

**MINUTES
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
APRIL 14, 2008**

Chairman Belanger called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Members present were Douglas Belanger, Thomas Brennan, Dianna Provencher and Rick Antanavica. Also present was Town Administrator Robert Reed. Selectman Zagorski arrived at 6:25pm.

Reorganization

MOTION: Ms. Provencher moved to table reorganization of the Board until our first meeting in October. Mr. Antanavica seconded. UNANIMOUS

MOTION: Mr. Antanavica moved to resume regular reorganization schedule in April 2009. Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

Mr. Brennan noted that the Selectmen have previously discussed the possibility of moving the reorganization after the fiscal year has ended. Mr. Belanger felt that the idea, as he remembers the discussion, had been to do so after the town meeting. Ms. Provencher and Mr. Antanavica also recalled the post town meeting theory. It was noted that this is outlined in the Board's Policies & Procedures document. The Board agreed to look at this further, asking Selectman Antanavica to take the lead.

Executive Session

MOTION: Mr. Antanavica moved for the Board to go into Executive Session for the purpose of contract negotiations, land use discussion, with public announcements possible; the Board will reconvene in open session. Ms. Provencher seconded.
The Board was polled: ALL AYES

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:07pm.
The Board came out of Executive Session at 6:40pm.

Memorandum of Agreement

MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to approve and sign Memorandum of Agreement with the Police Sergeants Union as negotiated. Mr. Antanavica seconded. UNANIMOUS

Town Government Study Committee

Mr. Belanger noted that the purpose of the Committee was to look at streamlining town government. The group looked at consolidating in a dozen or more areas and had assistance from professionals and municipal management groups. The following were deemed plausible at this time:

- Maintenance of town fields and buildings may be moved to what amounts to a Dept. of Public Works, although employees will remain under current departmental jurisdiction
- Department Heads within maintenance areas are all needed; this is not a done deal or even a recommendation at this time
- A transition period may be used, in whole or in part, or a sub-committee structured to review further
- Financial issues need to be reviewed further; could be major change with hidden costs not realized at this point

It is his hope to alleviate fears that some employees are experiencing with the talk of consolidation; fear is natural when merges are under consideration. If anything, positions may not be filled upon employee retirements in the future.

Mr. Antanavica noted the main focus has been that no one lose a job. However, some time ago the School Supt. stated at a meeting that "we are educators", which stuck in his mind. He felt the best approach would be to relieve the School Department's responsibility from the building maintenance portion of their budget and instead house all town building maintenance under one roof, as is done in other towns under a DPW scenario. He believes this would improve efficiencies. He noted that the Town

Hall Building Commission is being considered for abolishment at this time; the group feels that their purpose has been served and daily operations should fall to full-time staffers.

Scott Rieder, Chairman of the School Committee, noted that an open forum was held last week, this has not been a hidden process but done in open public meetings. He sees merit in finding out if efficiencies can be realized. He cautions, however, the timeframes, wondering if a July implementation would be sufficient to complete the process with the many reporting issues that are involved, any union negotiations that may need to take place, any cross training and so on.

Mr. Belanger stated that the only thing they are sure of is the goal. There is no map in place as of yet, with July 1st selected because it is the beginning of our fiscal year. Perhaps the implementation could be staggered.

Mr. Reed noted that Net School Spending requirements could be affected, as well as the benefits portion of the budgeting process.

Bill Sylvester, School Custodians Union rep, spoke of his concerns regarding different unions, pay scales, jobs, and bosses. Mr. Belanger, noting that none of their meetings have been attended by any of the employees, stated that a conceptual agreement has been reached with the School Committee just last week. They will be meeting with the unions as well. He felt the net result will be good for all. He felt we must streamline operations or end up cutting positions; we are all in this together.

Mr. Zagorski felt that, as with any merger, a plan is needed mapping out direction and identifying players. He felt goals should be set and plan laid out with members. Mr. Antanavica invited all to attend their monthly meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, the next one being this week on the 16th at 6:30pm.

