

**Board of Selectmen
March 20, 2023
Town Hall
Veteran's Memorial Hall, Town Hall
308 Main Street, Sturbridge**

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OFFICE OF TOWN CLERK
STURBRIDGE, MA

Present:

Mary Blanchard, Chair
Chase Kaitbenski, Vice Chair
Mary Dowling, Clerk
Selectman Ian Dunnigan

Absent

Selectman Jamie Goodwin

Staff:

Robin A. Grimm, Ph.D., Town Administrator
Michelle Garman, Executive Assistant

**Chair Blanchard called meeting to order at 6:30p.m.
The Selectmen led the Pledge of Allegiance.**

Moment of Silence for all those suffering from natural disasters and wars.

Chair Blanchard read the agenda.

Public Service Announcements

- Happy First Day of Spring
- Absentee Ballots have been sent out to the public

Public Hearing – An application has been filed by Cocina on Main LLC d/b/a Condesa Restaurante & Tequila Bar for a New Liquor License at the premises currently located at 178 Main Street, Unit A, Sturbridge, MA 01566.

Ernesto Leon advised the Board of Selectman where the restaurant will be located, type of restaurant and a brief description of the property.

Select Dowling asked if they are having difficulty finding employees.

Mr. Leon stated they are lucky for the most part finding staff.

**Motion: To close public hearing
By: Selectman Kaitbenski**

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: 4-0-0 (Selectman Goodwin absent)

Motion: To approve the application for Cocina on Main LLC d/b/a Condesa Restaurante & Tequila Bar for a New Liquor License at the premises currently located at 178 Main Street, Unit A, Sturbridge, MA 01566.

By: Selectman Dunnigan

2nd: Selectman Kaibenski

Vote: 4-0-0 (Selectman Goodwin absent)

- A. Consideration and possible action on an application for Common Victualler License for Cocina on Main LLC d/b/a Condesa Restaurante & Tequila Bar at 178 Main Street, Unit A, Sturbridge.

Motion: To approve application for Common Victualler License for Cocina on Main LLC d/b/a Condesa Restaurante & Tequila Bar at 178 Main Street, Unit A, Sturbridge.

By: Selectman Dunnigan

2nd: Vice Chair Kaibenski

Vote: 4-0-0 (Selectman Goodwin absent)

- B. Consideration and possible action on an application for a Live Entertainment License for Cocina on Main LLC d/b/a Condesa Restaurante & Tequila Bar at 178 Main Street, Unit A, Sturbridge.

Motion: To approve application for a Live Entertainment License for Cocina on Main LLC d/b/a Condesa Restaurante & Tequila Bar at 178 Main Street, Unit A, Sturbridge.

By: Vice Chair Kaibenski

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: 4-0-0 (Selectman Goodwin absent)

Department Reports - Police Department

Chief Dessert, gave a detailed description of his department report a copy of which is on file in the Town Administrators Office.

Consideration and possible action on the appointment of James Warner as a full-time dispatcher for the Sturbridge Police Department at the hourly rate of \$22.34 effective March 21, 2023.

Chief Dessert gave a detailed description of Mr. Warners professional background and education.

Motion: To appointment of James Warner as a full-time dispatcher for the Sturbridge Police Department at the hourly rate of \$22.34 effective March 21, 2023.

By: Vice Chair Kaibenski

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: 4-0-0 (Selectman Goodwin absent)

Action Items:

Consideration and possible action on the Charter Review Committee recommendations for revisions to the Town Charter.

Bill Haggerty, Chair of the Charter Review spoke on behalf of the Charter Review Committee.

Mr. Haggerty introduced his Board Steve Sexton, Larry Morrison and two members that could not attend Pricilla Gimás and Kirstie Pecci.

Mr. Haggerty presented the Board with a description of the recommended changes.

Consideration and possible action on an application for a Hawker and Peddlar License for Ryan Mustakangas for Ryan's Tree Service.

Motion: To approve the Hawker and Peddlar license for Ryan Mustakangas for Ryan's Tree Service; ending at 7:00p.m.

