

The Board of Selectmen convened in alternate session at 7:30 PM in the Selectmen's Meeting Room of Town Hall. All members were in attendance.

*Senior Planner re: Town-Owned Vacant Parcels*

The Board heard a presentation from the Senior Planner relative to vacant parcels of land for potential disposition or other productive use.

The Senior Planner appeared before the Board to discuss opportunities the Town may have with respect to a few of these parcels:

5 Selwyn Road  
130 Orchard Street  
Former Water Department storage yard site  
Land on Royal Road  
Concord Ave land adjacent to railroad  
309 Concord Ave  
Alexander Avenue land at railroad tracks  
Former school lot on Brighton Street  
Former gravel pit on Pleasant Street  
Land adjacent to former incinerator site  
Land at end of Woodfall Road

The Board agreed that the Town should research the deeds on those properties that the Office of Community Development has identified as having potential value to the Town.

The Senior Planner noted the availability of grant funds administered by the Massachusetts Housing Partnership. It was noted that there were several smaller parcels that could be “developed” by some sale to an interested part.

The Board asked that a report be submitted to the Board for discussion at one of its regular meetings in January.

Mr. Campbell, representing the Belmont Land Trust, provided some input relative to that organization’s interest in preserving certain tracts of land that have been identified.

*Director of Community Development re: Pavement Management Program Analysis*

The Director of Community Development, the Highway Superintendent, and the Chairman of the Capital Budget Committee reviewed an analysis of three funding scenarios for the Town’s pavement management program.

Each funding scenario separated projects in major and minor categories, and results in differing pavement condition indices.

Mr. Gatzunis reviewed analysis of the program under three annual funding scenarios: 1) \$1.2 million, 2) \$1 million, and 3) \$800,000. He stated that under the first scenario, the Town would see improvements to the overall grade of the Town’s roads. Under the second scenario, the Town’s roads would maintain their current grade. Under the last funding level, the Town’s roads would degrade over time.

The Selectmen all expressed their interest in allocating sufficient funds to enhance to Town’s roadway

system.

There was some discussion about the implications of allowing minor roadways to deteriorate longer by virtue of allocating more funds proportionally to major road improvements.

Ms. Mahoney expressed some skepticism over allocating funds for traffic calming techniques and improvements, particularly with limited budgets.

The Board seemed to be unanimous in their willingness to allocate between \$1 million and \$1.5 million in road funding annually.

There was some discussion relative to the process to elicit public input on a long-term plan. It was agreed that a staff level approach would be appropriate for publication.

There was some discussion relative to storm drainage and sewer issues in response to water quality issues.

#### *Appointment of Alternate Member to Conservation Commission*

Dr. Solomon suggested that Stewart Sanders be appointed to serve as an associate member to the Conservation Commission. He noted the Commission's concurrence with this recommendation.

The Board moved: to appointed Stewart Sanders as an associate member of the Conservation Commission.

The motion passed (3-0).

#### *Update on Traffic Safety at High School*

Dr. Solomon updated the Board on his involvement in coordinating traffic safety improvements at the Belmont High School entrance. He proposed several minor modifications as incorporated in a written communication.

The Board concurred with his comments.

#### *Other*

Mr. Brownsberger noted the upcoming senior citizen's holiday event.

Mr. Brownsberger updated the Board on his efforts to draft an appropriate letter to the Governor on state investment for stormwater improvements in the Alewife area. He noted some feedback directly from the MDC. He will present this letter and the Town's interests at an upcoming regional meeting.

Mr. Brownsberger suggested the possible use of the entire second floor of the proposed Senior Center facility at the former Kendall School to meet general space needs of a branch library. He indicated his interest in conveying this concept to the Board of Library Trustees. The Board concurred.

#### *Discussion of Fire Station Headquarters Location (Executive Session)*

#### *Discussion of Collective Bargaining (Executive Session)*

The Board moved: to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing acquisition of

land for the location of a headquarters fire station along Trapelo Road and collective bargaining. The Board will not return to open session.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0), by roll call vote.

The Board alternate session adjourned at approximately 9:30 p.m.

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Melvin A. Kleckner, Town Administrator  
Clerk, Board of Selectmen