Someone present (unidentified) asked what sources were used by the group. Mr. Belanger stated that Marilyn Contreas/DHCD and Jean Kitchen/Administrator in Southboro met with the Committee and gave advice from their experiences. He noted that the towns of Oxford and Hudson have undergone a similar consolidation.

Mr. Brennan asked those that are concerned to call our office, the Town Administrator is here to answer their concerns.

The Board thanked those that attended and will continue to work toward the end goal, keeping all informed.

Public Meeting – Road Conversion

MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to open public hearing for road conversion of Fairview Drive extension, Sherri Lane and Tracy Place. Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

Interim Highway Supt. Tom Wood stated that he met with Town's engineer and walked the developments on several occasions, the list of issues of concerned have been met for the most part, with one outstanding that he believes has now been addressed by the developer for the Sherri Lane and Tracy Place roadways. He noted that Fairview Drive extension was prompted by the Town Planner, who he worked with to bring specifications up to par. He reported that the Road Conversion Committee has recommended the Town adopt as public ways Sherri Lane, Tracy Place and the extension of Fairview Drive.

Deb Friedman, Planning Board Chair, read aloud the recommendation from Kevin Quinn, the Town's engineer, for approval of all three roadways. She noted that the Planning Board will hold another hearing on April 15th to consider final approval. Mr. Quinn noted there are always issues that need to be addressed with these projects, the developer was responsive and all punch list items have been completed. He recommends approval of the roadways.

Paul Doray, resident of 1 Sherri Lane, stated that he was here as an abutter in support of the Town accepting the roads within the LaFlash development as public ways. Mr. Antanavica noted that these were proposed last year, but the roadways did not meet the Town's specifications at that time. As a member of the Road Conversion Committee, he recommends approval.

Ms. LeChasseur noted the lengths of roadways as follows:

- Tracy Place.....1078.5'
- Sherri Lane.....401.8'
- Fairview Dr ext....500.09'

MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to approve road conversion of Sherri Lane, Tracy Place and Fairview Drive Extension, as presented, subject to approval of Planning Board.
Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to close public hearing.
Mr. Zagorski seconded. UNANIMOUS

Town Planner Michelle Buck thanked Mr. Wood and Mr. Quinn for their assistance, as the Fairview Drive project had been abandoned by the developer. The surety bond was used to make improvements to the road as required.

Planning Board – Town Meeting zoning articles

Chairman Friedman discussed the articles as follows:

- Adaptive Reuse – a minor correction was recommended by the Attorney General's office
MOTION: Mr. Zagorski move to recommend approval of Article 39, amendment to AROD Bylaw.
Mr. Antanavica seconded. UNANIMOUS
- Amend sign regulations – prompted by discussions with Building Inspector, the goal is to reverse and therefore improve current neon & awning sign language.
MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to recommend approval of Article 40, amendment to Sign Bylaw.
Mr. Antanavica seconded. UNANIMOUS
- Wind turbines – a hearing will be held on 4/15/08, the Planning Board has not reviewed the proposed bylaw, but are willing to do so in the future; they are not prepared to do so for this annual town meeting. Mr. Belanger asked how one would go about obtaining a permit for a wind turbine at this time. Ms. Friedman stated that there was no bylaw or variance process available for this type of use. Mr. Belanger asked if a commercial use was requested at this time, would wind turbines be prohibited. Ms. Friedman stated yes. Mr. Brennan asked, if the town meeting was reconvened at a later date, would they be ready in late May, as it seems applicants would be missing the construction season. Ms. Friedman stated no, they have been working on other matters, some being those directed by the Selectmen such as street lighting of developments. She noted that Atty. Cove is concerned as well with the language proposed for this Bylaw. Mr. Belanger noted that FAA language is included in the draft, so height restriction should not be an issue. Ms. Friedman expressed concern over the towers themselves, a fight we won in court over a ZBA ruling appeal. Mr. Belanger felt the wind turbine towers available now are small enough that this aesthetics issue shouldn't be a problem. Ms. Friedman did not feel it was reasonable to ask that they review this proposal in just a short few weeks, feeling it would be best and more comprehensive to wait for the Fall STM. Mr. Zagorski felt this is significant for both commercial and private applicants, and an important energy issue. Ms. Friedman felt that the abutters to the applicants need to be protected as well. Ms. Provencher felt more work needed to be done on this proposal. The Selectmen agreed to hold on this matter and not make a recommendation at this time. HOLD
- Private petition 1041 Main Street – Ms. Friedman noted that the Planning Board disapproved the original request from the petitioner for change to a Zone B, working with the applicant and settling on a Zone CB. After the fact the petitioner then went to the Selectmen, requested and was given the opportunity to propose Zone B and Zone CB (Article 43) in separate articles; the petitioner had agreed to Zone CB for this parcel and the Planning Board voted against Zone B in their public hearing. The Selectmen agreed to hold on this matter. PENDING

