

MINUTES
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BOARD OF SELECTMEN
APRIL 26, 2004
REGULAR SESSION

Call to Order

The Board convened in open session at 6:00 p.m. in the Principal's Conference Room at the Belmont High School, prior to the Annual Town Meeting. All members were present.

Questions from Town Residents

There were none.

Action by Appointment

Public Hearing—Keyspan Utility Petition for Waterhouse Road (continued from April 12, 2004)

The Board of Selectmen convened a continued hearing on the petition of Keyspan to place gas mains in Waterhouse Road. The hearing was continued pending clarification of Cross Street gas service problems.

It was acknowledged that the gas company would meet with the Board on May 10 to clarify these issues. Meanwhile they requested the Board to approve the Waterhouse Road petition at this time.

The Board moved: to approve the petition for Waterhouse Road.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Discussion with Chief of Police re: Staffing Issues

The Chief of Police requested authorization to fill two vacant police officer positions.

The Board moved: to approve the filling of both positions.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Chief reviewed his request for the Town to participate in the upcoming Captains civil service examination.

The Board moved: to approve this request.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

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The Board reviewed Selectman Brownsberger's proposal to allow the Chief of Police flexibility to transfer funds and personnel within his budget programs to meet operational needs – including the patrol function.

The Board moved: to authorize the Chief of Police to transfer budget funds and resources to meet operational needs that is within his management discretion.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Preparation for Town Meeting

The Board discussed the Alarm By-Law proposed. The Board shall support amendments to the main motion to modify the penalty fee schedule.

The Board moved: to support a schedule of \$25 for the first offense; \$50 for the second offense; \$100 for the third offense.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board received information from the Historic District Commission on potential historic preservation conditions on the disposal of the Waverley Fire Station. The Board continued to support dismissal of the articles given the ongoing process for determining the ultimate land-use. The Board expects the Re-Use Committee to consider the historic preservation condition proposed by the Commission.

Discussion of Process for Commenting on Belmont Uplands 40B Application

The Town Administrator acknowledged that he has distributed the application to all Town boards and committees. The Board identified a process to solicit comments from the Town's boards, committees and citizens.

May 19 – Submission of Comments
May 24 – BOS Meeting / Hearing
June 7 – Approval of BOS Comments

The above schedule is dependent upon a time extension from MassDevelopment.

The Board requested the Town Administrator to seek an extension from MassDevelopment to accommodate the above schedule and process.

The Board heard from Fred Paulsen representing a group of citizens. Mr. Paulsen requested the Board to sanction an advisory committee to pursue the alternative land swap that would identify this matter.

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Mr. Brownsberger and Dr. Solomon were encouraged to explore this option, despite Ms. Mahoney's concern that the developer opposes the land swap proposal.

The Board voted: that a temporary advisory committee be established to advise the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen on the possibility of exploring opportunities of an alternative site for the residential development proposed by O'Neill Properties at the Belmont Uplands property. The committee shall conclude its charge no later than June 30, 2004. Its membership shall consist of the following citizens of Belmont; Roger Colton, Martin Duffy, Mark Haley, Douglas Matson, Fred Paulsen and Roger Wrubel.

The motion passed (2-1), Ms. Mahoney opposed.

Preparation for Town Meeting (continued)

Recess to Town Meeting

Action by Consent

Approval of Minutes (03/22/04, 03/31/04 and 04/07/04)

The Board moved: to approve the minutes of March 22, March 15, and April 7, 2004.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Letter from Belmont Allied Veterans Council re: Permission to Hold Memorial Day Observance Event

The Board reviewed a letter from the Belmont Allied Veterans Council requesting permission to hold a Memorial Day Observance event.

The Board moved: to approve the Belmont Allied Veterans Council's request to hold a Memorial Day Observance ceremony.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Memorandum from Library Director re: Request to Fill Young Adult/Reference Librarian Position

The Board moved: to approve the Library Director's request to fill this part time position.

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The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Memorandum from Director of Public Works re: Request to Fill HMEO Position

The Board moved: to approve the Public Works Director's request to fill the HMEO position.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Request of All-Night Graduation Party for Financial Support (Police Detail)

The Board moved: to approve the request to financially support the cost associated with the three police officers' shifts.

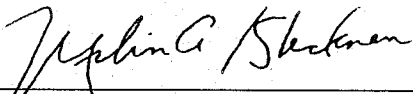
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

VI. OTHER

Mr. Brownsberger expressed his expectation that the Fire Chief will meet with the Board before acting on the flammable storage permit matter that is under his jurisdiction.

Mr. Brownsberger requested the Town's participation at an MPO hearing on the Town's TIP project for the Bikeway Project.

The Board recessed its meeting until Wednesday evening, April 28 at 6:45 p.m..



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