

**MINUTES**  
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2005**  
**REGULAR SESSION**  
**CONFERENCE MEETING ROOM 2, TOWN HALL**  
**6:30 PM**

**Call to Order**

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order in open session in Conference Room 2 of the Town Hall at 6:30 PM. All members were present. Town Administrator Younger and Assistant Town Administrator Conti were also present.

**Action by Appointment**

The Board moved: to enter into executive session to discuss a union personnel matter.

The motion was carried unanimously (3-0).

The Board entered executive session at 6:32 PM.

The Board reconvened in open session at 7:06 PM.

**Questions from Town Residents**

There were no questions.

**Other**

There was a brief discussion of the requirements for qualifying for a senior discount for cable through Comcast.

Mr. Younger reported that Human Resources Director Diane Jenkins received the 2005 Emil S. Skop Award from the Massachusetts Municipal Personnel Association. The award recognizes outstanding contributions in the field of municipal human resources management.

He also noted he is investigating surplus land being disposed of by the state.

There was discussion of how to handle the funds from the dissolution of the town's waste disposal agreement with Wheelabrator North Andover – whether they should go into the General Fund or into a dedicated fund for waste disposal. No decision was made.

### *Discussion of Funding Purecoat's Sampling*

Purecoat Planning Committee Chairman Noah Sachs and member Joe Fiacco appeared before the Board of Selectmen.

The Board noted that this funding has already been authorized and it is now just a question of how to fund it.

Mr. Younger explained that the Board can make a transfer from the reserve fund to cover the sampling cost up to a maximum of \$30,000 – this would require Warrant Committee approval.

Selectman Firenze asked whether it is time to have an environmental consultant, a Licensed Site Professional, to advise in these matters rather than relying on qualified volunteers.

Mr. Fiacco stated that the Committee put into the work order the requirement to have an LSP consulting on this job. He specializes in the area of remediating chlorinated solvents, so is qualified to represent the Town for no fee in this area.

Mr. Fiacco noted that the work order has been designed to work through a subcontractor to generate data that would not create a reportable situation entailing liability consequences for the Town. This would be the first effective investigation around the boundary that would indicate if there has been offsite contamination. If so, the responsibility for remediation would still lie with Purecoat and not with the Town. Data is being collected that will tell whether or not there is an offsite issue, without putting the Town in the middle from a liability perspective. Mr. Fiacco does not feel that the work that Purecoat has done in this regard has been sufficient.

Mr. Fiacco described some of the possible contaminants (airborne as well as groundwater) that might possibly have affected abutting areas. Tests will establish the contamination but not measure a concentration which would trigger a required report.

The Board of Selectmen agreed that this should be done and asked Chairman Sachs if this should be delayed for a week to give Purecoat more time to finish their testing. Mr. Sachs responded that no, the committee does not expect anything significant to get done.

The Selectmen noted that it is planning to meet with Purecoat in December and decided that it should make one final attempt to convince Purecoat to act on their own to try to avoid an adversarial relationship.

### *Discussion of Sewer and Stormwater Committee*

Sewer / Stormwater Chairman Ralph Jones, Community Development Director Glenn Clancy, and Public Works Director Peter Castanino appeared before the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Clancy updated the Board on sewer and storm drain projects that the Town is pursuing. The Town's first priority is to complete the process of meeting its obligations under the EPA's findings that the Town's sewer system was leeching into the storm drain system under Section 308 of the federal Clean Water Act. This has resulted in visible improvements in Little Pond. Once this is done, he would like to investigate the Wellington Brook watershed for water quality issues. Mr. Clancy discussed some issues with residents regarding the location of sump pumps. Mr. Clancy also discussed the progress of GIS mapping of the sewer and drain system which will allow the Town to model events on the system, hopefully as early as next spring. This will allow the Town to use state funding to find the places where there are disproportionate flows and go after them.

