

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
December 12, 2005

Present: Gregory Laboissonniere, Frank Hyde, Ted Jendzejec, Justin Pomfret

Acting Town Manager Richard Sullivan
Town Solicitor Patrick Sullivan

Absent: Frank Hyde

Pledge of Allegiance led by Town Sergeant
Invocation led by President Jendzejec
Town Sergeant reviewed Emergency Evacuation Plan

Swearing-In Ceremony – Police

Acting Town Manager Richard Sullivan swore into office Assistant Animal Control Officer Jessica Zakowski, Officer Domenic J. Guglielmo, Officer Aires H. Medeiros, Jr. and Officer Kenneth D. Gebo.

Motion made by Justin Pomfret seconded by Gregory Laboissonniere to approve Town Council minutes of November 28, 2005. All voted Aye. So voted.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Tax Abatements for the months of October and November 2005, totaling \$99,423.67 with additions of \$62,557.99

Motion made by Justin Pomfret seconded by Gregory Laboissonniere that consent agenda is approved. All voted Aye. So voted.

LICENSES

Renewal of Campground licenses for Colwell's Campground, 119 Peckham Lane

Motion made by Justin Pomfret seconded by Gregory Laboissonniere that license be renewed. All voted Aye. So voted.

Application for new campground license by Brian and Carol Bamford for Camp Ayoho, McManus Road, Coventry, RI

Present: Brian Bamford

Mr. Bamford – Purchased campground last April. Asking for renewal of license, same operation, no changes.

Motion made by Gregory Laboissonniere seconded by Justin Pomfret that license be granted. All voted Aye. So voted.

Application for new Private Detective license for Kenneth Cunningham,
48 Maude Avenue

Mr. Cunningham – I've been licensed in West Warwick since 1993. We moved to Coventry, that's why I am requesting a license here.

Motion made by Justin Pomfret seconded by Gregory Laboissonniere that license be granted. All voted Aye. So voted.

ABANDONMENT

Petition for abandonment of unimproved area of Hammet Road.

Motion made by Justin Pomfret seconded by Gregory Laboissonniere to send to Planning Commission for recommendation.

Councilman Pomfret - Hammet Road, which is off Maple Valley, ends with an unimproved part of the road. It goes right into Scituate. They want to bring 93 condos into that area. The Scituate Town Council suggested that their traffic come through western Coventry. There would probably be about an extra 200 cars a day. Maple Valley, Town Farm, Hammet, Route 117, would see increased traffic BJ's Walmart, churches, gas stations, etc. This is going to increase the traffic. We are trying to get this abandoned.

Gregory Laboissonniere – By the looks of this, Nipmuc Road ends at the Coventry line.

Mr. Pomfret – Hammet Road would be their access. They can't handle any more traffic up there.

Mr. Laboissonniere – Where is their egress on the other side in Scituate?

Mr. Pomfret – It's Nipmuc, a very tiny road. It goes out to Plainfield Pike.

Mr. Laboissonniere – Would this effect their development, with only one way in and out?

Mr. Pomfret – I went to the meeting Thursday night in Scituate. People are against it obviously. One of the things was that with these big developments, they can't handle the traffic.

Mr. Laboissonniere – So by abandoning this we are taking the road away.

Solicitor Sullivan - The abutters are requesting that this go to the Planning Commission. The tax assessor sets the value, the parties will split it. It is not coming off the tax rolls.

Mr. Laboissonniere – So in essence it is increasing the assessed value.

Vote on abandonment. All voted Aye. So voted.

Public Comment

Nicholas Gorham – Public Comment should be at the beginning of the meeting. Commented again on illegal gravel operations, unlicensed, does not believe that these operations are “grand fathered”, especially the Koszela operation. Does anybody know if he has been served with a cease and desist order? Troubled by fact that Mr. Sprague said that these operations are grandfathered.

David Ullom
Nicholas Road

Questioned abandonment issue and grandfather rights. We bought the Nicholas Farm in 1978. There was no quarrying of any kind. Not until maybe 2000, when Joey inherited the property. If you are concerned that this was abandoned back in the 1980’s, don’t see how the council can take the position that this has been grandfathered, hasn’t been used for that until the last few years.

Gail Slezak
79 Nicholas Road

Questioned grandfather rights; only been used as a gravel pit the last 4-5 years.

Brett Harrington
Hammet Road

Supports the abandonment for Hammet Road. Believe it is in the best interest of the town. Went to the meeting in Scituate. They want to put up 37 single family homes and 93 condos. I have a traffic concern.

Brian Moran
Nicholas Road

Questioned if there were any environmental issues regarding the gravel banks.

Motion made by Justin Pomfret seconded by Gregory Laboissonniere that meeting be adjourned. All voted Aye. So voted.

Meeting adjourned 7:40 p.m.

Town Clerk

