

Ordinances & Administration Committee
Monday, March 16, 2015 – 6:00 p.m.
1st Fl. Council Committee Room – City Hall
-Minutes-

Present: Chair, Councilor Robert Whynott; Councilor Joseph Ciolino, Councilor Steven LeBlanc (Alternate)

Absent: Councilor Stewart

Also Present: None.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Reappointments:

Affordable Housing Trust	Michael Luster	TTE 02/14/17	(Cont'd to 04/06)
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Board of Health	Dr. Richard Sagall	TTE 02/14/18	(Cont'd from 03/02)
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Dr. Sagall conveyed to the Committee that he's been on the Board of Health (BOH) for five years and is in his third year serving as Chair. He said he finds the BOH a rewarding experience to assist in the improvement of the Public Health Department and the health of the city. **Councilors Ciolino** and **LeBlanc** offered their commendation for Dr. Sagall's work on behalf of the city.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ciolino , seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council reappoint Dr. Richard Sagall to the Board of Health, TTE 02/14/18.

Cable TV Advisory Board	Karen Favazza Spencer	TTE 02/14/18	(Cont'd from 03/02)
	Geoffrey Bradford (to be withdrawn)		

Ms. Spencer said that that there are good members on the Cable TV Advisory Board composed of technicians as well as interested citizens. The Board, she explained, are coordinating with the Mayor's office and other Cape Ann communities regarding the renewal of the cable contract with Comcast under consideration, as well as a possible alternative to Comcast which she said is a larger project. She briefly explained that there is an opportunity for an open access network, already in use in other communities in the state and that the FCC is funding some of it. She said this is something the Board wishes to explore. This project will take some time to see if it is feasible, she noted, pointing out that Cape Cod has such a network as do other states in New England.

Councilor Whynott recalled that he was a 25 year member of the Cable TV Advisory Board and enjoyed the experience.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Ciolino, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council reappoint Karen Favazza Spencer to the Cable TV Advisory Board, TTE 02/14/18.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council accept the withdrawal by the Mayor to reappoint Geoffrey Bradford to the Cable TV Advisory Committee.

Council on Aging	Selma Bell	TTE 02/14/18	(Cont'd from 03/02)
	Lee Harty, Jay Gustaferro Barry McKay		(Cont'd to 4/6)

Ms. Bell informed the Committee that the Senior Center has hired an Interim Activities Director to assist in bringing forward more programs for the city's senior population, and spoke briefly about a preliminary Alzheimer's awareness program that has been instituted in other communities successfully which is starting up here. She noted that a generous benefactor has provided a salad bar which is free daily to seniors as well as a hot meal available daily for a nominal fee. She noted the generosity of the community assisting the Senior Center with help fulfill the city's senior population's needs.

Councilor Whynott expressed his admiration for the work of the Senior Center. **Councilor Ciolino** inquired about a new dishwasher for the senior center's kitchen. **Ms. Bell** said it is all set. She also invited the Councilors to visit the Senior Center to see what it has to offer.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Ciolino, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council reappoint Selma Bell to the Council on Aging, TTE 02/14/18.

Clean Energy Commission Tom Balf, John Moskal TTE 02/14/17 (Cont'd from 03/02)

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Ciolino, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council accept the withdrawal by the Mayor to reappoint Tom Balf to the Clean Energy Commission, TTE 02/14/17.

Mr. Moskal said that he has been on the Clean Energy Commission since its inception and wished to continue as a member. He noted he has been in the energy industry for 30 years and reviewed a summary of his experience with the Committee. It is a productive Commission, he said, and an effective one. There was a brief discussion of an oil pipeline between Mr. Moskal and the Committee.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Ciolino, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council reappoint John Moskal to the Clean Energy Commission, TTE 02/14/17.

Historical Commission Jeff Crawford, Thomas O'Keefe TTE 02/14/18 (Cont'd from 03/02)

Mr. Crawford said he is a history buff on Gloucester's history and enjoys the work of the Commission. He said there are some new members and things are picking up, moving in a good direction. He pointed out that the main thrust of the Commission is to preserve the city's history and educate the public.

