

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**December 6, 2021**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Vice Chairman Melia at 7:00 PM, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA. Board Members Present: Athanas, Cannon, Collins and Melia. Chairman Ampagoomian and Town Manager Adam D. Gaudette are absent, and it is duly noted.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 4, 2021 [Executive Session].** A motion/Mr. Collins seconded/Ms. Cannon to approve but not release the October 4, 2021 [Executive Session] meeting minutes. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Collins and Melia.

### **PUBLIC HEARING/None**

**APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen (Vote to Appoint): 1) Caryn Gagner, Historical Commission.** A motion/Mr. Collins seconded/Mr. Athanas to appoint Caryn Gagner to the Historical Commission. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Collins and Melia. **2) Robert Anderson, Zoning Board of Appeals [Assoc. Member]. Present: Cynthia Donati, ZBA Member.** Ms. Donati stated that they would love to have Mr. Anderson on the Board. Mr. Anderson explained that he was on the Conservation Commission for about eight years and is happy to be back. A motion/Mr. Collins seconded/Mr. Athanas to appoint Mr. Anderson to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Associate Member. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Collins and Melia.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT:** Mr. Kevin Plante, 3 Arcade Street, petitioned the Board to re-evaluate the parking ban that is in place. He noted that snowfall accumulations have been much less over the years and he was hoping it could be re-evaluated and only enforce it during snow events.

**Moon Management Agency, Inc. dba The Neighborhood Kitchen, 125 Church Street, Whitinsville: Application for a Common Victualler license subject to departmental signoffs. Note: Vote to approve the license through December 31, 2022. Present: Mark Moon.** Ms. Moon explained that Corner Pizza (a couple of doors down from the bowling alley) came up for lease and they decided to lease it and turn it into a pickup and sit-down restaurant. Ms. Moon stated that their menu will have comfort foods and American classics, but they also plan to have specials. The menu will be limited so they can offer the freshest options that will periodically change. Mr. Moon said that they eventually plan to open at 6 AM for breakfast, but at first, they will only be open for lunch and dinner and will close at 11 PM Sunday through Thursday and 1 AM on Friday and Saturday. Mr. Moon explained that the reason for the late hours on Friday and Saturday are to accommodate the bowling alley. He said that once they are established, they would look to potentially add on a BYOB [Bring Your Own Bottle] license and then possibly get a liquor license instead. A motion/Mr. Collins seconded/Ms. Cannon to grant a Common Victualler license for Moon Management Agency, Inc. dba The Neighborhood Kitchen, 125 Church Street, Whitinsville, subject to departmental signoffs. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Collins and Melia.

**SD Briere, LLC dba Valley Pub/1) Noise complaint follow-up – Plan of Action submittal, and 2) 2022 License Renewal with conditions & restrictions [if applicable].** Selectman Melia provided a recap of the October 18, 2021 meeting at which the Board requested they be provided with an action plan addressing complaints expressed at the October 4, 2021 meeting. Ms. Briere reasoned that they want to work with everybody and mentioned that Valley Pub would like to have an outdoor entertainment license for 2022, when the weather allows for outdoor entertainment, as it helped their business tremendously, especially with the COVID restrictions. Mr. Briere reiterated that had they been made aware of these issues they

would have done something to rectify these issues. Ms. Briere indicated that they would be looking to hold acoustic music on Thursdays until 9 PM and have Friday and Saturday music until 10 PM. She mentioned that they have since added more staff, completed their TIPS recertification, and have followed up with the Police Department. Selectman Athanas asked if they have looked into sound barriers. Ms. Briere replied that they are looking into a dome covering for the stage. Mr. Briere further explained that they were looking into planting shrubbery and also discussed the use of acoustic foam, but explained that unfortunately that will deteriorate. Selectman Collins asked Chief Labrie if there have been any issues that the Police have responded to since the last meeting. Chief Labrie stated that there have not been any issues. Selectman Cannon asked if the “no parking” signs have been installed. Mr. Luchini noted that the Safety Committee is going to discuss it at their upcoming meeting, as they have not met since the previous Selectmen’s meeting. Ms. Briere added that they did make signs for the parking area requesting patrons be respectful of the neighborhood. Selectman Melia sought the opinion of the neighbors, asking if they felt the action plan was a suitable measure to rectifying the issues. Ms. Lachapelle, 1216 Providence Road, expressed that she and her husband have no issue with an outdoor entertainment license with the revised hours. She reiterated that they are willing to work with Ms. Briere and want to see her business succeed. Mr. Tim Lachapelle, 47 Plummer Ave., voiced that the neighbors do not feel safe in the neighborhood, when patrons are destroying property. Patricia Lachapelle, 47 Plummer Ave., noted that things have quieted down since the last meeting. Selectman Athanas asked if they were picking up trash in the morning or night and if the crowd control has gotten better. Mr. Briere replied that he goes out in the morning and it has gotten better. Selectman Athanas followed up by asking if they still have patrons parking on the road. Ms. Briere replied that sometimes people do, but explained that everyone comes in their own car, and with the size of the lot it makes it difficult for people to park. Selectman Athanas inquired about a sound reducing canopy and if that would be completed before the start of the outdoor season next year. Ms. Briere replied that they are planning to, and they will also be turning the stage as well. Vice Chairman Melia queried the Board as to what they would like to take action on and what stipulations they may have, if any. Selectman Athanas sought to set a specific number of Fridays during the timeframe of May to September and install the sound dampening. Discussion continued and it was decided to allow one Friday a month in addition to acoustic Thursdays and Saturdays. Selectman Cannon noted that she was comfortable approving the license from Thursday to Saturday with reduced hours to end live music by 10 PM as mentioned in their action plan. A motion/Mr. Collins, seconded/Mr. Athanas to adopt the action plan presented by Stephanie Briere, Manager of the Valley Pub, and to grant an outdoor entertainment license for acoustic music on Thursdays, and one Friday a month, and on Saturdays to end by 10 PM, between the months of May to September and to install a sound dampening barrier. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Collins and Melia.

