corporation with over 800 members. The club is a founding member of the United States Figure Skating and is a regional center for recreational and competitive skating. The club is building a new facility at 750 University Avenue which will have three rinks, one Olympic size rink and two NHL size rinks. The total square footage is 180,000 square feet and the applicant seeks to license 37,000 of the facility, which would include primarily the mezzanine level which has a club lounge, concession stands, a club library, trophy room, and deck, as well as the first floor seating areas around the main rink. The Manager of the license would be Jon Jepson, who was the manager of record when the skating club held one day liquor licenses in the City of Boston. Mr. Jepson would ensure that all of the employees serving alcohol be TIPS Certified and the intended policy is to card all persons seeking to purchase alcohol. They propose to have a written policy for all employees regarding the sale of alcoholic beverages. Attorney Lashway introduced Skating Club Executive Director Doug Zeghibe. Mr. Zeghibe said alcohol service would be function only, serving members and special guests and for rentals of the facility for special events in the club lounge. Selectman Hajjar asked about any additional training, spoke about vertical licenses, and recommended not serving anyone with a vertical license. Selectman Maloney stated there a willing buyer and a willing seller of this license. Chairman Bishop said the two criteria are the license serving the common good and offering a public convenience and this are both true. With no communication from the public on this matter, on motion of Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Plasko, and on roll call vote of the Board, voted unanimously to close the public hearing. On motion Selectman Maloney, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted unanimously to approve the license transfer.

7:30 P.M. – (cont'd) Show Cause Hearing, Hibachi Steak House Inc., dba Hibachi Steak House:

Re: Failure to provide the public with the services contemplated by the license. Hibachi Steak House closed in July 2019. (Continued from September 24, 2019). On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to continue the hearing to April 7, 2020 as counsel for the party was unable to attend.

New Business

Licenses for 2020/2021:

On motion of Selectman Howard seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to approve and sign:

Public Amusement:

Norwood Sport Center, Inc., 65 Cottage St. East

Bowling Alley & Pool Tables:

Norwood Lodge B.P.O. Elks #1124, 152 Winslow Avenue

Norwood Sport Center, Inc., 65 Cottage St. East

Workmen's Hall of Norwood, Inc., 99 1/2 Wilson St.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Bldg. Assoc., dba Norwood Post 2452, 193 Dean St.

Antique/Second Hand Dealers/Junk Collector's License:

Boston Core Supply, 273 Lenox Street

Chanel Shabby Rose, 61 Endicott St.

Pascale & Philippe Chelala, Chelala Jewelry & Gifts, 696 Washington St.

Command Zone Games, 61 Endicott Street, Bldg. 25

Hollie's Place, 61 Endicott Street

It's Time, 61 Endicott St, Bldg 23

Kappy's Coins & Stamps, 534 Washington St.

Keegan's Norwood Jewelers, 1135 Washington St.

Newbury Comics Inc., 859 Boston Prov. Turnpike

Remarkable Cleanouts, LLC, 61 Endicott St.

Salvage Angel, 61 Endicott St.

Savers, 560 Boston Prov. Tnpk.

White Dog Vintage, 61 Endicott Street

ILC Ventures, LLC dba Little Bird Events:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to cancel The Public Hearing scheduled for March 31, 2020 on change of License Category from Wine Malt Beverages to All Alcoholic Beverages at 83 Morse St., Bldg. 4, Unit F applicant could not obtain an abutter list to notify abutters within three days of the publication. This is due to certain office closures during the state of emergency.

2020 Town Election Postponement:

Governor Baker signed into law on Monday March 23, 2020 an Act Granting Authority to Postpone 2020 Municipal Elections in the Commonwealth and Increase Voting Options in Response to the Declaration of Emergency to Respond to COVID-19, which gives the Selectmen the authority to postpone a municipal election. On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, voted to postpone the local election.

Unfinished Business

ABCC:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to file as information final approval for change of manager application for KE Restaurant, Inc., dba New Golden Abacus, from Zhong Gui Chen to Aiping Ke.

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to schedule next meeting on April 7th.

Selectman Maloney

Thanks to everyone in our organization for everything that they do. Mr. Mazzucco, Board of Health and all the folks at Town Hall, our own staff Christina and Aoife, Mary Lou and everyone at Town Hall who are working to keep the town running in this difficult time. We will get through it as we always do.

Selectman Howard

Very proud and humbled to be in this position during this predicament that our Town, State, Country and the World is in. I look forward to making decisions that really matter about this for our town and just circumstances that made this but I definitely accept it with open arms.

Selectman Plasko

Thank you to the people who are working to make things go smoothly and for the public cooperation as they are asked to hunker down and stay distanced from each other and try to weather this.

Selectman Hajjar

Norwood is doing a great job and the hope is if you hunker down for a period of time that will make that curve flatten out and a shorter time to get back to everyday living. I think everyone that has been doing what they can and especially those employees who are doing awesome jobs under stressful circumstances.

Department of Local Services – issuances of emergency expenditure & borrowing. Selectman Plasko, Mr. Mazzucco and McQuaid are certainly aware of this and keeping tabs on it.

Chairman Bishop

Important time to remember not to be driven by social media, if you are going to get information get it from the appropriate sites.

Thank you to Jack Tolman and entire Norwood community media family– have done an excellent job since March 6.

Very proud to work with the few people who are working in town hall especially our office and the clerk's office. Thank you for watching it is a difficult time but we will get through this.

We will be back April 7th .

Adjournment

No other business being presented for consideration, on motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned accordingly at 7:35 p.m.

A True Record.

ATTEST: _____
Clerk