

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting 7/19/2011
Aquinnah Town Hall Selectmen's Mtg Room

Members present: Spencer Booker, Vice Chairman, Beverly Wright

Also present: Adam Wilson, Town Administrator, Police Chief Randhi Belain, Sgt. Paul Manning, Jeff Corr, Asst. Shellfish Constable Jim Sanfilippo, Jim Hickey, Sarah Church (Aquinnah Taxi), Lance Pope (Mario's Taxi), Ben Baldwin (Bluefish Taxi), Kate Taylor, Joannie Lelacheur.

The meeting began at 5:35 pm.

The minutes from 7/5 were postponed for acceptance since Jim & Beverly were needed to approve.

-1st on the agenda was an application for a taxi company license from Jeff Corr. Jeff said he has a lot of support from the business community and will want to stage his vehicle up at the Circle. He said that he would be a one car operation that he would personally run. Beverly asked where the cab company will be operated from. Jeff said he lives in Tisbury. He said that he has no plans to obtain an airport license. Spencer brought up the fact there are no current regulations for the Town regarding taxi operations. He felt there should be rules in place before any additional companies obtain town licensing. Randhi added that without regulations there may be more people looking to apply for licensing, especially if they are unable to obtain it from other towns. There was discussion about the lack of space for a taxi stand up at the Circle. Beverly asked Jim Hickey and Sarah Church, owners of Aquinnah Cab, how they operate their business. Sarah said because there is no taxi stand, they don't locate a vehicle at the cliffs. Jeff said there was cab service at the Circle in the past. Spencer he wants to have rules and regulations in place before issuing any more licenses. Beverly concurred. Adam said he'd look at the existing regulations in other towns and try and draft a taxi policy for the town.

-There was discussion by other taxi owners licensed in West Tisbury on capping the number of cabs on the island and the regional issues of comparable fares, hours of operation and taxi operator background checks. The Board, by consensus, continued the application request to a future meeting when new taxi regulations would be taken up for consideration.

-2nd on the agenda was reappointments of various town officials and committee members. Beverly made a motion to reappoint for one year ending June 30th, 2012 the following town officials:

Brian Vanderhoop – Shellfish Constable/Harbormaster; Jerry Wiener – Building Inspector; Leonard Jason – Asst. Building Inspector; Peter Dawley – Wiring Inspector; David Schwab – Asst. Wiring Inspector; George Apostilades – Plumbing & Gas Inspector; Amanda Hutchinson – Board of Health Agent/Administrative Assistant to the Planning Board; Carolyn Feltz – Administrative Assistant to the Community Preservation Committee/ Building Department. Spencer seconded.

The Board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

Spencer read off recent additional hires for the parking lot. They included Aaron Wilson and Cody Sawmiller.

The Board took up the reappointment of the Conservation Commission. Beverly made a motion to reappoint for one year ending June 30th, 2012 the following ConCom committee members:

Sarah Thulin, Walter Delaney, Kathy Newman and Steve Yaffe. Spencer seconded.

The Board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-Next on the agenda was the Town Administrator's report. Adam gave an update to the Selectmen about the scheduled Zoning Board meeting August 2nd involving a proposed variance for the Old South Rd Water Reclamation Project. He also spoke about the NSTAR Pole Replacement project on Moshop's Trail that is currently being reviewed by the Planning Board.

-Next on the agenda was Kate Taylor and the performance she plans on having to support the Aquinnah Arts Council and the presentation she wants to make of a completed wampum belt for the people of Gay Head. It will be August 6th at 6:00 pm at Donald Widdiss's shop at the Cliffs. The name of the show is "Wampum Live – New Creations." She said it's taken 30 years to finish the belt and she wants to make a presentation that the Selectmen would accept to become keepers of the belt and to keep it on display either at Town Hall or perhaps at Tribal headquarters. Spencer said that the Board would be happy to be part of a ceremony in presenting the belt to the town.

-Adam continued his report letting the Board know he met with American Tower officials July 11th about the DAS system. He reported that ATC plans on having a roll out of the fiber optic on the poles in November and testing of the system in December. They expect to be "on air" either January or February.

-Adam has been in touch with Erik Peckar from Vineyard Power about the solar array project at the Town's refuse center. He said if the Town has a post closure permit from the DEP and an intraconnection permit from NSTAR, he can move forward in creating a request for proposals (RFP). He is working with Amanda (Hutchinson, BOH Agent) in figuring out where the Town stands regarding those two permits.

-Adam showed Board Members the invite from the Chamber of Commerce to have breakfast with Senator Scott Brown August 15th at the WT Grange Hall. The RSVP to the event is Friday, July 22.

-The Board scheduled Wednesday, August 10th as a date to meet with summer taxpayers. Adam will advertise the meeting to take place in the Old Town Hall.

-The Board made a plan to have their next meeting August 2nd at 5:00pm instead of 5:30.

-Beverly reported that there was a meeting with ABCC officials and the Youth Task Force and asked that there be a meeting of the Board to draft new beer & wine licensing policies, rules & regulations. There was talk of the prior history of the Town not having an open container by-law. There was discussion about drinking on the beach and events that took place up at the circle as reasons why the Town allows open alcoholic containers. There was discussion about making a draft of new regulations and inviting the two licensed liquor holders to that meeting.

-The meeting recessed at 6:15 pm to then reconvene when the Shellfish Committee arrived to go over drafted new regulations.

-The meeting reconvened at 7:10 pm. There was no quorum of the Shellfish Committee so Spencer said the meeting between the two committees would be continued to the next scheduled BOS meeting in August.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

The Board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-The meeting ended at 7:15 pm.