

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES APRIL 9, 2012
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 7:05pm and reviewed the agenda.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Mr. Haddad explained that the Custodian position needed to be reopened. Mr. Haddad asked the Board to ratify his appointment of James Kuzmitch at a Step 1 \$16.42. Mr. Degen asked if a background check had been done. Mr. Haddad stated that references were checked in line with the normal process. Mr. Degen thought a background check should be done before ratification. The Board asked Mr. Haddad to conduct a full background check before ratifying the appointment.
2. Mr. Haddad reported that he has reviewed the Patrolmen's contract with the selectmen. Mr. Haddad gave the highlights of the contract. Mr. Haddad stated that the expiration was 2015, making it in line with all other contracts in Town. The HRA language is in the contract and the career incentive for is also included. Mr. Haddad also stated that the education incentive is also parallel to Sergeants language, which is for new officers not eligible for Quinn there they receive 25% of the Towns benefit. Mr. Haddad asked the Board to ratify the contract.

Mr. Dillon moved to ratify the Town Manager's recommended Patrolmen's Union Contract. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

3. Mr. Haddad stated that Jane Bouvier has applied for a one day wine and beer license for Bob France, owner of 134 Main Street, on Friday, May 4, 2012 from 5pm to 11pm for a Charity Auction to benefit the GDRHS Chamber Choir Olympic trip.

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve a one-day liquor license for a charity auction on May 4, 2012. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-yes, 2 abstention.

4. Mr. Haddad stated that the Commission on Accessibility has requested that Scott Harker be appointed to the Commission to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Margaret McPartlan. Mr. Haddad asked that the Board ratify that appointment.

Mr. Cunningham moved to ratify the appointment of Scott Harker to the Commission on Accessibility to expire June 30, 2012. Mr. Schulman seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

5. Mr. Haddad stated that the Conductorlab has requested that Susan Horowitz be appointed to the Committee to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Kim Henry. Mr. Haddad requested that the Board ratify that appointment.

Mr. Degen moved to ratify the Town Manager's appointment of Susan Horowitz to the Conductorlab Committee to expire June 30, 2012. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

6. Mr. Haddad made the Board aware of their article assignments for Town Meeting.

7. Mr. Haddad asked the Board to approve the Fuel Storage Permits. Mr. Degen asked that AL Prime be broken out of the vote.

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the Fuel Tanks for the following:

GDRSD; Groton School; Highway Garage Hollingsworth & Vose; Alliance Energy; Deluxe Business Operations; PGI Realty. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the fuel storage permit for AL Prime. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-yes, 1-no (Mr. Degen)

MINUTES

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 19, 2012. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 26, 2012. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

LIAISON REPORTS

Ms. Eliot noted her attendance to Spring into the Arts. Mr. Dillon attended the FinCOM meeting. Mr. Cunningham discussed the recent decision of the Conservation Commission and suggested a local advisory committee to review the Wetland By-law. Mr. Cunningham thought that the term “public good” needed to be defined better. Ms. Eliot agreed with appointing a committee and suggested a Charge be drafted. Mr. Degen was concerned the committee could be overstepping the Conservation Commissions boundary and asked to whom the committee would report. The Board decided to get some basic answers from counsel regarding the parameters of a review committee.

FIRE STATION BUILDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Petropoulos, Chairman of the Center Fire Station Building Committee stated that the Committee was very close to making a recommendation and needed a little more information. Mr. Petropoulos stated that by the end of the week a recommendation would be made to the selectmen. Mr. Haddad stated that the Board could take up this again at its April 23rd meeting. Mr. Cunningham asked about the process to date. Mr. Petropoulos discussed how Dore and Whittier looked at the cost estimates for the other two sites, Prescott and GELD. Dore and Whittier determined that the cost estimates were accurate. Mr. Petropoulos stated that the Lawrence Homestead Trust (LHT) was the lowest cost and Prescott had the highest costs. Mr. Petropoulos reviewed the sites and listed the benefits and concerns of each one. LHT- cost benefit, Response Time, positive permitting; concern with view shed and abutter. Prescott- unsure of programming, cost is higher, traffic and historic concerns. Mr. Petropoulos stated that the GELD site was problematic, which drives the cost up. Mr. Petropoulos stated that the size of the building would be 18,550 square feet. Mr. Degen asked if a road to Broadmeadow was included in costs. Mr. Petropoulos stated that was a secondary cost. Mr. Petropoulos stated that a tour of the Ayer station would occur to educate the public. Mr. Petropoulos stated that the committee would make its recommendation at the end of the week.

CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING-2012 SPRING TOWN MEETING WARRANT BOARD TO TAKE POSITIONS ON THE VARIOUS ARTICLES

Mr. Haddad reviewed the warrant. Article 5, the budget was in good shape. Mr. Degen asked about the increase in the Town Manager line item and why it had increased. Mr. Haddad stated that the increase reflected the Executive Assistant’s salary. Under the Capital budget there is no increase for the dump truck. Mr. Degen asked about fuel efficiency in the crown vic verses the explorer. Mr. Haddad noted it was about the same. Mr. Haddad referenced the new fire engine replacement, and that it would not increase the number of vehicles. The pool filtration system for the Pool and Golf Center is out to bid and it is the hope to do some deck repair as well with the \$50k appropriation. Mr. Cunningham asked for more information on the decking and pool filter.

Item 10 on the Capital Budget is for \$20k for Golf Carts. Mr. Haddad noted that after they are paid for over five years then they will be traded in for new carts. Mr. Haddad stated that all 25 carts needed to be replaced. Mr. Haddad stated that item 11, cart paths needs to be replaced because it is a safety issue. Mr. Haddad reported that the Golf Association may help raise additional funds. Mr. Dillon agreed it was a safety issue but wanted more information. Mr. Haddad stated that he would get the Board the additional information requested for the Pool and Golf Center’s Capital Budget items.

Mr. Haddad reviewed the current line item transfers needed. Mr. Haddad just received the numbers and apologized for not having copies for the Board. Mr. Haddad reviewed the transfers. Mr. Degen asked about the total amount of transfers being made at \$206 and the reason for the transfers in the Police Department. Mr. Haddad stated that due to vacancies there were some increased overtime costs. Mr. Degen asked about unemployment for the two officers. Mr. Haddad stated that the officers applied for unemployment and received it.

Mr. Degen exited the meeting at this time.

The Board discussed the fire department expenses in regards to the transfers given. Mr. Haddad stated that he would present all the transfers in detail at the next Board meeting.

Mr. Haddad stated that if Article 12, purchasing LHT property did not pass, Article 13 Design Funding for a New Center Fire Station needed to move forward. Ms. Eliot asked how much money would be needed for Article 13. Mr. Haddad replied that \$850k would be requested for this article. Mr. Haddad stated that the Conservation Commission was looking for \$150k from the CPC fund. Mr. Easom gave a brief report on FY13 forecast for the CPC. Mr. Easom projected a 23% reimbursement from the state. Mr. Dillon suggested that \$75k would increase the ConsCOM fund to approximately \$725k, which is within their desired goal. With two Town meetings each year the chances of missing on acquisition opportunity would be small. If there is a significant purchase Town Meeting should have an opportunity to vote. Mr. Easom stated that there was nine years left on Surrenden Farms. Mr. Cunningham stated that he could support \$75k for the Conservation Fund. Mr. Schulman and Ms. Eliot supported \$150k.

Ms. Manugian, member of the GDRSD School Committee addressed Article 17 and the need to create a stabilization fund. Ms. Manugian explained that the article would only set up the fund not put money into it. Ms. Manugian explained how the fund would work and the votes needed to put money in and take money out of it. Mr. Haddad added that it would not impact the minimum assessment.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dillon moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50. Mr. Schulman seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Approved: _____
Peter S. Cunningham, Clerk

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

Date Approved: 5-12-12