

**Hinsdale Select Board
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 12, 2022, 7:00 pm
Community Room, Downstairs, Town Hall
39 South Street, Hinsdale MA**

Present:

Earl Peck, Chairman
Ray Huntoon, Selectman
Robert Graves, Town Administrator
Clarissa Mitchell, Administrative Assistant

Absent:

Bart Collins, Selectman

At 7:00 pm, Earl opened the meeting. Next, the Select Board needed to approve the previous meeting minutes from 9/28/22 and 10/4/22. Earl Peck motioned to accept the minutes as presented, and Ray Huntoon seconded it. All said, Aye.

Communications and Reports from Department Heads, Boards, and Chairs:

Rich Peters-School Committee:

Rich noted that the maintenance for the track is more of a labor issue. The track company suggested fencing between the track and the field to limit foot traffic, and the company also recommended washing it after heavy use. Another recommendation would be to look at different surfaces instead of just a rubber surface for the track.

Robert Graves-Town Administrator:

- The transfer station is coming along well. We are expecting the project to be done during the week of October 24th through October 28th. The transfer station will be closed on October 25th and 27th to let the asphalt settle in.
- Halloween is happening again this year. Trick or treat will be from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. The school is putting on a trunk or treat event, and Hinsdale Dayz is putting on an event at Camp Romaca.
- We met tonight with Dalton regarding the Hinsdale/Dalton consolidation study. We are trying to set up a couple of sessions with the consultants for Hinsdale residents to learn more about Police Reform and other questions about the possible merger. The report will be posted on the website for people to read along with some highlights.
- The MVP report has been submitted to the State for approval.
- The Plunkett drawdown starts November 1st.
- Typically we leave the flags up for Veteran's Day. TA Graves recommended that we leave some of the flags up around the center of town, by the library, and up towards the cemetery. Then we take the rest down. The Select Board agreed with that recommendation.

 10/18/2022

Next, we jumped to the line item about Adams Road. The road is pretty chewed up. Patching does not seem feasible. TA Graves sent out a letter on October 3rd to residents suggesting that we make it a gravel road. Five residents said yes, three did not respond, and one said no to the proposal. **Resident Albert Stegemann** noted that the power company ruined the road when they were driving 10-20 tons of traprock back and forth. They tried to fill in the potholes, but that did not help. The plows made it worse; last winter, the road was finished. The town is proposing we dig it up and grade it, then seal it next year. Mr. Stegemann recommended a pavement management plan to help repair roads around town. There was a broad discussion about other alternatives to fix Adams Road. Ultimately the Select Board agreed with the original proposal.


The Select Board tabled the appointments for the two new library trustees for clarification. The library bylaws have been changed so the board can have town and non-town representatives. **Resident Laura Galliher** noted that we would have a non-townspeople vote on library funds, and we should have Hinsdale Residents sitting on the board.

Next, two people were applying for business certificates. Kyle Bailey is a contractor who goes to homes to do the work and needs to be registered. Then Mathew Weiland owns a fencing company named Fence Kings. Earl Peck motioned to accept Kyle Bailey and Mathew Weiland's requests for business certificates; Ray Huntoon seconded it. All said, Aye.

Chairman Peck motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 pm, and Huntoon seconded. All said, Aye. Next, Peck opened the public hearing. The purpose of the public hearing is to consider approval of an all-alcoholic beverage license for Birch & Cork Furniture Co. Chairman Peck turned it over to **Owner Dorothy DiMouro**; she said the company turned into a gift shop. She noted that she intends not to turn it into a liquor store but to have people buy a bottle of wine in their gift box. Dorothy has an idea of a sip and floral arrangement class to include wine with the events. They will have a limited selection of wine. **Resident Mary Lennon** asked if she would limit the number of people at these events. Dorothy said she would be limited to ten people, and it would be on Saturday evenings between 6 and 8 pm. She would tell people parking is limited so please carpool. Earl Peck reads Tracy Lussier's letter of support for the alcohol license. Please see attached. Chairman Peck motioned to approve the all-alcoholic beverage license pending final approval from the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission; Ray Huntoon seconded it. All said, Aye. Earl motioned to close the public hearing at 8:16 pm. Ray seconded it. All said, Aye.

Respectfully submitted,
Clarissa Mitchell


Earl Peck- Chairman


Ray Huntoon



October 5, 2022

Town of Hinsdale
Hinsdale Select Board
39 South Street
Hinsdale, MA 01235

Dear Members of the Hinsdale Select Board,

We would like to express our support for Dottie DiMouro Litz, owner of Birch & Cork located at 90 Main Street for her application for an all alcoholic beverage license.

On July 26th 2019, we purchased the commercial property which had been operating as a general store up until the death of Glenn Wnukowski. We invested a substantial sum of money into the property in an effort to keep the historical integrity of the building while attempting to ensure there would always be a lively business in the town at this location.

In July, 2020 we leased the space to Dottie. She invested her time and money to create a beautiful store keeping with the character of the building. Since her original opening, Dottie has repeatedly looked for ways to expand her concept while she struggled through the challenges of Covid. For example, she brought flower arrangements to her business plan which was a great success. Dottie has informed us she is now looking to again pivot and add a new approach to ensure the success of a business in which she is fully invested.

All of the businesses that have operated in this location since 1987 have held an all alcohol liquor license. While there are no records prior to 1987, it is well known that Naughton's Market also sold alcohol. We see no detrimental effect to the neighborhood by allowing the license that will keep and bring new business to our town.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our thoughts.

Alan & Tracey Lussier