

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Hopedale Town Hall-Draper Room
December 2, 2019
Regular Minutes**

Present: Selectman Brian Keyes, Selectman Thomas Wesley, Selectman Louis Arcudi
Also, present, Interim Town Administrator Robert Reed, Executive Assistant Susan Brouwer and Videographer Jeff Ellis.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Selectman Keyes. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

A. Consent Items

1. Approval of October 31, 2019 executive minutes
Motion made by Selectman Wesley, seconded by Selectman Arcudi and made unanimous by Selectman Keyes
2. Approval of November 25, 2019 regular minutes
Motion made by Selectman Wesley, seconded by Selectman Arcudi and made unanimous by Selectman Keyes
3. Approval of November 25, 2019 executive minutes
Motion made by Selectman Wesley, seconded by Selectman Arcudi and made unanimous by Selectman Keyes
4. Approval of warrants 20-21 and 20-21P as signed by Selectmen Arcudi and Keyes
Motion made by Selectman Wesley, seconded by Selectman Arcudi and made unanimous by Selectman Keyes

B. Appointments and Resignations

C. New Business

1. Chief Daige -Discussion on SAFER Grant
Chief Daige postponed to December 16, 2019 meeting
2. Richard Yancey, Beyond Full request to extend business hours Monday through Sunday 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM
Mr. Yancey from Beyond Full who leases space in Town Hall for his restaurant is before the Board to request an increase in his hours of operation; the current hours of operation are Monday through Sunday 6:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Mr. Yancey said he is interested in serving dinner with hamburgers and shakes to kids that have nowhere to go after a school or after sporting events. Board members supported the idea noting the Board is business friendly and that it would be a safe place for kids to go.

Ms. Brouwer brought to the Boards attention that the heating system is programmed for the hours of Town Hall and if there was a breakdown in the heating system there isn't a mechanism in place. In addition, the bathrooms are cleaned twice a week by the Town and may be a concern of increased supplies and cleanliness. Mr. Yancey advised he will take responsibility for heating his space and make sure the bathrooms are cleaned and stocked with supplies. He will also ensure the walkways are clear for patrons and will ensure all doors are locked prior to leaving the building. Administrator Reed recommended having Town Counsel take a look at the lease agreement for any potential issues as the bathrooms are not listed in the description as part of the premises, and there may be a need for increased liability being open when the Town Hall is not open. Administrator Reed said we should be able to get the lease ready for signature in two weeks.

Motion made by Selectman Arcudi, seconded by Selectman Wesley and made unanimous by Selectman Keyes to increase hours to 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM pending Town Counsel review.

3. Carol Devendorf – Milford Performing Arts- Request for approval of a Special License for the period January 24 – 25, 2020. Alcohol sales will occur on January 24th between the hours of 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. and on January 25th between the hours of 12 Noon and 2:30 p.m., and 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. The Entertainment License is for the period of January 24th and 25th, 2020. The event is the Boar's Head Festival at the Unitarian Parish on January 24 – 25, 2020.

Motion made by Selectman Arcudi, seconded by Selectman Wesley and made unanimous by Selectman Keyes to approve a special license for beer and wine license and entertainment license to Carol Devendorf for the Boar's Head Festival at the Unitarian Parish on January 24 – 25, 2020.

4. Presentation Green River Cannabis Company, Inc. on potential Adult Retail Cannabis facility at 54 Mellen Street.

Constant Poholek from Green River Cannabis rescheduled to the December 16, 2019 meeting.

5. Request from Mark Walter – Michael Carter Lisnow Respite Center, Hopkinton, MA bicycle ride to come through Town of Hopedale on September 26, 2020

Motion made by Selectman Wesley, seconded by Selectman Arcudi and made unanimous by Selectman Keyes to approve Mark Walter – Michael Carter Lisnow Respite Center, Hopkinton, MA bicycle ride to come through Town of Hopedale on September 26, 2020.

D. Old Business

E. Public and Board Member Comments (votes will not be taken)

Selectman Arcudi reminded the public of the tree lighting and Winter Stroll this coming weekend.

Selectman Keyes mentioned this was the first snowstorm and school was delayed and then canceled. He applauded the collaboration between the school and town departments in working together and making the decision to cancel school in keeping the students and faculty safe.

F. Correspondence and Selectmen Informational Items (votes will not be taken)

1. Hopedale Police Department Stats – August, September and October 2019

The Board acknowledged the Police Department stats and the 1400+ calls even in this small Town. Selectmen noted that even with the fiscal constraints, the Board will continue to look for ways to fund the department adequately.

G. Requests for Future Agenda Items

1. Discussion on the make-up of Cable Advisory Ad Hoc Committee
2. Continued Discussion on changing the name of the Board from Selectmen to Selectboard

The Board tabled the above items

H. Administrator News

Administrator Reed said he spoke with the highway superintendent noting the roads coming into Town were in great shape, the Highway Department had a few breakdowns which is expected.

The tax rate has been approved by DOR although written notification has not yet been received. He read a notice from DOR giving the Board of Assessor and Principal Assessor an excellent review on the work they do.

I. Executive Session

1. Police Chief Contract
2. Fire Chief Contract
3. Town Administrator Contract

Chair Keyes read the following statement: I am requesting a motion to allow this board to now enter into Executive Session and not to reconvene in regular session, under M.G.L. c.30A, § 21(a) Reasons (2): To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel, because I as chair declare that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Town.

Motion made by Selectman Wesley, seconded by Selectman Arcudi

RCV Selectman Keyes- Aye; Selectman Arcudi- Aye; Selectman Wesley – Aye

At 9:05 p.m. the Board of Selectmen adjourned their regular meeting entering into executive session.


Thomas A. Wesley

Louis J. Arcudi, III


Brian R. Keyes

Hopedale Board of Selectmen

*MSDV – Moved, Seconded, Discussed and Voted

**RCV- Roll Call Vote

