

**Board of Selectmen  
September 6, 2016  
Town Hall**

**Present:**

Mary Blanchard, Chairman  
Priscilla Gimás  
Mary Dowling  
Michael Suprenant  
Craig Moran

**Open Session**

Meeting opened at 6:30pm

This meeting was recorded by the Telegram & Gazette

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Service Announcements:**

- Thursday is state primary, voting is from 7am-8pm at the Oliver Wight Tavern at Old Sturbridge Village.
- Press Release: Sturbridge Fire Chief Search Committee is seeking written comments on qualities they would like to see in a new Fire Chief.

**Purple Heart Community Proclamation**

The Selectmen offered the following proclamation:

Whereas the People of Sturbridge, Massachusetts have great admiration and the upmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served this country and this community in the armed forces for the good of all and Whereas the contributions and the sacrifices of the men and women from the town of Sturbridge, Massachusetts who serve in harm's way in the armed forces have been vital in maintaining the freedom and the way of life enjoyed by our citizens and whereas citizens of our community have been awarded the Purple Heart for their boldly sacrifice of being wounded in action while engaged in combat and Whereas the Purple Heart is the oldest American military decoration in present use and was created as a badge of military merit on August 7, 1782 in Newburg, New York by General George Washington. Initially, it was made of purple cloth, shaped as a heart with the word 'Merit' sewn upon it. The heritage it represents is sacred to those that know the price paid to wear the Purple Heart and Whereas August 7<sup>th</sup> is nationally recognized as Purple Heart Appreciation Day. Now, therefore, be it proclaimed, we the Board of Selectmen on behalf of the Town of Sturbridge, Massachusetts go open record to hereby proclaim the town of Sturbridge, Massachusetts a Purple Heart Town honoring service and sacrifice of our nation's men and women in uniform that were wounded or killed by the enemy while serving to protect the freedoms enjoyed by all Americans. Also be it proclaimed that we the town of Sturbridge, Massachusetts will recognize August 7<sup>th</sup> annually as Purple Heart Day and urge the people and the organization of the Town of Sturbridge to display the American flag as well as public displays of recognition of our Purple Heart recipients.

**Motion: to sign the proclamation. By: P. Gimás.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Suprenant**

**Vote: 5-0**

Veteran's Agent Tim Hickey thanked the Board for their support of Veterans.

### **Employee Appointment**

Chief of Police recommended the appointment of Michelle Connors for Animal Control Officer.

**Motion: to concur with the appointment of Michelle Connors for the position of Animal Control Officer. By: P. Gimas.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Moran**

**Vote: 5-0**

### **Lynne Girouard interim Town Clerk request for Step 3 increase in pay**

**Motion: To approve the step increase for the interim Town Clerk. By: P. Gimas.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Suprenant**

**Vote: 5-0**

### **Barbara Search from the Historical Commission**

The current Commission was formed in 2015. She offered thanks to former members Bill Smith and Sandra Fallon. Ms. Search discussed the Exhibition Barn and CVS project, the expiration of the demolition delay in a few days, and the goals and objectives of the Historical Commission.

### **Doug Vizard seeking letter support for the Spencer Wastewater Treatment Plant.**

The Selectmen received a formal request from Doug Vizard seeking a letter of support from the Board relative to the Spencer Wastewater Treatment Plant and its renewal of its National Pollution Discharge Permit. There are concerns that Spencer would need to bring their plant up to current regulations and the request from Mr. Vizard is to have the Selectmen state these desires in a letter to the EPA.

**Motion: To approve composing a letter of support for the Spencer Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades. By: P. Gimas.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Suprenant**

**Vote: 5-0**

### **Town Administrator's Update**

- The Selectmen acknowledged a letter of commendation to police Lt. Mark Saloio after completion a command officer development program.
- Resignation of member of Historical Commission Sandra Fallon

**Motion: To accept resignation of Ms. Fallon. By: P. Gimas.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Suprenant**

**Vote: 5-0**

- Recommend the hire of Lori Main as Program Assistant at the Senior Center

**Motion: To approve the hire of Lori Main as program assistant at the Senior Center.**

**By: P. Gimas.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Moran**

**Vote: 5-0**

- Appointment of Barbara Gionfriddo to the Council On Aging.

**Motion: To appoint Barbara Gionfriddo to the Council On Aging. By: P. Gimas.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Suprenant.**

**Vote: 5-0**

### **Correspondence**

Mary Dowling read into the record the list of correspondence received.

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Motion: approve the minutes August 8, 2016. By: C. Moran.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: P. Gimas**

**Vote: 3-0-2**

**Request for Entertainment License for Baba Sushi**

**Motion: to wait until a representative from Baba Sushi could be present for the license request. By: M. Suprenant**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Blanchard**

**Vote: 5-0**

**Old Business**

- P. Gimas: Sign bylaw violations are seen throughout town and she would like to see the bylaw enforced.
- M. Suprenant: email from MassDOT re: 148 project; suggestion about project on Route 20 from 148 to MassPike to see if state can find the money to work on this section of roadway.
- M. Blanchard: request to follow up on the Economic Development and Tourism Coordinator with department update.

- The Board discussed the site of CVS on Route 20 and the demolition of Exhibition Hall.

**Motion: to send email to CVS developers to request the delay demolition for 90 days to try to find the money to deconstruct the building to rebuild in a different location or other alternatives. By: M. Dowling**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Moran**

**Vote: 3-2 (Gimas & Blanchard opposed)**

**Motion: to speak to the Conservation Commission to revisit the CVS project proposed at 9 Holland Road. By: M. Dowling**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Suprenant**

**Vote: 3-2 (Gimas & Blanchard opposed)**

- P. Gimas requested to review the roles and responsibilities of the Board of Selectmen at the annual retreat.

**Request for Entertainment License for Baba Sushi**

Co-manager Sarah Gallant spoke for the restaurant seeking approval for acoustic music upstairs and karaoke in a private room. Restaurant includes table seating, bar seating, and two private function rooms for roughly 30 people each, mainly used for business meetings. Karaoke room would hold roughly 20 people.

**Motion: to approve the Entertainment License for Baba Sushi restricted to Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 7:00-10:30pm. By: M. Suprenant**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Dowling**


**Vote: 5-0**

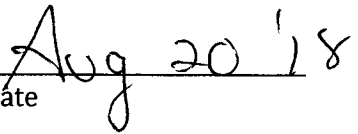
**Motion to adjourn by P. Gimas at 7:51 p.m.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Blanchard**

**Vote: 5-0**

Minutes Prepared By: Rebekah DeCoursey

  
Mary Dowling, Clerk of the Board of Selectmen

  
Date