

MINUTES
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BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JANUARY 6, 2005
REGULAR SESSION

Call to Order

The Board of Selectmen convened in regular session at 7:30 a.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room of Town Hall. All members were present.

Questions from Town Residents

There were none.

Action by Appointment

Discussion of Litigation - (Executive Session)

The Board moved: to enter an executive session for the purpose of discussing litigation and collective bargaining agreements; and further that the Board will return to regular session.

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

The Board adjourned to its executive session at 7:35 a.m..

The Board reconvened in open session at approximately 8:10 a.m..

Pavement Management Policy

Sewer and Stormwater Committee members Ralph Jones and Ian Kline met with the Board of Selectmen to solicit guidance on pavement management policy for the Town.

Different models were discussed for the development of pavement policies and of the value of GIS software which would be useful to various Town departments.

The Board of Selectmen requested that Mr. Jones, the Committee Chair, assess the Committee's needs in order to move forward and begin to create a long-term planning model and that he return before the Board of Selectmen within the next few weeks with his recommendation.

Electric Light Department

Tim McCarthy, Manager of the Electric Light Department, asked the Board of Selectmen to execute four (4) copies of an IBEW collective bargaining contract.

The Board of Selectmen executed all four copies of the IBEW contract.

Position in HR Department

The Board moved: to approve a request from Diane Jenkins to fill a position in the Human Resources Department.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Purecoat North Public Meeting Planning

The Board discussed the structure of this public meeting to be held this evening at 7:00. At the suggestion of Mr. Brownsberger, the Board agreed to begin with a report from the Purecoat North Committee on activities to date and future enforcement actions; hear concerns and re-use ideas from committee members; open discussion up to the public to elicit concerns and ideas; and then conclude with a discussion by the Board whether, based on what the discussion yielded, it is able to provide the Committee broad direction on re-use concepts.

Planning Discussion

Joseph Barrell and Andrew McClurg of the Planning Board, Tim Higgins, Senior Planner, Glenn Clancy, Director of Community Development, Jeffrey Wheeler, Planning Coordinator, and Peter Castanino, DPW Director appeared before the Board to discuss how to begin long-term range, comprehensive planning for the Town. The discussion focused on progress on the Trapelo Road Redesign Planning Board process which Mr. McClurg is leading and its usefulness as a planning model for other areas of Town. Mr. McClurg reported on the progress he has made and on the close contact he has maintained with Mary Jo Frisoli, Chair of Traffic Advisory Committee, throughout the discussion process. The group acknowledged that in order to initiate the road replacement process for Trapelo Road at the State level, the Town must make certain decisions about the design lay-out.

The Board moved: to request that the Planning Board provide a recommendation as to the lay-out of Trapelo Road that is sufficiently detailed to guide the Town in the TIP process and that the Planning Board will work in harmony with the Traffic Advisory Committee on this matter.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Dr. Solomon asked the Planning Board to get back to the Board by the first of April, which would allow the matter to be reported to the Annual Town Meeting if that seemed advisable.

Mr. Brownsberger suggested that the group return in the near future to address developing an approach to planning for the Belmont Center business district.

Mass Highway Agreements for Pleasant Street

The Board of Selectmen executed two agreements with Mass Highway relating to the Pleasant Street road project presented by Glenn Clancy. One was an agreement by the Town to cover project cost over-runs in excess of 10% and the other was a commitment by the Town to fund non-participating items of the project.

Agreement for Temporary Employment

The BOS executed an Agreement for Temporary Employment as Acting Assistant Town Administrator with Rebecca Vose.

Other

The Board discussed agenda items for its next few meetings and cancelled its 7:30 a.m. meetings scheduled for Thursday, January 13 and 27. Another meeting was scheduled on Tuesday, January 25 at 7:30 a.m. to discuss the Town's Reserve Policy to which members of various key Town committees will be invited. Mr. Firenze asked that the agenda for one of the next Selectmen's meetings include a discussion of the benchmark study. Other agenda items for these meetings will include the Tri-Com Flooding Agreement and a potential by-law change in the description of the Town Administrator's duties.

The regular session adjourned at approximately 11:00 a.m.

Dr. Paul Solomon, Chairman
Board of Selectmen