- Private petition 1323, 1355 and 1439 Main Street – Ms. Friedman reported that the Planning Board voted to recommend approval of this change at their hearing held April 1st.
MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to recommend approval of Article 44 as presented by petitioner.
Mr. Antanavica seconded. UNANIMOUS
- Flood plain district – Ms. Friedman noted that it has been recommended by the Dept. of Conservation & Recreation that our flood plain bylaw be amended; they worked with the Building Inspector on this also.
MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to recommend approval of Article 45, flood plain bylaw, as presented. Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

Correspondence

1. Letter of resignation from Capital Improvement Planning Committee from Peter Holmes.
MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to accept with regrets, with letter of appreciation sent.
Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS
2. Application for membership on Capital Improvement Planning Committee, at-large position, from Sharon Nist.
MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to appoint Sharon Nist, term to expire June 30, 2009.
Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS
3. Recommendation for appointment of Leonard Ivel to Board of Registrars, term to expire 6/30/09.
MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to appoint Leonard Ivel to the Board of Registrars, as recommended by Republican Town Committee. Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS
4. Recommendation for appointment of Rhys Simmons to Historical Commission, term to expire 6/30/08.
MOTION: Ms. Provencher moved to appoint Rhys Simmons to the Historical Commission as recommended. Mr. Brennan seconded. UNANIMOUS
5. Nomination of State Animal Inspectors Kenneth Graslie and Patricia Dykas-Gonet.
MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to appoint Kenneth Graslie as State Animal Inspector.
Mr. Antanavica seconded. 4-0, Ms. Provencher abstained.
MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to appoint Patricia Dykas-Gonet as State Animal Inspector.
Mr. Antanavica seconded. UNANIMOUS
6. Request for one-day Beer & Wine license at Christ Church, annual Cinco de Mayo festival. Mr. Antanavica asked that the Police Chief be contacted to see if there have been any issues in the past.
MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to approve one-day permit, fee to be waived, subject to approval of Chief of Police and submittal of certificate of insurance. Mr. Zagorski seconded.
UNANIMOUS
7. Invitation to Board members for annual Little League Parade to be held at 1pm on April 26th. FILE
8. Letter from Senator Augustus requesting formal letter indicating the Town's desire to have a local appearance of the 2007 World Series Championship Trophy of the Boston Red Sox. PENDING
9. Memo from Labor Counsel indicating standard business mileage rate of \$.505/mile. Chairman noted that this has been the trigger mechanism for the Town setting its reimbursement rate.
MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to set mileage reimbursement rate at \$.505 per mile, effective immediately. Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

Minutes

- MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to approve 2/19/08, 3/10/08 and 3/24/08 Executive Session minutes.
Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

STM & ATM Warrants

The Board voted to recommend approval of the following Articles within the Annual Town Meeting:

