

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Wednesday, December 21, 2016

Swampscott, MA 01907

Attendance: Chairman, Naomi Dreeben, Vice Chair, Laura Spathanas, Selectman Don Hause, Patrick Jones, and Peter Spellios, and Interim Town Administrator, Gino Cresta.

Resident Comment:

Mr. Richard Feinberg spoke on the following topics:

- Town tax rate and believes the Selectman have the ability to fix the rates.
- Marian Court property commented that he believes a better use for the property than that of a brewery that will contribute income based on taxes.
- Suggested a formal vote could be taken by the Board to inform the Building Inspector and members of the ZBA on how they feel about having a brewery in place at the former Marian Court property.
- Suggested if a Town Administrator could not be found at this point that staying with Gino Cresta, Interim Town Administrator would not be bad solution since he has been doing a great job and could continue in that role if the need arises.

New & Old business:

Chairman Dreeben spoke on letters of concerns and questions regarding the White Court Property she has recently received from various Boards and Committee's such as the Planning Board, Open Space Committee, Conservation Committee and the Historical Commission These letters may be addressed at a future meeting if needed, Ms. Dreeben wanted to let the community know she has received these and the concern was of public access, zoning, preservation and public use.

Each of the following Town Administrator Candidates were present.

- Mr. Ryan Ferrara
- Mr. Andrew Scribner
- Mr. Sean Fitzgerald

Each candidate was given time to give a brief introduction to the Board and members of the audience including a question on why are you interested in the Town of Swampscott.

Each candidate was asked a variety of questions from the following series of questions from the Board of Selectman, Boards and Committees and the audience.

- How do you measure and define success
- New ideas for economic development.
- Ideas on how to engage with Town Employees/ implanting new changes/ideas.
- Community involvement.
- Setting path proactive with tax growth.
- Leadership style.
- Experience with New School Building Projects.
- School and Town Government relationships.
- Regionalization experience / ideas.
- Green Community / Sea Level Rise / Priority of Grants.
- Planning, mixed use and density.

- *Capital Budget numbers.*
- *Would you support the Community Preservation Act in Swampscott.*

Chairman Dreeben recognized and thanked all members of the Search Committee for their time, dedication and hard work along with the recommendations given to the Board.

Selectman Spellios recognized Interim Town Administrator, Gino Cresta for his commitment and dedication during the transition period and thanked the Town Hall employees. Selectman Spellios stated he never doubted that Gino Cresta was the right fit for the Interim.

The Board members deliberated on all three candidates.

Chairman Dreeben briefly spoke on her references she had inquired on Mr. Andrew Scribner and Mr. Ryan Ferrara and stated each candidate brings a level of experience, confidence and strengths.

Selectman Spellios recognized each candidate for their openness to the Board to agree with allowing references of former colleagues and former selectmen that were not on their original list.

Selectman Spellios spoke on references he had required on Mr. Sean Fitzgerald and felt he had the most experience, passionate about his work ethics, grant writing experience, networking relationships within the state and national levels, financial and budgeting experience.

Vote of the Board:

- 1. The Board voted unanimously on a motion by Selectman Spellios to recommend the appointment of Mr. Sean Fitzgerald as the Town Administrator for the Town of Swampscott pending contract negotiations and a background check, seconded by Selectman Jones. All members in favor.*
- 2. The Board voted on a motion by Selectman Spathanas to approve the 2017 renewal for a section 12 Beer & Wine license for Chipotle Mexican Grill, 450 Paradise Street, Swampscott, Mass, seconded by Selectman Hause.*
- 3. The Board voted unanimously on a motion by Selectman Spathanas to approve the 2017 Annual renewal of Common Victualler's Licenses, seconded by Selectman Hause (See attached list).*
- 4. The Board voted unanimously on a motion by Selectman Spathanas to approve the 2017 Annual renewal of Entertainment Licenses, seconded by Selectman Hause. (See attached list.)*
- 5. The Board voted unanimously on a motion by Selectman Spathanas to approve the 2017 Annual renewal of Class II Car Dealers Licenses, seconded by Selectman Hause. (See attached list).*

Town Administrator's Report:

Gino Cresta, Interim Town Administrator spoke on the following:

- *Recognized the DPW Department and new employees who helped with the first snow storm and did a great job.*
- *Recognized the Swampscott Fire Department with assisting the City of Lynn with a recent fire. Thoughts and prayers to the families of the fire.*
- *Wished everyone a happy holiday season.*

Discussion:

Joseph Douillette, Media Arts Instructor / Cable TV Coordinator of the Swampscott High School gave a presentation of the upcoming upgrade to the community room B129 with new features and functionality for community meetings. The following will be part of the new upgrades: Robotic cameras, wireless microphones, digital image scaler, HD Projector, automatic audio control, fiber link, control booth, high definition, live stream added to education channel, document camera.

Adjournment:

True Attest:

*Maureen Shultz,
Administrative Assistant*