



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

Minutes of June 14, 2021
Meeting held via ZOOM

The meeting convened at 6:30 p.m.

Present from Selectboard were Phil Dowling (Chair), Maureen Dempsey, and Teri Anderson. Others present were Steve Holt, Jeffrey Morse, Mary Cleary, Barbara Cook, Thomas Cleary, Shirl Morrigan, Ryan Feyre, Robby Armenti and Tom Martin (Board of Health). Minutes were taken by Cheryl Provost.

The board reorganized with Phil Dowling as Chair, Maureen Dempsey as Clerk and Teri Anderson.

The continuation of public hearing for Outlook Farm was opened by Phil Dowling at 6:32 p.m. Phil stated he was not at the opening of the hearing and recommended Maureen Dempsey run the hearing for continuity. The hearing continued with Maureen as acting Chair.

The hearing was opened to public comment. Questions were answered by J Morse. They are seeking to have public hours Thursday through Sunday noon-6p.m. Current hours were reviewed.

Public hours:

November 1 through April 30, 3p.m-6p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and noon – 3p.m. Sundays;

May 1 through October 31, 4p.m.-6p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and noon – 3p.m. Sundays

Private hours:

May 1 through October 31, 4p.m.-10p.m. Fridays and Saturdays

Concerns were expressed over expansion of public hours. J Morse described typical visitors as coming to experience farm winery and brewery and agricultural tourism. Reviewed private function hours. No changes to private hours were requested by Jeff and Brad Morse. Discussed placing a limit on the number of events. J Morse is not opposed to a limit of two per month for the private season. Discussion returned to public hours. Concern was expressed over the span of time requested for public hours, liking it to a bar. J Morse explained visitors do not come and stay, they come and go. They are not interested in a bar environment. The concept is to bring in customers to try a product then go into the store to purchase goods to take with them. He is not opposed to not add Thursday public hours. He described their business motto and ideas, what has worked for them and similar businesses. Teri reviewed described conditions:

Public hours:

3p.m-7p.m. Fridays and noon –7p.m. Saturdays and Sundays;

Private hours:

May 1 through October 31, noon-9p.m. Fridays and Saturdays

All parking on grounds

Maximum of two events per month

Advanced notice to abutters and Selectboard

Reviewed license holders and application process.

Public comment was closed at 7:17 p.m. by roll call vote:

Teri-yes

Phil-yes

Maureen-yes

Public hearing was closed and Selectboard meeting continued at 7:18 p.m.

Teri motioned to re-issue a non-transferable Farm Winery and Brewery Pouring License to Bradford Morse, Jeffrey Morse, and Erin Morse to be operated at the Outlook Farm, 136 Main Road, Westhampton, MA 01027 with the following conditions:

1. Year-round public pouring hours Fridays 3p.m.-7p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays 12p.m.-7p.m.
2. Private functions with a prepared guest list, May 1 - October 31, 12p.m.-9p.m. with a maximum number of events two per month with advance notice and a description of those events to the Selectboard and abutters with all parking on-site.
3. All winery and brewery products sold shall be produced by Outlook Farm Winery/Brewery.
4. Winery and Brewery products will be sold within the boundaries of the plan of tasting area shown on the attached plan.
5. A copy of these conditions and plan shall be attached to the license and on file at the town office.

Second by Phil. Motion passed by roll call vote:

Teri-yes

Phil-yes

Maureen-yes

Phil took over meeting and recognized Tom Martin, Board of Health

Tom reported with the state of emergency to be lifted by the Governor the board has recommendations. No new cases in town for over 3 weeks. It's expected the Governor will lift the State of Emergency tomorrow. The Board of Health seeks to lift the state of emergency for the town jointly with Selectboard, after the Governor lifts the state order. The Board of Health is recommending all restrictions on municipal buildings be lifted other than masks, unless working alone in office space. Lifting the state of emergency and a re-opening plan will be discussed at the meeting June 21.

Minutes of May 24, 2021 were reviewed and approved as amended by roll call vote:

Teri-yes

Maureen-yes

Phil-yes

Adjourned to joint meeting with Finance Committee at 7:35p.m. Will reconvene following joint meeting.

At joint meeting with Finance Committee reviewed a request for transfer between appropriations. Phil moved to transfer \$600.00 from Highway Road Machinery Fuel to Highway Administration in accordance with Chapter 44:33b of the Mass. General Law. Second by Maureen. So moved by roll call

vote:

Teri-yes

Maureen-yes

Phil-yes

Reviewed budget items for reconvene of Annual Town Meeting.

Left joint meeting and reconvened Selectboard meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Present were Phil Dowling, Maureen Dempsey, Teri Anderson, Cheryl Provost.

Reviewed appointments of officials by name, position, and term (attached). Clarified Agricultural Commission appointment to be Arthur Clapp. Phil motioned to appoint all as mentioned to the various committees. Second by Teri. So moved by roll call vote:

Teri-yes

Maureen-yes

Phil-yes

Reviewed posting of results of Annual Town Election.

Cheryl reported this is the first year of the state holiday Juneteenth. Bill is having the highway department take off Friday, June 18th in observation. Discussed library hours. Personnel Policies and Procedures states holidays that fall on a Sunday are to be observed the following Monday, holidays that fall on Saturday are to be observed the previous Friday. Teri moved to acknowledge Juneteenth as a holiday and for this year observe it June 18th. Second by Phil. So moved by roll call vote:

Teri-yes

Maureen-yes

Phil-yes

Discussed reconvene of Annual Town Meeting.

Discussed interest calculation of the bond for the Public Safety Complex Building.

Next meeting: 7:00 p.m., June 21, 2021

Adjourned meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Approved by vote of the Selectboard at virtual meeting held July 6, 2021.

Phil Dowling

Maureen Dempsey

Teri Anderson