- Article 1 – Town Reports
- Article 2 thru 12 – those under the “Consent Calendar”
- Article 15 – pay elected officials: level funded except Town Clerk 3% wage increase
- Article 17 – Reserve Fund
- Article 18 – Chapter 90 Funds
- Article 19 – Capital Planning: two items totaling \$65,100
- Article 20 – reclassify Secretary to Fire Chief/EMS Director
- Article 22 – two new police cruisers
- Article 23 – Town Hall office study – Phase II at \$9000
- Article 24 – Fire station study at \$25,000
- Article 26 – Insurance restitution at \$24,576
- Article 29 – Stormwater Management Bylaw
- Article 24 – Parking Clerk
- Articles 37, 37, 38 – Road Conversions

MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to withdraw Article 46 regarding retiree’s health insurance.
Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

Signatures

MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved for the Board to sign and post the Town Meeting Warrants as amended. Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

Common Victualler’s License

MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to open public hearing.
Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

Tim Haywood and Nicholas Salmon, owners, were present on their application for a Common Victualler’s License at 1135 Stafford Street. They intend to serve breakfast, lunch and dinner and be open 6am-9pm seven days/week; they also plan on catering service. Mr. Brennan suggested they extend the hours just in case. Ms. LeChasseur noted the Lease was received and was left upstairs for review due to the length of the document.

MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to approve Common Victualler License for Tiny Tim’s Café, subject to final Permit/License Form completion, hours to be 5:30am to 11:00pm. Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

MOTION: Mr. Brennan moved to close public hearing.
Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

Town Administrator’s Report

HIAC – Mr. Reed reported that Health Insurance Advisory Committee is preparing ballots that will be issued to participants and the voters will decide on dental insurance

CMRPC – Mr. Reed noted request for participation in transportation study; he volunteered to serve on behalf of the Town

MIIA – Mr. Reed reported on upcoming Health Fair on June 4th which was promoted by Board of Health, the Town receiving a grant from our insurance company.

MSBA – Mr. Reed reported that we have not yet received approval from Mass School Building Authority on our application for funding of Primary School Roof project.

Board Reports/Other Business

Mr. Zagorski:

- Lions Club will donate cost of installation of cable outlet at Senior Center to allow additional cable TV access
- Willis Center/Hope House issues surrounding security of clients and recent graffiti incident at Burncoat Park was dealt with, but our Police Dept. should not be spending time on these types of issues. He asked that the Willis Center pay for the Police costs. Noting that we now had the State Dept. of Public Health's attention in this security matter, we hope to see a decrease in the number of calls regarding this facility.

Mr. Antanavica:

- Open House to be held at Rochdale Station on May 3rd, to include viewing of new fire truck and softball game between fire and police personnel. The firefighters will be conducting the annual boot drive on June 24th to fund the MS walk, and a golf tournament fundraiser will be held on Sept 20th
- Outdoor Furnace Regulations are being considered by the Board of Health; he asked that the draft be made available to the townspeople

Ms. Provencher:

- Outdoor Furnace must all be approved, the intent is to not allow any to be grandfathered; she echoed Selectman Antanavica that townspeople be prepared for some new regulations
- Burncoat Park legislation is moving forward, language for "An Act" has been drafted by Town Counsel
- Thanked the townspeople for their votes and confidence in her

Mr. Brennan:

- Thanked the townspeople for their votes as well, a well run race, and congratulated Ms. Provencher on being the top vote getter. He noted that much of the information available to the Selectmen is public; candidates are welcome to request any information that might help them out.
- Submitted and read aloud a draft letter to Governor Patrick regarding economic development and attracting and retaining business in the Commonwealth, and how this news story relates to Mr. Brennan's promotion of a Mass Turnpike on/off ramp on Route 56. He asked for the Boards support in sending this letter out to the Governor and other legislators with accompanying documentation from the past several months that speaks to this issue. The Board agreed and commended Mr. Brennan.

MOTION: Ms. Provencher moved to adjourn. Mr. Zagorski seconded. UNANIMOUS

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan LeChasseur,
Administrative Assistant