

**MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JUNE 30, 2003
TOWN HALL, SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM**

Call to Order

The Board of Selectmen convened at 7:15 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room of the Town Hall. All members were present.

The Board moved: to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining.

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

Questions from Town Residents

Sue Bass appeared before the Board to inquire about the Town's progress in obtaining the transfer of land from McLean Hospital.

Mr. Brownsberger indicated that the Board has been working proactively on this issue.

Action by Appointment

Call of Special Town Election

The Board discussed a recent petition of registered voters requesting a special town election be held to put a question before the voters relative to the Town Meeting's passage of a by-law to regulate kennels in the Town. The petition requested the following question be placed on the ballot: "Shall the Town vote to approve the action of the representative town meeting under Article 22 of the Warrant for the 2003 Annual Town Meeting whereby it was voted on May 5, 2003 by a vote of 154 in favor and 58 opposed to amend the General By-laws of the Town by adding a new Article 28, entitled Kennel Regulations, regulating the operation of dog kennels in the Town?"

The Board decided to call a special election for August 11, 2003.

The Board moved: to call a special election for Monday, August 11, 2003.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: to dissolve the Kennel and Dog Noise Regulation Committee.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Discussion of Underground Utilities on Pleasant Street

The Board discussed the opportunity to maximize the amount of utility lines to be placed underground in the Pleasant Street reconstruction project. The Town Administrator noted contacts he has made with representatives of the cable and telephone company to place their utility lines underground when Pleasant Street is reconstructed. Mr. Kleckner indicated that the Board may get involved to effect their cooperation with this proposal. Mr. McCarthy, Light Manager, indicated the Light Department's intention to bury a number of electric utility lines, with the exception of the continuation of electric line to individual homes to reduce the visual impact of the utility lines.

The Board moved: to transmit a letter to Comcast and Verizon representatives to articulate the Board's desire for their participation in the burying of utility cables.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Review of Restricted Resident Parking on Hull Street

Sgt. Hamilton provided the Board of Selectmen an update on the trial restricted resident parking program for a portion of Hull Street. He expressed concerns that overflow parking may create future problems for other residential areas in Town and also that any expansion of the restricted parking may negatively affect the availability of parking for employees of businesses along Trapelo Road. He also noted the increased administrative burden that will be placed on the police department if restricted residential parking expands.

Acting Chief O'Malley indicated that, while the police department has not experienced significant problems with this trial, he is concerned with the potential negative impacts from expanded restricted residential parking.

A number of residents indicated their support for this program. A smaller number indicated their dissatisfaction with the program.

Mrs. Mahoney expressed her continued discomfort with restricted residential parking on Hull Street.

Dr. Solomon indicated his concern for the precedent this program may set and future additional costs.

The Board moved: to continue the restricted residential parking on Hull Street from the beginning of Hull Street at Trapelo Road up to, but excluding, 47 Hull Street.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board agreed to examine the overall issue of parking throughout the Town in the near future and to discuss the issue in September.

Solid Waste and Recycling Advisory Committee re: Pay as You Throw Analysis
Representatives of the Solid Waste and Recycling Advisory Committee made a presentation to the Selectmen on the potential for the implementation of a Pay as You Throw (PAYT) waste and recycling program for the community. The Committee proposed the implementation of a PAYT program for the Town.

The Board discussed the process by which the Town can explore and develop a PAYT program through a public process.

Mrs. Mahoney expressed her reservations for charging for every bag.

Dr. Solomon expressed his support for a PAYT program, but also articulated his concern about charging for every bag.

Mr. Brownsberger echoed that concern, particularly for elderly residents.

The Board moved: to charge the committee to develop a formal process for the further evaluation of a potential program and to develop a process for public input and data gathering.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Discussion of Annual Committee/Commission Appointments

The Board met with members of the Historic District Commission regarding the Board's appointments to the Commission.

Mr. Brownsberger mentioned his concern that the reputation of the commission is one of being difficult and occasionally extreme.

Mrs. Mahoney noted the commission's successful stewardship of historic preservation, but also noted a number of complaints she has heard about the commission potentially overstepping its boundaries.

Mr. Brownsberger noted his support for reappointing the current members whose terms are expiring, but wanted to impress upon the members his desire for more flexibility.

Members of the commission provided their impressions of the activities of the commission in the recent past.

Michael Smith, a member of the Historic District Commission, noted the commission's intention to develop better guidelines for residents to be more

informed about the process for seeking changes or improvements to properties in the historic district.

The board noted their statutory authority through local by-law and state general law.

