

**MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
JANUARY 26, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING

Chairwoman Provencher called the meeting to order at 6:11pm. Chair Dianna Provencher, Vice Chair Douglas Belanger, 2nd Vice Chair Sandra Wilson, Selectman Harry Brooks, Selectman Thomas E. Buckley, III and Town Administrator Kevin Mizikar were in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No members of the public provided comment

1. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discuss Town Meeting and Warrant Articles

Mr. Belanger asked if there was a need to enter into executive session to discuss warrant article #3. Joe Cove, Town Counsel stated there was not as an agreement has been reached with Becker College.

Mr. Mizikar recapped the discussion with Dr. Johnson, President of Becker College. Three points of the agreement that were agreed upon were to transfer 3 Paxton Street to the Town of Leicester for \$1 in exchange for the right of first refusal on the Town Hall, the right of first refusal on the Middle School and a parking agreement at Town Hall for up to 20 years. Dr. Johnson stated he feels a deal that is mutually beneficial has been reached and Becker wants to find a way to make sure the Town gets the land at 3 Paxton Street but his Board has a fiduciary responsibility to the College and this plan satisfies both sides. Mr. Belanger stated that while the Town wanted ink to paper before Town Meeting the agreement has been worked out except for the legal language therefore his recommendation to the Board is to pass over Article 3.

Mr. Buckley asked if the parking agreement is for 10 years. Ms. Provencher responded the agreement is for 10 years with an option to extend for another 10 years. Mr. Belanger asked if the agreement would impact parking for residents at Town Meeting. Mr. Mizikar stated he has not had the conversation but there will be times when Becker needs more parking and the Town needs more and he is confident this can be worked out. Dr. Johnson stated that in the five years he has been with the College he has had a stellar experience working with the Town and they have mutually accommodate one another. He does not want this agreement to pit the Town against Becker as we are neighbors and family. Mr. Buckley asked why we need a formal agreement with the Becker kids already park at the Town Hall. Dr. Johnson responded that his board has a fiduciary responsibility to the College and wants rights that are legal in nature. Mr. Belanger noted that there is no guarantee after this Board's terms are up unless there is a formal agreement.

A motion was made by Mr. Belanger and seconded by Mr. Brooks to pass over article 3. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Belanger asked the moderator what occurs when there is a motion to pass over an article. Moderator Don Cherry responded that there is no debate.

B. Special Town Meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Belanger and seconded by Mr. Buckley at 6:27pm to recess to Special Town Meeting and to adjourn at the loss of a quorum. The motion carried unanimously.