

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING
JANUARY 23, 2018**

Meeting called to order at 5:00 P.M. by Chairman Kevin Gaspar, Sr., Selectman Michael Cioper- and Selectman Roger Cabral Meeting Minutes Approved- January 4, 2018 Regular Session

MEETING MAIL

RESIGNATION LETTER FROM COA BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEMBER- The Board received a letter from Ms. Marcia Mitchell resigning from her appointment on the Board of Directors for the COA. The Board would like to thank Ms. Mitchell for her taking the time to be involved in the COA affairs and attending the meetings. I'm sure the other Board members will miss her.

FIRE/EMS SAFE PROGRAM GRANT- The Fire/EMS Director is pleased to inform the Board that the Acushnet Fire & EMS Dept. has received a grant for \$6,123 from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Safe Program (Student Awareness of Fire Protection Education) allows the Fire Dept. to place a firefighter in the elementary school teaching students the necessity of living a "fire safe" life. Our program is over 20 years old and has educated hundreds of Acushnet residents.

APPOINTMENTS

JOINT MEETING BETWEEN THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN, ACUSHNET SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND TOWN MODERATOR-

Due to the vacancy on the Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School Committee District Member. We received a letter of intent from Justin Brodeur requesting to be appointed to the Committee. The notice has been posted for at least one week. Any member may make nominations but the final vote must be by a roll call vote.

Sarah Gomes the Chairperson of the Acushnet School Comm. asked for a motion to open the meeting, Member Deterra motioned and Member Sumner seconded. All in favor. Mr. Brodeur addressed the Boards and gave a little info about himself and why he feels he would be a good fit for the School Committee.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Gaspar: Yea
Mr. Cioper: Yea
Mr. Cabral: Yea

Ms. Gomes: Yea
Mr. Deterra: Yea
Sumner: Yea

Town Moderator concludes that all were in favor to appoint Justin Brodeur to the Acushnet School Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

COA BUILDING USE POLICY- the COA has submitted its Building Use Policy for second reading and adoption. The idea is to expand the use of the building. Ideally, organizations would be able to use it for meetings and functions, and individuals would be able to rent it for functions.

Selectman Cabral motioned to adopt the Council on Aging Building Use Policy as presented with amendments, Selectman Cioper seconded and all were in favor. Motion passes.

VEHICLE USE POLICY- The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and standards for Vehicle Uses-Municipal, Personal, & Stipends, Personal Vehicle Use for Work Related Travel, Municipal Vehicle Assignments, Commuting & Imputing Tax, Vehicle Accident Reporting, Responsibilities When Driving a Municipal or Personal Vehicle and Policy Exemptions. Selectman Cabral motioned to adopt, the Vehicle Use Policy as presented with amendments, Selectman Cioper seconded and all were in favor. Motion passes.

NEW BUSINESS

APPOINTMENT OF COA BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEMBER- With the resignation of a COA Board Member it has been requested that the Board of Selectmen appoint Mr. Richard Debalsi to a full voting member of the COA Board.

Selectman Cabral motioned to appoint Mr. Debalsi to the Council on Aging Board of Directors as a full voting member for the term of three years starting from January 9, 2018 through May 1, 2019, Selectman Cioper seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

TOWN ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Mr. Noble went over the Selectmen's Budget most line items were level funded except for the Salaried it is unclear what the cost of living raise will be at this time. Mr. Noble would like to introduce the writing of job descriptions for the unions. This hasn't been done in over 13 years. That would make a new line item for professional/technical and would also include meeting expenses. The Dues and Subscriptions has gone up by \$500.00 and we moved the land court to the Selectmen's budget. Only one other move was to the stipend for working out of class was moved to the Maintenance Salary line item.

I would like to inform you that I am requesting that the water bills and tax bills be moved so they are not due in the same week. This would free up some of the Collector's overtime and benefit the resident so everything is not due in the same week.

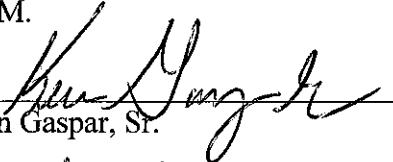
While attending the MMA meeting on January 19th & 20th I spoke to Attorney's from Kopelman & Paige regarding the marijuana ballot questions. Just in case the voters endorse commercial grow operations, retail sales, and adult use establishments at the ballot box in April, the town should have potential regulations, new zoning bylaws, and defined zoning districts ready for consideration at the annual town meeting. I will prepare a "placeholder" article for the May warrant, which may or may not come to a vote on the floor.

While neighboring New Bedford seems to be "rushing very quickly to allow recreational marijuana growing and sales" in the city, many other Massachusetts communities are taking a "wait and see" attitude towards the issue. Part of the problem is that recreational marijuana sales are still illegal under federal law, and the U.S. Attorney's Office for Massachusetts has promised

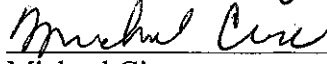
to enforce that law, he indicated. Selectmen in Georgetown and Cambridge have been indicted for approving licensing regulations in those communities.
Most cities and towns are still “feeling their way along” on the recreational marijuana question.

INFORMATION ONLY

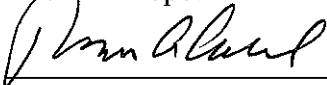
ADJOURNED REGULAR SESSION AT 5:35 P.M.



Kevin Gaspar, Sr.



Michael Cioper



Roger A. Cabral