Councilor Whynott and **Mr. Crawford** talked briefly about a few of the famous people who graced many aspects of the city's culture and industry through its history. On inquiry by **Councilor Ciolino**, **Mr. Crawford** said that the Commission has people who come to speak with them about projects before they're started, such as the A. Piatt Andrew Bridge and the train bridge project as is required in their funding. The Commission, he said, is getting closer to redoing the street index; and considering placing some city areas on the National Register, such as Rocky Neck and Annisquam, to bring more attention to those areas. They're trying to get back to Certified Local Government if the city requalifies such a program allows the Commission to apply for matching funds for projects. He noted the Commission also deals with the city's cemeteries.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Ciolino, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council reappoint Jeff Crawford to the Historical Commission, TTE 02/14/18.

Mr. O'Keefe noted he is Co-Chair of the Commission and that Mr. Crawford is their secretary who does a fine job. He pointed out he is also on the Historical Commission's representative to the Community Preservation Committee, and is also a member of the Leonard Club. He added that he is a retired architect, but is also still active in the real estate business. He told the Committee he wants to continue with the Commission.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council reappoint Thomas O'Keefe to the Historical Commission, TTE 02/14/18.

Historic District Commission Robert Chandler TTE 02/14/18 (Cont'd from 03/02)
Stephen Goodick (Cont'd 05/04)

Mr. Chandler noted he is a registered architect one of several required by ordinance to sit on the Commission. He said the Commission guides applicants through a range of improvements on their properties within historic

districts, be it private home renovations, conversions to condominiums, or building reconstruction, or whatever their project entails. Responding to a question by **Councilor Whynott** he said there is no restriction as to what color a house can be painted in a historic district by the Historic District Commission.

Councilor Ciolino expressed that some applicants who come before the Commission are intimidated by the process, and he noted previous members of the Commission were very demanding of applicants that came before them. He asked that the Commission have empathy for the applicants, guide them and assist them through a process. He asked that the Commission not have applicants return over and over to accomplish their application approval one construction item at a time which can prove quite costly but to try and limit that when at all possible. **Mr. Chandler** said that the Commission tries to do just what the Councilor was suggesting and expressed his appreciation for the Councilor's comments.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Ciolino, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council reappoint Robert Chandler to the Historic District Commission, TTE 02/14/18.

Magnolia Woods Oversight & Advisory Committee Dean Sidell TTE 02/14/18 (Cont'd from 03/02)

Mr. Sidell said that he has been on the Magnolia Woods Oversight & Advisory Committee since its inception when the ordinance amendment was passed by the Council in 2011. He represents Fishermen Youth Soccer which is one of the groups that uses the Woods. He conveyed that the Committee has worked with the DPW Director to close the landfill because the Department of Environmental Protection still had an open file 10 years after its closure. He said the Committee worked two years on that project, turned it over to the DPW Director so that the city could file with the DEP, and the final disposition still is not received by the city. The second charge of the Committee was to develop a maintenance plan and to promote extended use of the facility.

He noted the MWOAC is in a holding pattern right now as there were several resignations due to ill health by members and another, Tom Falzarano, representing Cape Ann Youth Lacrosse, who resigned, as well as the School Athletic Director who stopped attending meetings, and so dropped the Committee well below a quorum. He informed the Councilors that the MWOAC is working with the Mayor's office to rebuild the membership of the Committee. He said the Woods is a great facility serving so many children and adults in the community, but it needs more care and that the Committee is the only group that has a vested interest of Magnolia Woods as a priority. He pointed out the city mows the grass and the MWOAC takes care of the rest of the expenses. He said the next charge of the MWOAC once reconstituted would be to get a maintenance plan together to send to the city and then be able to work to expand the recreational opportunities of the facility.

Councilor Ciolino discussed with **Mr. Sidell** some of the difficulties the Committee has had and requested once the Committee is back to meeting regularly to forward a written report of their activities to update the Council. He also discussed a storage shed possibly being installed at the facility to house a tractor for the purpose of cutting the grass.

