

Town of Dudley
Board of Selectmen
FAA
April 25, 2022
Dudley Municipal Complex
71 West Main Street
Dudley, MA 01571
Approved 5/9/22

Some matters have been taken out of agenda order but were typed up in agenda order for ease of locating information when necessary.

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance:

Honorable Chairman John Marsi opened the meeting at 6:30pm. In attendance were Hon. Kerry Cyganiewicz, Hon. Jason Johnson and Hon. Steven Sullivan. Hon. Paul Joseph was absent. Also present were Jonathan Ruda, Town Administrator and Michelle Jervis, Administrative Secretary

2. Consent Agenda:

Steven Sullivan motioned to approve the Consent Agenda encompassing approving the minutes of 4/19/22. Kerry Cyganiewicz seconded. Unanimous 4-0.

3. Appointments:

a. Republican Town Registrar – Mary Pallazo – Steven Sullivan motioned to appoint Mary Pallazo as the Republican Registrar with a term to expire March 31, 2023. Kerry Cyganiewicz seconded. Unanimous 4-0.

b. Economic Development Committee – Kelsey Buccelli – Steven Sullivan motioned to appoint Kelsey Buccelli as a member of the Economic Development Committee with a term to expire June 30, 2025. Jason Johnson seconded. Unanimous 4-0.

4. Certificates of Commendation – Fire Chief Kochanowski presented awards for bravery to four individuals that helped save residents during a fire on Brandon Road last month. They were Officer Timothy Bullock from the Charlton Police Department, Officer Ryan Daniels from the Dudley Police Department, Tony Fitzherbert, bystander and Jaqueline Carter, neighbor. Friends and family were invited to the event.

5. Licenses/Permits:

Nichols College – Outdoor Entertainment License – Kerry Calan from Nichols College came before regarding the request. Kerry Cyganiewicz motioned to approve the request to Nichols College for an Outdoor Entertainment License for Friday, April 29, 2022 from 5:00Pm to 8:pp)M in the Copper Beech Quad for DJ Music. Jason Johnson seconded. Unanimous 4-0.

6. Town Administrator's Report:

Mr. Ruda stated that he is working on the security of the town hall. Additional testing will take place in our offices regarding the existing alarm equipment. Also, CivicPlus, the new website and design company, has been working with departments and hopefully will be completed soon. Finally the finalists for the Town Accountant will take place next week and the board will be receive further information as it is received. Steven Sullivan motioned to accept the Town Administrator's report as presented. Jason Johnson seconded. Unanimous 4-0.

7. Public Hearing – To act on a Petition from Huguenot Development Corporation to accept and vote on the layout as a town way a private way known as Piasta Road with the necessary easements. The Public Hearing opened at 6:50pm. Bill Scanlan, Town Planner and Kiel Becker, attorney for Huguenot Development, came before the Board. Mr. Scanlan stated that at the 4/13/22 Planning Board meeting they voted to receive the layout of Piasta Rd and now the selectmen need to approve. Along with the layout the development corporation has gifted open space (9.23 acres) at the end of the street to be Conservation property. Also there is a stormwater basin in the area so that will help the town. One resident at the end of the street asked about the grass growing near the cul-de-sac. Mr. Ruda stated that after the town owns the property, it will be maintained by the town. The Public Hearing ended at 6:59p. Steven Sullivan motioned to accept the layout of Piasta Road previously submitted and approved by the Planning Board and submitted by Huguenot Development Corporation. Jason Johnson seconded. Unanimous 4-0. Attorney Becker thanked the Board and stated that it was great working with the Town of Dudley.

8. New Business:

- a. **Dudley Grange** – Steven Sullivan motioned to approve the Parking Wavier request from the Dudley Grange #163 for Thursday, June 16, 2022 from 2:00pm to 8:00pm on both sides of Center Road for the Annual Strawberry Festival. Jason Johnson seconded. Unanimous 4-0.
- b. **Road Betterments Vote to Debt Exclude on June 13, 2022 ballot for private sections of Misty Meadows, Tobin Farms Estates and Partridge Hill Rd.** – Bill Scanlan and Jeff Murray came before the Board. Mr. Scanlan stated that Graves Engineering, who is working on the three projects is still working on the numbers. After we receive the costs for the repairs on Misty Meadows, Partridge Hill Road and Tobin Farms we will notify the abutters with these numbers to see if we move forward.
- c. **Report on Green Spaces/Open Spaces in Dudley** – Olivia Antonson, Intern, presented the Board with a presentation on the green spaces and open spaces in Dudley. In the report Olivia researched several other towns in the area and compared them with Dudley regarding Chapter 61 (Forestry), Chapter 61A (Agriculture), Chapter 61B (Open Space and Recreation), Dudley Conservation Land Trust properties, Rail Trail, Playgrounds and Athletic Fields, Conservation Restricted land owned by the Town and Mass Audubon. The total amount of open space is 4,848.97 acres or 34.28% of the total amount of land in town. The Chapter lands and the APR properties were combined for this presentation. Her conclusion is we have over 1/3 of our land as open space and there are concerns that economic development could detract from the rural charm of the town. As Dudley moves forward with economic development project, these inventories of open space, conserved land and protected land will still support the claim that Dudley is a rural town. Jason Johnson asked if the Board should look at town owned properties and see if we can do something to generate revenue. Richard Carmignani stated that there are some properties in town, such as the former highway barn property across from St. Andrew Bobola as well as tax foreclosure properties. At this time there are no foreclosures, and the land court is backlogged. Tax title auctions would raise the most money. The Board thanked Olivia for her presentation.
- d. **Water/Sewer Department – Discussion regarding Indirect Costs** – Tabled until May 9, 2022. Mr. Carmignani stated that he would like the water/sewer department to send him their questions. Mr. Marsi wants them to work it out.
- e. **Hear Warrant Articles** – The Board reviewed the warrant and requested Article 18 and 20 be pulled for clarification. Article 18 is sponsored by the Planning Board regarding amending the zoning map and applying the Business 15 overlay district to 9 properties on Southbridge Rd. Mr. Sullivan asked if the property owners were aware and approved this change. Mr. Scanlan stated that all of the property owners were notified and approve this to vote to amend the zoning map by changing the zoning district. Regarding Article 20 this property is owned by Janice Williams and Jeanne Davis and is 16 acres off of Pierpont Rd. It is currently in listed as Conservation land and they want to change it to Res. 87. Mr.

Scanlan stated that Planning Board is sponsoring this article and there is no value for this land to be in Conservation. Also Town Counsel's opinion is that this is not considered spot zoning. The Planning Board will be holding their Public Hearing on the amendments this Wednesday. Kerry Cyganiewicz motioned to approve the Spring Town Meeting Warrant as presented in draft 1 with no recommendations and grant authorization to the Town Administrator to make any minor changes or adjustments. Jason Johnson seconded. Unanimous 4-0.

f. Department Communication:

Jeff Murray, Highway Superintendent, stated that he has had tremendous help with the stormwater management in town with his intern he has from Worcester State University. This report will help him when he filed the MS4 with MassDEP.

Chief Wojnar stated that our crash reports are now online if needed.

Richard Carmignani thanked MIIA for their presentation a few weeks ago and that the town receives credits for attendance.

Adjournment/Executive Session:

Kerry Cyganiewicz motioned to adjourn at 8:00pm from public session and to enter into executive session under MGL Chapter 30A section 21(a)(3) – to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares – Police CBA and not to reconvene into public session – Jason Johnson seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

John Marsi, Aye

Jason Johnson, Aye

Steven Sullivan, Aye

Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye

Respectfully submitted
Michelle Jervis, Administrative Secretary