

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES APRIL 30, 2012
MIDDLESCHOOL CAFETERIA
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 6:00pm

APPOINTMENTS

1. Mr. Haddad requested that Suzanne Sanders be appointed as an Election Worker.
Mr. Schulman moved to ratify the Town Manager's appointment of Suzanne L. Sanders as an Election Worker to expire June 30, 2012. Mr. Degen seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

2. Mr. Haddad requested that the Board ratify his appointments of Timothy Potter and Alexander DeCoste as temporary employees at the Groton Pool and Golf Center at \$8 an hour.
Mr. Schulman moved to ratify the Town Manager's temporary employees of Timothy Potter and Alexander Decoste to the Groton Pool and Golf Center at \$8 an hour. Mr. Degen seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

3. Mr. Haddad requested that the Board ratify the CPC recommended appointment of Dawn Dunbar as Administrative Assistant to the CPC at \$16.91 an hour. Mr. Haddad requested the Board ratify his appointment. Mr. Haddad explained that any overtime would be paid at the CPC rate.
Mr. Schulman moved to ratify the Town Manager's appointment of Dawn Dunbar as the CPC Office Assistant at \$16.91 per hour. Mr. Degen seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

POLICE DOG

Chief Palma stated that the department was in a unique opportunity to obtain a dog. Officer Beltz researched it and there is a guide dog available. Mike Kinney has volunteered to help with the animal due to his experience. There is a kennel in Acton and training available. Mr. Cunningham asked about ongoing costs. Chief Palma stated that training would be one day a month. Mr. Degen asked about liability. Mr. Haddad stated that he would look into it.

Mr. Cunningham moved to authorize the Police Chief to obtaining the guide dog available. Mr. Schulman seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

GROTON POOL AND GOLF CENTER

Mr. Haddad stated that Mr. Whalen was present to address the Boards desire to have additional information on the Pool Filter. Mr. Dillon asked about the one commercial bid received. Mr. Whalen stated that he received two bids one from a commercial company and the other from a residential company. Mr. Degen asked how long the warranty was from the Residential Company. Mr. Whalen stated that they offered a 5 year warranty. Mr. Whalen stated that the pool opens on May 25th and the Residential Company references were hard to reach. From the Commercial Company the references all came back positive. Mr. Dillon asked how old the current system was. Mr. Whalen stated that the current pool filter was 30 years old and there was also a need for deck repairs. At some point the decking would need to be replaced and cannot do both with the \$50k appropriation.

Mr. Degen was concerned with the additional work that still needed to be done. Mr. Degen also recommended going with the Residential system, that had a 5 year warranty and whose bid came in much lower. Mr. Schulman stated that given past events at Municipal pools a good filtration system was critical. Mr. Haddad stated that there was a third bid that did not make it in on time and that bid was in line with the one Commercial bid received. Mr. Haddad was not comfortable with recommending the lower bidder. Mr. Degen stated that it needed to be made clear that other Pool and Golf Center costs were still coming. The Board supported the Capital Item of the Pool Filter 4-1, Mr. Degen not supporting.

Mr. Haddad explained the changes and noted the elimination of the finger print machine that was \$12k less. The Board unanimously supported the line item transfers.

Mr. Haddad asked if Article 12 fails what should be done with Article 13. The Building Committee recommended Article 13 if Article 12 did not pass, 3-3. The Finance Committee will not support Article 13 if Article 12 fails. The Board recommended pulling Article 13 if Article 12 fails.

Mr. Degen moved to pull Article 13 if Article 12 fails. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Mr. Morrison of the Conservation Commission asked the Board to support \$150k to the Conservation Fund. Mr. Morrison stated that the Lawrence Homestead Trust (LHT) was being looked at by the Conservation Commission if enough money in the fund was remaining. Mr. Morrison stated that LHT was now number 2 on the list. Mr. Degen stated that the remaining LHT land was in Chapter 61. Mr. Cunningham stated that because it is in Chapter 61 the Town has the right of first refusal and if money is needed the Town can address it then. Mr. Morrison stated that LHT could be considered as number 1, but the fund needed the money to purchase the site. Mr. Degen, Mr. Schulman and Ms. Eliot supported the article at \$150k and Mr. Cunningham and Mr. Dillon supported the article at \$75k.

Ms. Eliot noted that she spoke to Counsel, Mr. Maser and he suggested Mr. Haddad draft a letter to forgo his evaluation because Mr. Haddad feels his performance has already been evaluated profusely by the recent investigation and letter into his file. Mr. Degen stated that the Town Manager still needed to be graded on his performance. Mr. Dillon was fine waiving the evaluation and had no problem accepting the letter. Mr. Cunningham stated that the Board should move forward with an evaluation. Mr. Degen stated that the Town Manager has had a positive management and has done well. The Board decided to continue with a written evaluation of the Town Manager.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board moved into Town Meeting.

Approved: _____
Peter S. Cunningham, Clerk

respectfully submitted,
Patrice Garvin
Executive Assistant to the Town Manager

Date Approved: 6-4-12