Mr. Castanino noted that when there are problems, they are being dealt with and resolved but the source of these problems isn't often investigated.

Selectman Brownsberger summarized the activities of the Arlington/Belmont/Cambridge Stormwater Board. Three areas being worked on are: 1) DCR channel clearing of debris which has aggravated flooding, 2) sedimentation in Blair Pond which could block pipes, and 3) improving the Town's ability to measure stream flows. Selectman Brownsberger is meeting with the Deputy Commissioner of DCR on Monday. On sewage backflow, the Town made 8 recommendations that need to be implemented by MWRA which hopefully will come before the Board in December.

Chairman Jones discussed rate projections provided by the MWRA for sewage transport and treatment and noted that the rates will go up substantially. The difference between one town and another seems to be based almost solely on population and not on flows. Mr. Conti, Mr. Castanino, and Mr. Jones will look at how these rates are being calculated to see if they are correct. If not, the Town can make a protest, if they are, then the Town needs to look at how to reduce its flow.

The Board of Selectmen expressed its support for this effort.

The Selectmen briefly discussed the sidewalk program with Mr. Castanino. There was also discussion of a specific situation on Gilbert Road and possible short-term solutions to it. There was discussion of existing options for residents to pay for sidewalk and curbing improvements in front of their property, and the possibility of implementing a more formal betterment program to publicize and formalize these options.

The Board of Selectmen inquired about the status of the rink. Mr. Castanino said that ice is being made right now and he expects the rink to be open next week if everything goes according to plan.

*Public Hearing on Utility Petitions*

- *Keyspan Petition for Brettwood Road*

- *Keyspan Petition for Livermore Road*

Mr. Clancy noted that he has approved these requests with the proviso that Keyspan notify the Water Division of their work as they are not part of DigSafe, and take care to look out for underground electric facilities.

The Board moved: to approve the two Keyspan petitions on Brettwood Road and on Livermore Road.

The motion was carried unanimously (3-0).

The Board inquired of the Keyspan representative about the possibility of what happened in Lexington happening here. The representative said that in 41 years this was the first time something like that had happened.

- *Verizon Petition (D05\_52) for Trapelo Road*

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The request is to lay cable for the new Fire Department building. There was an inquiry from a resident about whether this will mean more unsightly utility poles on Trapelo Road.

Fire Chief David Frizzell noted that he doesn't want electric wires to be hit by their equipment so this is to drop wires underground.

The Board noted this will not require any additional poles.

The Board moved: to approve the Verizon petitions.

The motion was carried unanimously (3-0).

*Town Administrator's Report*

Mr. Younger updated the board on the status of the Town's Open Space Plan. The Conservation Commission has not focused on this so Mr. Younger will meet with them to see what resources they need to update it as it expires in January 2006.

The Health Insurance Committee should be able to report to the Board by the end of the month.

Pleasant Street: The Town is responsible to plow, salt, and sand this road. The parts Roads Corporation is working on, Roads will lay an asphalt cover on to make it safer for plowing

Woodfall Road: Counsels are meeting to finalize the Memorandum of Understanding with the Country Club. The Conservation Commission has approved the orders and conditions.

Mr. Younger will be having a meeting to explore the possibility of having a Farmer's Market in the Town center next year.

Mr. Younger thanked Building Services Manager Kevin Looney for his efforts in getting directional signage for the interior of the Town Hall Complex. He is now working on the exterior signage.

Mr. Conti reported that the Town is painting crosswalks at Sherman and Waterhouse Streets as a first step toward addressing the traffic and parking problem in this area.

### **Action by Writing**

*Letter from Belmont Center Business Association re: Annual Holiday Celebration*

The BCBA requested the Selectmen's approval to hold its annual holiday celebration on December 1, 2005 (in Belmont Center).

The Board moved: to approve this request.

The motion was carried unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was carried unanimously (3-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

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Thomas G. Younger  
Town Administrator