

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES SEPTEMBER 26, 2011
APPROVED**

Present: Anna Eliot, Chairman; George Dillon, Jr., Vice Chairman; Peter Cunningham, Clerk, Joshua A. Degen; Stuart M. Schulman

Also Present: Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager; Patrice Garvin, Executive Assistant

Ms. Eliot called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and reviewed the agenda.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Mr. Haddad reported that the Town has been very fortunate to have two outstanding Building Inspectors serving the Town on a part-time basis since Mark Dupell's resignation last June. Don Kinney has been serving as Building Commissioner, while Milton Kinney has been serving as the Local Inspector. As has been the case the last several years, Don Kinney leaves the employ of the Town during the winter and returns each spring. That will be the case again this winter. Mr. Haddad decided to appoint Milton Kinney as the Building Commissioner, effective October 3, 2011, when Don leaves for the winter. Don will assume the role of Local Inspector when he returns next April. Milton will work an average of 19 hours per week and be paid at the rate of \$33.81 per hour (Grade 14, Step 7). This will work similar to the way we operated last winter when Mark Dupell split his time between Boxborough and Groton. The Town will end up saving more money under this arrangement since we will not be paying benefits. Mr. Haddad was not recommending we renew the IMA with Boxborough at this time.
2. Mr. Dillon moved to ratify the Town Manager's appointment of Milton Kinney as Building Commissioner. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.
3. Mr. Haddad reported what action has been taken relative to the building at Hazel Grove Park. Mr. Kinney sent a letter to the Groton Riding and Driving Club asking that they submit by October 7, 2011, a plan to stabilize the building. This plan must be approved by the Building Commissioner. Should they not submit this plan, he will then post the building as unsafe, have any animals removed from the building and seal the building up from any access until such time as repairs are made. Mr. Haddad noted that the Parks Commission thought the letter should have been sent to them rather than the Riding and Driving Club. Mr. Haddad stated that the article will be pull from Town Meeting. Mr. Kinney stated that safety was the number one issue. Mr. Haddad noted that it was the Town's responsibility to ensure the building is stable. Mr. Kinney stated that he has not seen a plan to date. Mr. Haddad noted that two Park Commissioner members are in the process of getting a stamped plan. Mr. Degen wanted all expenditures on the building to be paid by the Groton Riding and Driving Club. Mr. Dillon also suggested getting a longer range plan from the club moving forward.
4. Mr. Haddad reported that a meeting with the Town of Shirley has been scheduled to discuss the Squannacook River Dam. The meeting is set for Monday, October 3, 2011.
5. Mr. Haddad stated that Art Prest of 8 Weymisset Road and Alexander Woodle of 20 Highland Road have submitted Committee Interest forms to serve on the Great Ponds Advisory Committee. **[Document 1- Committee Interest Forms]**
6. Mr. Schulman moved to appoint Art Prest and Alexander Woodle to the Great Ponds Advisory Committee to expire June 30, 2012. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.
7. Mr. Haddad stated that at last week's meeting, George Wheatley has asked the Board to consider the Orenco System for providing sewers in the Lost Lake Area. The Town previously asked Woodard & Curran if this system could be used in the Lost Lake Area. Basically, Woodard & Curran reviewed this and stated that this system cannot guarantee the quality of effluent the Town needs to meet DEP

regulations, which is total nitrogen of 5mg/l or less. In addition, any budgetary information submitted by Orenco to Mr. Wheatley will not include important components that has to be considered for a project of this magnitude, including installation; rigging; excavation; site work; legal agreements; yard piping; interconnections for electrical, mechanical and process equipment; process tanks; code specific items that are considered upgrades to the vendor's system; code complaint buildings; health and safety items; laboratory needs; communications and control equipment; and prevailing wage rates for construction workers, etc. These items can multiply the quoted vendor cost over 4 times, excluding the disposal field, remote SCADA, and electrical supply requirements among other items that have been accounted for in Woodard & Currant estimates for this project. In addition, this system is approved for general use, but not approved yet for nitrogen reduction except for provisional (pilot) use. Nitrogen reduction is the biggest hurdle. The approval letter from DEP sets strict limits on its applications, which means it will not work at Lost Lake. Zone II especially is subject to nitrogen discharge limitations (Nitrogen Sensitive Zone). Ms. Eliot suggested a letter be sent to Mr. Wheatley thanking him for the information.

8. Mr. Haddad reported that an update of expenditures recommended for Town Meeting, along with proposed article assignments. **[Document 2- Updated Expenditures and Article Assignments]**
9. Mr. Haddad reported that an agreement between the Town and the First Parish Church for the reconstruction of the intersection of Route 40 and Route 119. This agreement was negotiated by the Town Manager, Tom Delaney and Town Counsel. Mr. Haddad requested that the Board vote to accept the MOU. Mr. Schulman recused himself. **[Document 3- Draft MOU]**
Mr. Dillon moved to sign the MOU between the First Parish Church and the Town for the reconstruction of Route 40 intersection. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING REVIEW OF OCTOBER 17, 2011 FALL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Mr. Degen moved to reopen the public hearing. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. Hearing open.

Mr. Haddad stated that the Finance Committee has not given their positions on warrant articles to date and reviewed articles with the selectmen. Mr. Degen asked if a background check would be done on a new IT person given the sensitivity of information they will have access to. Mr. Haddad assured the Board that a full background check will occur. Mr. Dillon stated that the attic needed to be cleaned out and would consider support of Article 12 for a new management system.

The Board discussed the Lost Lake Sewer Articles. Mr. Haddad explained each article and noted that the Ayer Inter-basin solution is the most cost effective. Mr. Haddad explained that Article 16 is the first step to a solution at Lost Lake that may cost 12million. Mr. Haddad stated that there was only one option and to place a Wastewater Plant at the Baptist Camp is not cost effective and off the table. Mr. Degen wanted to hear the layout of betterment costs before giving his position. Ms. Eliot commented that how the Town decides to define the district can be determined at Town Meeting. Mr. Degen also needed the number of household impacted. Mr. Haddad stated that there were a lot of unknowns and the Town may be eligible for grants and loans lowering the costs. The number of EDU's (Equivalent Dwelling Units) was also in question. Mr. Degen was concerned with existing unit's verses new units that could be created. Ms. Eliot asked about residents who have just placed a new title fire system in. Mr. Haddad stated that he has asked the Board of health Superintendent to take no action until a decision on this project has been made. And unless a system is endangered it will wait.

Mr. Degen supported Article 19-Design Guidelines.

LIAISON REPORTS

Ms. Eliot reported on the meetings she had attended over the past few weeks. Mr. Degen stated that he would be attending the October 26th ZBA meeting to discuss his appointment.

MINUTES

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the regular session minutes of September 12, 2011. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0 Mr. Degen abstaining.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dillon moved to adjourn into Executive Session at 8:15pm, pursuant to MGL Ch. 39 Section 23B to discuss the acquisition of real property, and to reenter Open Session at the conclusion of Executive Session. Mr. Schulman seconded the motion. Dillon-aye; Cunningham-aye; Schulman-aye; Degen-aye, Eliot-aye.

Approved: _____
Peter Cunningham, Clerk

_____ respectfully submitted,
Patrice Garvin
Executive Assistant to the Town Manager

Date Approved: 11-7-2011