

**ROCKPORT SELECT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY MARCH 18, 2015
7:00 P.M.
ROCKPORT OPERA HOUSE**

Present: Chair William (Bill) Chapman, Vice-Chair Charlton Ames, Tracy Lee Murphy, Kenneth McKinley and Geoffrey Parker. Also present: Richard C. Bates, Town Manager, Department Heads: Virginia Lindsey, Finance Director and James Francomano, Planner and Community Development Director and members of the public

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Bill Chapman, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

a. Upcoming Budget Workshops and Meetings: - See agenda

b. Candidate Nominating Papers are available from the Town Clerk. Completed papers must be returned by the close of business on April 24. – See agenda for openings.

c. Agenda Changes –

Geoffrey Parker moved to hear items d & e under New Business immediately. Tracy Murphy seconded the motion. VOTE: 5 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

V. d. Review of proposed land use articles for the warrant – James Francomano, Town Planner

Bill - #1. To see if the Town will vote to adopt amendments to the “Nuisances” provisions of the General Standards at Section 801.6 of the Land Use Ordinance for the purpose of extending the evening hours of certain outdoor events to 11:00 p.m. with prior approval by the Select Board.

Ken – this section is changed very little. The only difference is that in certain situations the ending time of an event can be extended to 11:00 p.m. with the Board’s approval.

Jamie – the Public Hearing with the Planning Board on the proposed changes will be held on April 8th.

Bill - #2. To see if the Town will vote to adopt amendments to the “Signs Standards” at Section 1103.4 of the Land Use Ordinance for the purpose of increasing the maximum area of signs in the Hospital and Resort zoning district to thirty (30) square feet or fifty (50) square feet if the sign includes the universal hospital symbol (white “H” on blue background).

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Ken – there was a lot of discussion on this proposed change. The hospital is very happy with the proposed change. The ORC (Ordinance Review Committee) pretty much agreed on this proposal.

Jamie – the hospital appreciated the proposed change. One member of the ORC objected because of how the subject was brought forward and didn't like the "H" sign.

Tracy – there was a lot of interesting conversation on this one and a philosophical stance was being taken.

Bill - #3. To see if the Town will vote to adopt amendments to Section 1303 and 1304 of the Land Use Ordinance for the purpose of requiring additional information to be included in applications for "Site Plan" approvals and clarifying the types of land use proposals that do not require such approvals.

Ken – explained the changes and why they are being proposed.

Jamie – the numbering has also been changed.

Tom Murphy (Planning Board Member) – 1304.1 # 4 on elevations is a good fix regarding Architectural Review.

Bill - #4. To see if the Town will vote to adopt amendments throughout Section 913 of the Land Use Ordinance for the purpose of clarifying "Additional Uses and Alternative Standards" adopted by the Town in 2013 and 2014 and increasing the development potential of certain properties in the core of the Downtown zoning district on the Harbor side of Central Street.

Tracy – it is very, very limited to the places that it refers to. I am glad to see that a map of the area is included.

Ken – it clears up the intent that was made several years ago. This one took a lot of research and discussion.

Jamie – it is important that the owners of the properties involved understand what is allowed in that district. This section took a lot of fine tuning. It was not on the work plan for this time.

Tracy – this will be especially helpful to the two lot owners across from Mary Lea Park. It would allow for an office in the front on the main street with living quarters in the back section.

Jamie – we went through section 913 and reorganized the first three chapters. I would like to go through all the ordinances and do the same with all the sections.

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Kenneth McKinley moved to approve the proposed land use articles (adding the word “that” to #3 between the words “proposals” and “do”) for the warrant. Tracy Murphy seconded the motion. VOTE: 5 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

V. e. Vote to Place Articles on a Public Hearing and Set that Hearing Date for Monday, April 13, 2015, 7:00 P.M., Opera House, TV

Kenneth McKinley moved to set the public hearing date for Monday, April 13, 2015, 7:00 P.M., Opera House, Televised on Channel 22 and to place the Land Use Ordinance Articles on the Public Hearing Notice. Tracy Murphy seconded the motion. VOTE: 5 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

d. Public Comment – As this is a “special” meeting, general public comment will not be taken this evening. Public comment will be accepted at the next scheduled board meeting, at which a Public Hearing regarding budget and ordinance changes will be held) on April 13.

II. TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT – None this evening

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None this evening

IV. PUBLIC HEARING -. None this evening

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Committee Resignation(s): - None this meeting

b. Committee Application(s):

- Endorsement of Steve Corson’s application to serve on the Knox County Airport Advisory Committee

Kenneth McKinley moved to approve the endorsement of Steve Corson to serve on the Knox County Airport Advisory Committee pending their approval. Tracy Murphy seconded the motion. VOTE 5 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

c. Consensus Votes on FY 15/16 Budget

Kenneth McKinley moved to approve the FY 15-16 Budget in the amount of \$4,883,975 for expenses, \$1,623,611 for revenues, leaving a bottom line of \$3,260,364. Tracy Murphy seconded the motion. VOTE: 5 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

VI. WASTEWATER COMMISSIONERS – None this evening

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VII. LIAISON REPORTS

- Possible meeting with the Camden Select Board. I suggested the following dates: Thursday, April 9, Wednesday, April 15 (tax day, what better day!), Wednesday, April 22

Bill – this was on last month’s agenda. We are now looking at May and not April.

Tracy – don’t forget the Town Manger’s evaluation on May 18th. We need to get the paperwork together or else Bill will crack the whip to make sure you do so. I will need this by May 1st and then I can give Rick a copy of it a week before the meeting.

Ken – I have a letter that I wrote for us to have in the annual town report.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None this evening

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Geoffrey Parker moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 P.M. Tracy Murphy seconded the motion. VOTE: 5 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

Respectfully submitted,

LINDA M. GREENLAW
TOWN CLERK as RECORDING SECRETARY