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BOARD OF SELECTMEN
FEBRUARY 23, 2004
REGULAR SESSION

Call to Order

The Board of Selectmen convened in regular session on Monday, February 23, 2004 at 7:30 PM in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at the Belmont Town Hall. All members were in attendance.

Questions from Town Residents

Dr. David Alper, Chairman of the Youth Commission, appeared before the Board to inform the Board of the successful implementation of a teen center at the Butler School on Friday. He noted attendance of approximately 45 youths. The Board congratulated Dr. Alper on the Youth Commission's efforts.

Action by Appointment

Proclamation Recognizing Joseph Tryon's Military Service in Iraq

The Board of Selectmen presented the family of Joseph Tryon with a resolution in honor of his exemplary courage and service to his country in Iraq and as a Captain in the United States Army.

Approval of Ballot Questions for Annual Town Election

The Board reviewed and discussed the language drafted for each of the Annual Election ballot questions as approved by the Town's regular counsel and bond counsel.

The Board moved: to approve the draft language for the two ballot questions for the Annual Election; further that the order of questions on the ballot shall be exchanged.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

A couple of residents expressed concern for the inclusion of both fire stations in the debt exclusion question.

The Board moved: to reaffirm their vote relative to the ballot questions.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Discussion of O'Neill Properties Development

The Board of Selectmen discussed recent phone conversations they each received from Brian O'Neill of O'Neill Properties. Mr. Brownsberger noted Mr. O'Neill's statement that O'Neill Properties' most recent proposal represents his final proposal and that he was simultaneously filling for a high density 40B development. Mrs. Mahoney and Dr. Solomon concurred in their

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understanding of Mr. O'Neill's comments. Each noted the independence of the Planning Board and that the Board must wait for the Planning Board to conclude its process.

Mrs. Mahoney requested clarification on the maximum number of 40B units that may be developed on the site.

Discussion of Fiscal Year 2005 Budget

The Assistant Town Administrator presented a list of Budget priorities and assumptions for the Board, which were further discussed by the Board.

The Board of Selectmen began a preliminary discussion of the FY05 budget. The Board generated and shared initial thoughts about priorities.

Mr. Brownsberger expressed interest in understanding expected attrition in certain departments to project budget impacts from potential changes. He also noted the issue of the allocation of the revenue relative to the pro forma exercise.

Action By Consent

Contract for Private Sector Sewer System Inflow Removal – Bid Approval

The Board reviewed a bid recommendation from the Community Development Director relative to the Private sector sewer system inflow removal.

The Board moved: to award the bid contract to E.B. Rotondi and Sons of Winchester, MA.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Correspondence re: Adoption of Belmont Housing Trust, Inc. Bylaws

The Board reviewed the proposed Bylaws of the Belmont Housing Trust as approved by Legal Counsel.

The Board moved: to ratify the Bylaws.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Memorandum from Town Administrator re: Call of Special Town Meeting

The Board moved: to call a Special Town Meeting for Wednesday, April 28, 2004 at 7:30PM in the Belmont High School; and further that the warrant shall be open immediately, to close on Friday, March 19, 2004.

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The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Approval of Minutes (1/24/04, 01/26/04, 01/31/04, 02/03/04, 02/04/04, 02/07/04, and 02/09/04)

The Board moved: to approve the Board's minutes of 1/24/04, 1/26/04, 1/31/04, 2/3/04, 2/4/04, 2/7/04, and 2/9/04.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Action By Writing

Letter from Scott Road Resident re: Flushing of Sewer Lines

The Board of Selectmen reviewed and discussed a letter from a Town Resident relative to the Town's flushing of sewer lines.

The Board moved: to refer this matter to the Director of Public Works for his review and recommendation

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Memorandum from Minuteman Regional School re: Support for a Proposed Legislation

The Board discussed a letter from the Minuteman Regional School Committee regarding the endorsement of new legislation (Senate #262 and Senate #270) which they have stated would be a financial benefit to our district towns and help Minuteman Regional High School with student enrollment.

The Board moved: to approve the endorsement of this legislation, subject to its being discussed by the Warrant Committee.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Correspondence re: Request for Curbed Sidewalk in Vicinity of Butler School

The Board reviewed and discussed a Town resident's request for a curbed sidewalk on Sycamore Street in vicinity of the Butler School.

Mr. Brownsberger expressed his support for this request, generally.

The Board moved: to refer this matter to the Director of Public Works and Director of Community Development for their review and recommendation.

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The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Other

Dr. Solomon raised issues related to parking in the Belmont Center, the proposed use for the second floor of the Senior Center, and a request for two-hour parking in the neighborhood of Exeter Street.

The Board moved: to refer the matter of two-hour parking on Exeter Street to the Traffic Division of the Police Department, for the resolution.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Dr. Solomon noted the parking solutions proposed by the Belmont Center Parking Study Committee and the process by which these proposals will be considered.

Mr. Kleckner mentioned a meeting he is to have with Mr. Foley and Mr. Higgins to respond to questions the Chairman of the Capital Budget Committee had relative to their requests.

Mr. Brownsberger requested that the Town Engineer voice his opinion whether the cost estimates for the proposed parking is appropriate, as well as the cost share between the Town and the private-sector. He also requested that the Town confirm that the traffic impact of the parking proposals is inconsequential.

Dr. Solomon noted his support for addressing parking in Belmont Center in concert with the Town's fire stations project.

Dr. Solomon noted an issue which was raised at a Warrant Committee meeting relative to the use of the second floor of the Senior Center building. He encouraged the Board to develop a process by which it would consider the potential use. Mrs. Mahoney noted the referral of this issue to the Senior Center Building Committee. Mr. Brownsberger suggested that if the Senior Center Building Committee requires additional assistance, it should communicate this to the Board.

The Board requested Dr. Solomon to contact the Senior Center Building Committee to let them know that the Board of Selectmen stands ready to respond to any questions the Senior Center Building Committee may have relative to their consideration of use for the second floor of the Senior Center.

Mr. Brownsberger gave to the Town Administrator a flyer from Jennifer Page regarding the issue of "e-voting". He also noted a letter he received from Carla O'Brien of the League of Women Voters regarding a senior survey. He encouraged the Town's seniors to respond to the survey and noted the Board's interest in reviewing the survey responses.

Mr. Brownsberger raised the issue of the Board's special issue session scheduled for March 1 regarding development issues. The Board agreed to meet to discuss the Trapelo Road/Belmont

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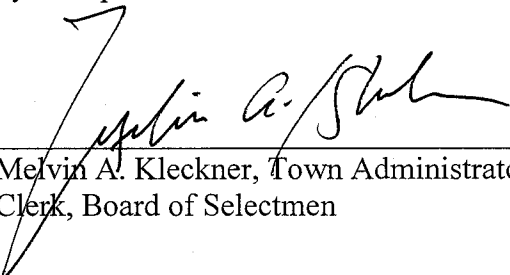
Street corridor study, conditional upon the Senior Planner and Planning Board's readiness to discuss their progress.

Action by Appointment (continued)

The Board moved: to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy related to collective bargaining and litigation; 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 8:55 p.m.



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