By: Selectman Dunnigan

2nd: Vice Chair Kaitbenski

Vote: 4-0-0 (Selectman Goodwin absent)

- Selectman Dowling left the meeting at 7:45p.m.

Consideration and possible action on the resignation of Christina Lussier from the Finance Department.

Motion: To accept the resignation of Christina Lussier, Finance Clerk

By: Vice Chair Kaitbenski

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: 3-0-0 (Selectman Goodwin and Selectman Dowling Absent)

Consideration and possible action on the resignation of Mark Augello from the Sturbridge Department of Public Works.

Motion: To accept the resignation of Mark Augello from the Sturbridge Department of Public Works

By: Selectman Dunnigan

2nd: Vice Chair Kaitbenski

Vote: 3-0-0 (Selectman Goodwin and Selectman Dowling Absent)

Consideration and possible action on the resignation of Carrie Soule from the Sturbridge Police Department.

Motion: To accept the resignation of Carrie Soule from the Sturbridge Police Department

By: Selectman Dunnigan

2nd: Vice Chair Kaitbenski

Vote: 3-0-0 (Selectman Goodwin and Selectman Dowling Absent)

Town Administrator Update

- Attended the Governors Press Conference in Deerfield, where the Governor announced she has established a Director of Rural Affairs.
- Thanked the Department of Public Works for their efforts during the Nor'easter.
- Thanked the Daughters of the American Revolution for the 250th Commander plaque.

She would like the Board to approve her working with the volunteer group Canine Center for Behavioral Studies. Her contract states that anything outside of adjunct teaching or the horses has to have Board approval.

Motion: Motion to approve part-time work for K9 Center for Behaviorally Studies

By: Vice Chair Kaitbenski

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: 3-0-0 (Selectman Goodwin and Selectman Dowling Absent)

Consideration and possible action on title change and reclassification from Executive Assistant to Administrative Coordinator and Constituent Liaison.

- TA gave a description of the new position and role.
- Personnel committee approved.

Motion: To approve title change and reclassification from Executive Assistant to Administrative Coordinator and Constituent Liaison

By: Selectman Dunningham

2nd: Selectman Kaitbenski

Vote: 3-0-0 (Selectman Goodwin and Selectman Dowling Absent)

Consideration and possible action for the creation of a Disabilities Commission.

Robin has had a few issues brought to her attention regarding. Robin has a constituent. She would have to appoint 60% of the members with disabilities.

- The Board give their support for this to go to Town Meeting

Consideration and possible action on waiving all Town imposed permit and/or application fees for Joshua Hyde Library HVAC/Accessibility Project.

Consideration and possible action on waiving all Town imposed permit and/or application fees for the Senior Center Renovation/Addition Project.

Motion: Double Motion to waiving all Town imposed permit and/or application fees for Joshua Hyde Library HVAC/Accessibility Project and the Senior Center Renovation/addition Project.

By: Vice Chair Kaitbenski

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: 3-0-0 (Selectman Goodwin and Selectman Dowling Absent)

Consideration and possible action to approve and sign the Warrant for 2023 Annual Town Election.

Chair Blanchard read the Warrant and advised the ballot is on the Town website

Motion: To approve and sign the Warrant for 2023 Annual Town Election

By: Vice Chair Kaitbenski

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: 3-0-0 (Selectman Goodwin and Selectman Dowling Absent)

Consideration and possible action to open the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

Motion: To open the Annual Town Meeting Warrant

By: Vice Chair Kaitbenski

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: 3-0-0 (Selectman Goodwin and Selectman Dowling Absent)

Old Business:

No old business

New Business

No new business

Correspondence

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Approval of Minutes:

Citizen's Forum

Executive Session – Per M.G.L. c.30A, Sec. 21(a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel; (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with Police Union if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Board and the chair so declares.

Motion: To adjourn and not to reconvene in open session

By: Chair Blanchard

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: Chair Blanchard – Yes, Vice Chair Kaitbenski – Yes, Selectman Dunnigan - Yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:29p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Michelle Garman

Clerk of the Board: May Donley

Date signed: May 15 '23