The commission requested paid administrative staff support for the commission's efforts.

The Board discussed and took action on committee appointments.

The Board moved: to make the following appointments to various Town committees, commissions and appointed positions.

Historic District Commission

Richard Cheek, reappointed for three year term

Richard Pichette, reappointed for three year term

Paul Bell, reappointed for three year term

Michael Smith, reappointed for a revised term to expire in 2005

Cable Access Committee

Pam Curtis, appointment

Conservation Commission

Martha Moore, associate member

Cultural Council

Joan Loria, appointment

Dietlinde Hamburger, appointment

Patricia Mihelich, reappointment

Disability Access Commission

Carole Williams, reappointment

Recreation Commission

Mary Ann Johnson, reappointment for one year

Paul Graham, reappointment for one year

Richard Wright, reappointment for one year

Youth Commission

Gene O'Brien, appointment

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board indicated their desire to meet with the members of the Recreation Commission to discuss the issues they would like the commission to address over the next year.

The Board encouraged the committee to contact residents who expressed an interest in supporting the Historic District Commission to determine their interest in providing some staff support to their efforts.

Board of Water Commissioners re: Transition to Public Works Department

The Board discussed with the Board of Water Commissioners the transition to a Public Works Department with an advisory Water Board. The Water Commissioners expressed their strong desire that the Board of Selectmen continue its efforts with respect to the Town's water main replacement and metering program.

The Board moved: to authorize the Board of Water Commissioners to accept the duties and responsibilities for the reconstituted advisory Water Board under the home rule petition until the home rule petition's passage by the state legislature.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Action by Writing

Memorandum from Library Director re: Request Exemption from Hiring Freeze to Fill Two Vacancies

The Board considered the request of the Library Director to fill two vacancies in the library.

The Board moved: to approve the request of the Library Director to fill a full-time Coordinator of Children's Services vacancy and a part-time Library Assistant vacancy in the library.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Correspondence from Highway Department re: Contract Approvals

The Board reviewed the bid response for various public works services.

The Board moved: to award a contract to the following bidders for the following services in FY04 as articulated in correspondence from the Highway Superintendent:

Asplundh—tree services
Dennis K. Burke—diesel fuel

Dennis K. Burke—No. 2 fuel oil
Dennis K. Burke—No. 4 fuel oil
Kingstown Corp—bank gravel
Kingstown Corp—processed gravel
Kingstown Corp—mason sand
Kingstown Corp—ice sand
EH Perkins—3/4” sand
Boston Bark—loam

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Memorandum from Town Administrator and Human Resources Director re: Police Chief Recruitment Services

The Board of Selectmen reviewed the Town Administrator’s recommendation the Town hire Badge Quest for Police Chief recruitment services.

The Board moved: to adopt the recommendation of the Town Administrator to hire Badge Quest to provide Police Chief recruitment services.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Letter from Residents re: Request for Installation of Street Lights Across from 948 – 1000 Pleasant Street

The Board reviewed a request from the Claire and Lorraine DeMilia for the installation of street lights across from their property at 948 – 1000 Pleasant Street.

The Board noted the Light Manager’s interest in exploring this request. The Board asked that a letter be sent to the requestors’ to let them know of the Town’s intention to examine this request.

Letter from Belmont Manor Administrator re: Spring Street

The Board reviewed a letter from the administrator of the Belmont Manor requesting the Town initiate the process to consider the abandonment of Spring Street.

The Board requested that the Director of Community Development explore this matter further.

Selectmen’s Issues List

The Board deferred this matter.

Minutes (6/23/03)

The Board reviewed the minutes of June 23, 2003.

The Board moved: to approve the minutes of June 23, 2003 as amended by Mrs. Mahoney to add the sentence "Mrs. Mahoney noted that the Chenery Middle School was designed and built as energy efficient as possible within their designated budget." to the Board's discussion of energy savings opportunities.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Other

The Board considered a request from Citizen's Bank to occupy the public way on Saturday, July 26 for the purpose of hosting a Grand Opening Celebration.

The Board moved: to approve the request to occupy the public way for the purpose of a grand opening celebration.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Action by Appointment (Continued)

Discussion of Litigation (Executive Session)

Discussion of Collective Bargaining (Executive Session)

Discussion of Negotiations with Non-Union Personnel (Executive Session)

The Board moved: to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to litigation, collective bargaining, and negotiations with non-union personnel; and further that the Board shall not return to open session.

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

The regular session adjourned at approximately 10:20 p.m.

Administrator

Melvin A. Kleckner, Town

Clerk, Board of Selectmen