Mr. Sidell discussed with **Councilor Whynott** that the ordinance is specific as to who can be represented on the MWOAC which was inhibiting their ability to recruit Committee members, and they talked about broadening membership requirements. **Councilor LeBlanc** discussed with **Mr. Sidell** the issues of calling a meeting and new appointments that may be coming through. Then **Councilor LeBlanc** and **Councilor Ciolino** discussed putting forward a Council Order to amend the Code of Ordinances as it relates to the membership requirements for the MWOAC to broaden its membership to a wider pool of appointees and would contact Ward 5 Councilor William Fonvielle to that end.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council reappoint Dean Sidell to the Magnolia Woods Oversight & Advisory Committee, TTE 02/14/18.

Tourism Commission Paul Frontiero TTE 02/14/18 (Cont'd to 4/6)

Zoning Board of Appeals James Movalli, TTE 02/14/18 (Cont'd from 03/02)
Michael Nimon (Cont'd to 4/6)

Mr. Movalli said the ZBA is governed by local ordinance and by MGL c. 40. The Building Inspector assists them, he noted. He said with the passing of Rick Rafuse, they are down one member, and that this Administration is

searching for a new member to fill the vacant spot. He noted Ms. Bergmann is still a member but has been ill several months this winter, but they continued to field quorums. He said the Board has an excellent composition of members.

Councilor Whynott lauded the work of the ZBA acknowledging that they have a tough job to do.

Councilor Ciolino said Mr. Movalli runs a fair meeting and that the Board does help the applicants that come before them. He expressed his appreciation for the effort that Board puts forward.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council reappoint James Movalli to the Zoning Board of Appeals, TTE 02/14/18.

New Appointments:

Community Preservation Committee Barbara Silberman TTE 02/14/18 (Cont'd from 03/02)

Ms. Silberman highlighted her volunteer work with the Sargent House Museum and through it the grant process for Community Preservation Act funds which she secured for the Sargent House Museum. In her professional life she noted she has worked in preservation and has a familiarity with the grant process. She said she had yet to attend a CPC meeting. **Councilor Ciolino** acknowledged he knew Ms. Silberman and knew she was big on historic preservation, but pointed out that Open Space is also a part of the CPC work. **Ms. Silberman** said she has been involved in land conservation saying that it is important for the public to be able to access open spaces of different kinds, of which the city is fortunate to have so many places to use. She said a diverse open space portfolio is important.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Ciolino, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council appoint Barbara Silberman to the Community Preservation Committee, TTE 02/14/18.

2. *New Appointments:*

Historical Commission Leon Doucette TTE 02/14/16

Mr. Doucette reviewed his professional credentials noting he is employed with the Cape Ann Museum as a Curator's Assistant for the past four years and is a Gloucester native. He studied painting in New Hampshire during college, he noted. He said the historical aspect of the museum has captured his imagination and that has become a stronger focus for him. He said he heard about this open position on the Commission through David Rhineland and as a result he has attended about five months' worth of meetings to date and was looking forward to fully participating in their process.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor LeBlanc, seconded by Councilor Ciolino, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council appoint Leon Doucette to the Historical Commission, TTE 02/14/16.

Conservation Commission Linda Charpentier TTE 02/14/18

Ms. Charpentier, who formerly served three years on the Planning Board, explained that she saw the opening on the Conservation Commission (ConCom) and given her highly technical background, she said she knew it would better with ConCom. She reviewed that her undergraduate and graduate degrees are in chemistry and worked in that industry for years, then worked in environmental management, environmental regulatory affairs for several companies, and now works for Boston Sand & Gravel doing all their regulatory compliance. Through her professional work she was worked with the DEP, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). She said she has been to several meetings and noted it is a busy group with a full agenda which she looked forward to especially in light of her background.

Councilor Ciolino lauded Ms. Charpentier's work with the Planning Board and looked forward to her transitioning to ConCom. He and **Ms. Charpentier** discussed the issues of applicants coming before ConCom and being reasonable in demands made on them.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council appoint Linda Charpentier to the Conservation Commission, TTE 02/14/18.

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Dana C. Jorgensson
Clerk of Committees**

DOCUMENTS/ITEMS SUBMITTED AT MEETING: None.