

AUG 27 1986

NOTICE OF MEETING August 16, 1986

Emergency meeting Tapes 1

~~SELECTMEN~~ Chairman Elizabeth Steele, Mary-Jo Avellar, Paul Christo,
 PRESENT: Munro Moore, Dolores deSousa. Also Police Chief Meads.

ELECTMEN none

ABSENT:

Convened: 2:05 p.m.
 Adjourned: 3:50 p.m.

TOPIC

Disturbance at Spiritus Pizza

Motion No. ~~xxxxx~~

Chairman Steele said that the purpose of the emergency meeting Avellar which was called at the request of Police Chief Meads was to DeSousa discuss the deployment of police officers tonight (August 16). Moore moved to go into executive session to discuss the deployment of police officers this evening and deSousa seconded. In discussing the motion, Christo said that he needed to know what had "gone down" last evening before addressing the motion. Christo Chief Meads said that his request was precipitated by actions that happened in town last evening. Meads said that additional officers had been assigned at Spiritus and the disturbance had occurred at Spiritus. Christo said he would like to hear Paul Failed Wychules (Chairman, Human Rights Coalition) version and Police

TOPIC

cont

Motion No. 7521

Chief Meads version of what happened. Avellar said she would like to know what had happened. Meads said he was not present Avellar yes to discuss what had happened last evening but rather to ask for DeSousa no guidance from the Board on how to handle this evening. Moore yes

Motion: Christo to table the motion to go into executive session Steele yes
 second: Avellar Christo yes

Christo said he wanted to know what had happened. Meads said he was asking for the meeting to discuss what might happen to- Passed night. Meads said he would have brought his 6 police officers Failed to the meeting if the Board were going to debate what had happened last night. Steele said that this was an emergency meeting

TOPIC

cont

Motion No. ~~xxxxx~~

not a public forum. Steele said that the additional police at Spiritus were a result of Monday night's meeting--an outgrowth Avellar of something that happened on Monday. DeSousa said that this was Sousa an emergency meeting and that the Board was not present to debate the issue of what had happened. DeSousa said that debate should Moore be saved for an agenda item. Christo said that if he were asked Steele to discuss deployment he would need to know what happened. Christo said he would like to hear from Wychules. Avellar said that if Christo there's a way to mitigate the problem, then the Board should take advantage of the people here (in the audience). Steele said that Passed this should not be a dialogue. Avellar said she would hate for Failed the people (present) to walk out thinking the Board was not interested. Meads said that this was not a public meeting.

STMEN Chairman Elizabeth Steele, Mary-Jo Avellar, Paul Christo,
 ✓ SENT: Munro Moore, Dolores deSousa. Also Police Chief Meads.

LECTMEN none

ABSENT:

Convened: 2:05 p.m.
 Adjourned: 3:50 p.m.

TOPIC	Disturbance at Spiritus, cont.	Motion No. 7522
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Motion: Avellar to take the motion to table the executive session off the table, asking that the people in the public wait until the session was over. Avellar said that the doors of communication should be kept open
 second: Moore

Avellar yes

DeSousa yes

Moore yes

Steele yes

Christo yes

Passed x

Failed

TOPIC	Executive session	Motion No. 7523
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Motion: Moore to go into executive session to discuss the deployment of police officers in town tonight
 second: deSousa

Avellar yes

DeSousa yes

Moore yes

Steele yes

Christo no

The Board went into executive session at 2:30 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 3:23 p.m. It was announced after the roll call vote that the Board would reconvene in open session.
 No votes were taken in executive session.

Passed x

Failed

TOPIC	reconvene in open session	Motion No. xxxx
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Avellar said that the Board should take it upon themselves to contact key people in town about tonight's possible demonstration. The Board discussed the bars in the area of Spiritus and asking the DJ's to ask for everyone's cooperation. The Board typed the attached statement and members said they would distribute it where possible. Frank Reeves from the Advocate and the publisher of the gay newspaper the Mirror discussed informally with the Board the incidents of the night before and what might happen as a result. Reeves said there were 9 policemen in front of Spiritus the night before. Meads said 8. Meads said it was not a show of force. The Board said that some announcement might be made at Town Hall this evening at the Gay Men's Chorus. A fact sheet could be placed in bars.

*submitted by
June Steele
8-18-86*

PAGE 2 of 3 pages

note: absent--abs.
 absent abs.

SELECTMEN Chairman Elizabeth Steele, Mary-Jo Avellar, Paul Christo,
PRESENT: Munro Moore, Dolores deSousa. Also Police Chief Meads.

SELECTMEN none
ABSENT:

Convened: 2:30 p.m.
Adjourned: 3:23 p.m.

TOPIC Executive session Motion No.xxxxx

Police chief Meads said that he was personally not at Spiritus the past evening. He said that 6 arrests were made. He said there were no problems until 20 minutes of 2 a.m. At that point he said the crowd began to feel that they had a right to be on the street. He said that the Town can anticipate problems tonight. Meads said he did not want to call in the State Troopers but that he could call in everyone tonight to be at Spiritus at 1:30 a.m. He said he would be forced to call in for more manpower if there was a demonstration. He said this was not a gay issue. He said that the 6 that got arrested were for a reason. He said it was a no-win situation. He said there were 7 police officers on the scene, with 4 or 5 of those regulars. He said that those officers assigned for tonight had asked for back-up. Meads asked, "What do you people want to do with this crowd this evening?" Avellar said that the crowd could be educated to move along. She said she had not found the crowds (in the past) to be a hostile crowd. She said there's going to be a crowd somewhere. Meads said that the crowd created an unlawful assembly last night. He asked if the Board wanted extra police officers on at Spiritus

TOPIC executive session Motion No.7524

tonight. Did the Board recommend a show of force or to leave the situation alone? Meads said that the crowd could not block the public way. Avellar said that the Chief should not use Gestapo tactics. She said an atmosphere of co-existence should be created. Moore said that just a few police officers should be out there with some in reserve. Steele said it was wrong to go back to the 2 police officers, that the extra men should be stationed there. She said she would like to see the street cleared. DeSousa said that people should be moved along. Avellar said that the police have to clear the vehicle part of the roadway. Moore said that business should go on as usual.

Motion: Avellar to close the executive session
second: Christo

submitted by
Janie Fletcher
8-18-84

DeSousa 8-18-84
CHP.Chr