**2022 Miscellaneous License Renewals [Common Victualler, Class I, Class II, Class III, Automatic Amusement Devices, Weekday Entertainment, Sunday Entertainment, etc.]/Vote to approve subject to the payment of all monies due the Town.** A motion/Mr. Collins, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the 2022 Miscellaneous License Renewals subject to the payment of all monies due to the Town. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Collins and Melia.

**2022 Annual Liquor License Renewals/Vote to approve subject to the payment of all monies due the Town.** Selectman Cannon inquired about the Valley Pub license as it was crossed off in the packet. Vice Chairman Melia stated that since the entertainment portion was handled and no changes were made to their liquor license, they would be including Valley Pub as part of the renewals. A motion/Mr. Collins, seconded/Ms. Cannon to approve the 2022 Annual Liquor License Renewals, subject to payment of all monies due to the Town. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Collins and Melia.

**Town Clerk/Request to hang a banner across Church Street 1) from Sunday, May 8, 2022 to Sunday, May 22, 2022 to advertise the 2022 Annual Town Election to be held May 17, 2022, and 2) from Sunday, October 30, 2022 to Sunday, November 13, 2022 to advertise the Annual State Election.** A motion/Ms. Cannon, seconded/Mr. Athanas to approve the above requests to hang a banner across Church

Street from Sunday, May 8, 2022 to Sunday, May 22, 2022 to advertise the 2022 Annual Town Election to be held May 17, 2022, and from Sunday, October 30, 2022 to Sunday, November 13, 2022 to advertise the Annual State Election. Vote yes/Athanas, Cannon, Collins and Melia.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/No Report**

**SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS:** Selectman Melia thanked Cheryl Tivnan, Julie Cray, and their team for leading the donation drive and for their efforts towards getting the holiday lights up on both the Whitinsville and Rockdale Town Commons as well as those who donated time and/or money, and the Fire Department in assisting with hanging decorations.

Vice Chairman Melia announced that the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 20, 2021.

**ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None**

**CORRESPONDENCE/None**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION/None**

A motion/Mr. Collins, seconded/Mr. Athanas to adjourn the public meeting. Vote yes/Board members: Athanas, Cannon, Collins and Melia.

**Meeting Adjourned: 7:45 PM**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Russell D. Collins, Clerk**

/mjc

## **LIST OF DOCUMENTATION**

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING - OPEN SESSION**

**December 6, 2021**

- I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A. October 4, 2021 [Executive Session].**
  - October 4, 2021 executive session minutes withdrawn as they are not yet released
- II. PUBLIC HEARING/None**
- III. APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen (Vote to Appoint): B. 1) Caryn Gagner, Historical Commission**
  - Copy of Talent Bank Application of Caryn Gagner

**2) Robert Anderson, Zoning Board of Appeals/Present: Cynthia Donati**

  - Copy of Talent Bank Form of Robert Anderson
- IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT**
- V. DECISIONS:**
  - C. Moon Management Agency, Inc. dba The Neighborhood Kitchen, 125 Church Street, Whitinsville: Application for a Common Victualler license subject to departmental signoffs. Note: Vote to approve the license through December 31, 2022/Present: Mark Moon**
    - Copy of application for a Common Victualler License
    - Copy of Revenue Enforcement and Protection Attestation form
    - Copy of Workers' Compensation Insurance Affidavit
    - Copy of Certificate of Liability Insurance
    - Copy of business entity summary
  - D. SD Briere, LLC dba Valley Pub/1) Noise complaint follow-up – Plan of Action submittal and 2) 2022 License Renewal with conditions & restrictions [if applicable]**
    - Copy of Valley Pub Action Plan
    - Copy of letter from Fire Department regarding the completion of outstanding items
    - Copy of letter from State Line Fire Equipment regarding the fire suppression kitchen maintenance
  - E. 2022 Miscellaneous License Renewals [Common Victualler, Class I, Class II, Class III, Automatic Amusement Devices, Weekday Entertainment, Sunday Entertainment, etc.]/Vote to approve subject to the payment of all monies due the Town**
    - Copy 2022 License Renewal Listing
  - F. 2022 Annual Liquor License Renewals/Vote to approve subject to the payment of all monies due the Town**
    - Copy of 2022 Annual Liquor License Renewal listing
  - G. Town Clerk/Request to hang a banner across Church Street 1) from Sunday, May 8, 2022 to Sunday, May 22, 2022 to advertise the 2022 Annual Town Election to be held May 17, 2022, and 2) from Sunday, October 30, 2022 to Sunday, November 13, 2022 to advertise the State Primary in September [Date: TBD]**
    - Copy of memo requesting a banner be hung across Church Street

- VI. DISCUSSIONS/None**
- VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/None**
- VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS**
- IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None**
- X. CORRESPONDENCE/None**
- XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION/None**