



**SELECTBOARD
TOWN OF WESTHAMPTON
TOWN HALL
1 SOUTH ROAD
WESTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01027**

May 9, 2016

The meeting convened at 8:00P.M.

Present were Art Pichette, and Jim Huston. Also present were Bradford and Jeffrey Morse of Outlook Farm and several residents.

The Selectboard held an informational meeting for article 20 of the Annual Town Meeting. Art explained that Brad and Jeff Morse approached the Selectboard in September 2015 requesting to seek approval for a farmer series pouring permit. The Selectboard reviewed the process with Town Counsel then voted to present an article at Annual Town Meeting. The article is to authorize the Selectboard to file a petition with the General Court for special legislation authorizing the Selectboard to issue to Outlook Farm a license for the retail sale of wine and malt beverages to be consumed on the premises at 136 Main Road (Outlook Farm). This act will not change the dry status of the town, or provide a way for additional alcohol licensing. Jeff and Brad Morse now hold a license through the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission to sell wine and malt beverages made by, or produced for, Outlook Farm for off premise consumption. The current license held under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission is under the "Right to Farm" and requires no local approval.

Brad and Jeff Morse were allowed to explain their plans. The pour permit they're seeking is not for a brew/pub and does not cover serving with food. Generally, they're seeking to give customers the opportunity to try their products at their farm festivals. Primarily, the beverages are made from products raised on the farm which provides another way to utilize them when they would otherwise be discarded. Some ingredients are purchased from other nearby farms.

Additional information provided at the meeting included:

- licensing will be renewed on a yearly basis by the Selectboard
- the license is not transferrable to another location, business, owner
- complaints/violations can be brought forth to the Selectboard who in turn may order a police investigation
- the licensee must also comply with the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission
- bartenders are required to be certified through the Training for Interceptive Procedures
- no ballot question is required

Some questions were asked that Art will follow through on and prepare to answer at Annual Town Meeting:

- Does the state or town maintain control of the license?
- What restrictions can be placed on the license?
- What local inspections are required?
- Must the article be held at annual town meeting, opposed to a special town meeting?

The Selectboard had no other business to attend to.

Adjourned meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Approve: _____
Arthur Pichette, Chairman

James Huston