

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MINUTES OCTOBER 6, 2014
APPROVED**

Present: Josh A. Degen, Chair; Anna Eliot, Vice Chair; Peter S. Cunningham, Member;

Absent: Stuart M. Schulman, Clerk; John G. Petropoulos, Member

Also Present: Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager; Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Mr. Degen called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Mr. Degen reminded residents that town meeting was set to be held on October 20th at 7pm at the Performing Arts Center adding there were 24 articles to be voted on.

Ms. Diane Hewitt said that there were several events coming up relative to the pipeline. A statewide yard sale was scheduled to be held on October 18th and an educational summit was scheduled to be held at Monty Tech on November 15th.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Mr. Haddad said that Mr. Orcutt and Town Counsel had just completed negotiating and reviewing an Inter-Municipal Agreement between Groton and Pepperell for a 10 lot subdivision in Groton. Mr. Orcutt said that the Planning Board had approved the project 10 years ago. He said that the properties in Groton would have liens attached to them for water and sewer adding that a fire hydrant would also be installed on Nashua Road.

Mr. Cunningham moved to enter into an Inter-Municipal Agreement with the Town of Pepperell as presented. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Mr. Haddad said that he and the Cable Advisory Committee had been in contract negotiations over the past year with Charter Cable. They had agreed on a contract renewal with Charter for 10 years. Mr. Haddad read some additional things found in the contract and asked that the Board approve the new contract. Mr. Degen asked when Comcast would be taking over. Mr. Haddad said that the transfer would occur 120 days from June so by sometime in January of 2015.

Mr. Cunningham moved to sign an agreement with Charter for a new contract to be in effect for a period of 10 years. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Mr. Haddad said that the Trails Committee has recommended that Jason Remillard be appointed to the Trails Committee. Mr. Haddad asked the Board to ratify the appointment.

Mr. Cunningham moved to affirm the appointment of Jason Remillard to the Trails Committee. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Mr. Haddad said that in order to comply with the recently adopted policy of the Board in which the Board would set the FY 2016 Municipal Budget Target for the Town Manager, he said that he would like to schedule that discussion for their meeting of November 3rd or October 27th if Town Meeting concludes after one night.

PUBLIC HEARING – CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ALTERED LAYOUT – WEST MAIN STREET

Mr. Haddad read the public hearing notice.

Attorney Collins said that he represented the Kazanjian's, the new owners of Groton Nursery. He said that Mr. Bob Stephens was present as he owned the property adjacent to the road. Attorney Collins said that the traveled way had changed in 1960 to eliminate a hairpin turn. Attorney Collins said that the area being discussed was the current parking area for Nashoba Paddler and Groton Nursery. He said that documenting this change that was fixed 55 years ago would make the parking area private property and not part of the public way. This was simply fixing something that was never documented.

Mr. Degen asked if there was an easement there. Attorney Collins said that he didn't find one but that he could provide one for the utilities. Mr. Haddad asked if this impacted Mr. Stephens. Mr. Stephens said that it did. Mr. Degen pointed out that Mr. Stephen's plot plan didn't match what Attorney Collins was showing. After a brief discussion, Attorney Collins said that he would go back to Ducharme and Dillis and have them look at Mr. Stephen's plan to see where there may be a discrepancy and have it done before Town Meeting. Attorney Collins asked the Board if they could hold the public hearing open until the Board's meeting prior to Town Meeting so that he could have the plan updated. Mr. Stephen's said that he should be added to the article. Attorney Collins disagreed adding that Mr. Stephen's already owned the property.

Ms. Eliot moved to continue the public hearing to October 20, 2014 at 6:30pm at the Middle School Cafeteria. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Degen said that he and Ms. Eliot had met with Mr. Yanchenko who had and negotiated with the GDRSD a 10 year lease for space on the 1st floor of Prescott School. Mr. Degen talked about the 8 year TIF that was on the table as well as a 60 car municipal parking lot and wetland crossing that was going to be constructed. Ms. Eliot said that there would be a deeded easement for the parking lot. She was very encouraged by the negotiations and thought it was a win-win. She said that the schools and the town would have an interest adding that it would create tax revenue for the town.

Mr. Degen congratulated Chris Ferris and his team for closing on the Groton Inn adding that he expected permits would be pulled soon.

MINUTES

Mr. Degen asked if the minutes could be brought back to a future meeting as Mr. Cunningham could not vote on them.

Mr. Cunningham moved to adjourn at 7:45pm. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Approved: _____

Stuart Schulman, Clerk

respectfully submitted,
Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Date Approved: 11/24/14