



Shaun A. Suhoski, *Town Manager*
Email: ssuhoski@townofathol.org

Bridget A. Sullivan, *Administrative Asst.*
Email: selectmen@townofathol.org

MEMORANDUM

TO: Athol Board of Selectmen
FR: Shaun A. Suhoski, Town Manager
RE: Town Manager's Report
DT: April 17, 2018

Dear Board: Please see following update for tonight's meeting.

Package Store License Request: As you know, there is a request for a new package store license to be located at the corner of Crescent and Silver Lake streets. When I reviewed the application, it appeared to me that the same ownership was seeking a third package store license in the Town (state law allows only "one" in a town). In further review, however, the ownership of each of the stores is shown as separate entities on the license application and existing business:

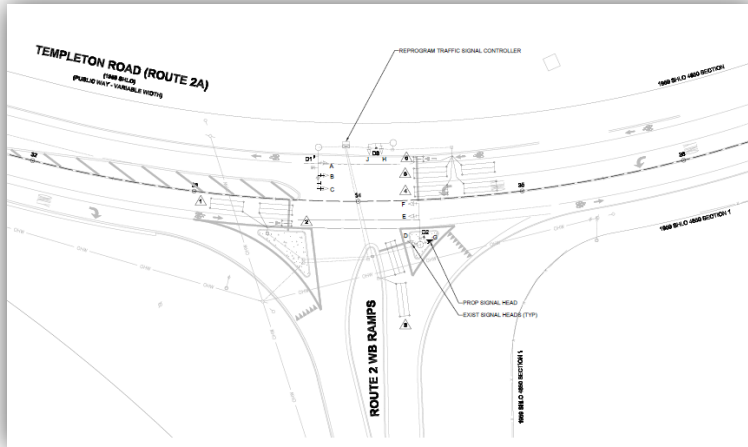
- Requested new license for Rt. 32 Corporation (d/b/a Athol Mini Mart, 464 Crescent Street) shows 100 percent ownership by Rameshchandra N. Patel.
- Existing license for Kashvi, Inc. (Athol General Store, 390 Crescent Street) shows 100 percent ownership by Bhavikaben J. Patel, however, state corporate records list "Jignesh Patel" as a director as printed out today (copy attached).
- Existing license for Athol Mini Mart Corp. d/b/a Corner Store, 229 Pinedale Avenue) shows 100 percent ownership by Jignesh Patel.

Further, the liquor license applications for all three package stores lists jignesh29@yahoo.com as the email contact.

In discussion with the Executive Director of the ABCC, I was advised that – if the operations are wholly separate in terms of ownership and control – that the limit of "one" in a town is not applicable. However, the Board, in its capacity as Local Licensing Authority, has the jurisdiction to question the intention and structure of the above to ensure compliance with the law.

Certainly, the fact that one contact exists for three distinct operations is worthy of discussing as well as the stated plans to close operations at 390 Crescent Street when the new business opens.

Route 2A Safety Improvements: As a result of the Board’s request to MassDOT last year, the state has approved – and the private sector developer Athol Development LLC will fund – the installation of additional signal heads at the traffic lights on Route 2A at Exit 18 and Orchard Street/North Quabbin Commons.



The agreement was signed by the Town this week (no cost) and work will proceed in the coming months.

MassDOT has also stated their intent to install an oversized 35 mph speed limit signs on the westbound approach to the high school, fire station and hospital zone area.

Miscellaneous:

- Attended ceremony with Chief Kleber and K-9 Officer Craig Deveneau to receive gift of bullet and knife resistant vest for K-9 Gronk. The staff at D’Ambrosio Eyecare raise funds for various causes and the value of the gifts approached \$3,000.
- Held department head meeting and pre-development discussion with potential cannabis cultivator at former Agway location on Exchange Street.
- Met with new owner of former Mr. Mike’s Mobil on Main Street (along with town planner and building commissioner) to discuss renovation plans; the new owner may seek to lease to a retail marijuana dispensary.
- Met with DPW Superintendent, Doug Starrett and facilities staff to begin planning for potential impacts of reconstruction project for Crescent Street Bridge.
- Completed application to Commonwealth of Mass. for eligible “downtown” Census tract to be named an “Opportunity Zone” by the federal government (the Governors of states make final selections which are reviewed at the federal level). The program enables new investors access to additional federal tax credits.
- Participated in River Rat Parade with elected officials and joined AOTV for race start broadcast. What a great day!