BOARD OF SELECTMEN - REGULAR SESSION MINUTES - 10/15/01

APPROVED

PRESENT: Chairman Peter S. Cunningham, Clerk Dan Chamberlin, Member Thomas P. McCuin, Jr. and Administrative Officer Jean E. Kitchen.

Pat Cantor of Kopelman and Paige, Margo Hammer Secretary for the ZBA, ZBA members Audrey Western, Stewart Shulman, Bob Cadle, and Chase Duffy

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Selectmen McCuin moved to go into Executive Session in accordance with MGL Chapter 39 Section 23 B with respect to litigation to reconvene in open session. The motion was seconded VOTE: Mr. Chamberlin-Aye, Mr. Cun ningham-Aye, Mr. McCuin-Aye.

The meeting was reconvened at 7:40

PRESENT: Chairman Peter S. Cunningham, Clerk Dann Chamberlin, Member Thomas P. McCuin, Jr. and Administrative Officer Jean E. Kitchen.

Police Chief Mulhern, Police Captain Sabal, Fire Chief Bosselait and Representative Robert Hargraves

Rail Trail/Pleasant Street

Mr. Cunningham began with noting the Boards' concern with the completion time frame (three months) regarding the Pleasant St. bridge..

Mr. Chamberlin was told before this work began that a prefab could be put into place and it would take no longer than 10 days. Then he was told six weeks. We are now looking at anywhere from 2 to 3 months time before it is complete. He has concerns abo ut the winter causing further delays and traffic issues with the bridge closed for so long.

Mark Egleston said the delays on Peabody were beyond his control such as weather, cement curing etc. Mr. Cunningham asked why there were smaller crews working. Mark said the concrete set up took 14 days. Mr. Cunningham asked if we could have one lane opened when they do Pleasant St. . Mark said the road is not wide enough. Mr. Cunningham asked Chief Mulhern if he had any issues. The Chief said emergency vehicles will use Broadmeadow to the GELD/Rail trail property and will post the rail trail area for emergency vehicles only. He does have concerns of Pleasant St. being closed for 3 months which will include the winter months. The Chief hopes that the contractor will do everything possible to move the project it along as he has been coope

rative so far. Chief Mulhern stated the EMS would like to setup an ambulance near Electric Light area. He feels the Police department will be fine since they are on the roads constantly.

Mr. Chamberlain asked Mark if they could work with a full crew to finish job at earliest possible convenience. Dan also had concern about asphalt station being opened in the winter which Mark Egleston announced that three stations are opened through t he winter months.

Homeowner, Everett Clark, had concerns regarding his driveways, lawns, flowerbed as well as homeowner, Mr. Pisani. Mark Egleston stated that engineers were coming out to the homes that will be affected and marking the railroad property lines. Someone w ould then meet with the homeowners affected to work out any issues. Mr. Cunningham suggested that we wait to see what the engineers find and we can meet at another date and include Mass Highway. He stated we do not have much control over the project , as it is Mass Highway's project. We can only emphasize our problems to them and hope they resolve any issues.

Fire Chief Bosselait said his department has stations on both side of Pleasant so he is fairly satisfied they will be able to handle calls. Chief Bosselait wanted to let the Town know that the States Fire Marshall's Office issued a S.A.F.E. Grant to th e Town of Groton in the amount of \$3,157.52 to go towards the education of children regarding fire safety.. The North Middlesex Savings Bank in Pepperell is also donating to the education of fire safety with a \$2,500.00 donation

Mr. Cunningham made a comment that the SAFE Trailer was great.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. McCuin moved to go into Executive Session in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 39, Section 23B with respect to collective bargaining, to reconvene in open session. The Motion was seconded. VOTE: Chamberlain-Aye, Cunningham - Aye, McCuin-Aye.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:45PM

Hanson Memorial Dedication

Bonnie Biocchi, Town Clerk wanted to update the board that the plan for the Hanson Memorial had been accepted by Park Department. There is to be a large boulder with a 10 x 14 plaque with Peter, Susan and Christina's name and behind the boulder there w ill be Ms. Kim Lilacs (which the Hanson's had in their garden) with a flag pole that would fly a flag from Congress Marty Meehan and a majestic Beech Tree planted. The dedication will be on Sunday, October 28, 2001 at 2:00 p.m. at the Town Field with a reception gathering afterward. Ms. Biocchi said how touched the family was by the Town of Groton's sincerity. She has at her desk a journal to be given to the family for anyone to come by to sign if they would like.

Mr. Cunningham wanted to know who was helping and Ms. Biocchi said it being done by Tom Delaney and his crew. Mr. Cunningham said thank you to Ms. Biocchi for all she has done to get this going, she did a great job.

Appointments of Financial Offices Consolidation Review Committee

This is a new committee comprised of six members. Rena Sweezy from the Assessors has a conflict and cannot represent the Board of Assessors. Motion made by Mr. Chamberlin to appoint Evan Katz, citizen at large, Ann F. Walsh, Town Accountant, Lorra ine A. Leonard, Finance Committee representative and Thomas Hartnett, Treasurer to the Financial Offices Consolidation Review Committee terms to expire June 30, 2001. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

Appointment of Local Emergency Planning Committee

Motion by Mr. McCuin to appoint Tom Orcutt to the Local Emergency Planning Committee, term to expire June 30, 2001. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

Approved Minutes of October 1, 2001

Motion by Mr. Chamberlin to approve Minutes of October 1, 2001 . The motion was seconded and voted unanimously. Motion by Mr. McCuin to approve Minutes of October 9, 2001 as amended. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

Other Business

Peter began with reading a letter from John Hewett, Director of Groton Emergency Management, regarding the Town's response to what has been happening around the nation since September 11. Peter noted that if you do happen to receive a suspicious packag e DO NOT OPEN it.

Jean Kitchen added that there was a meeting to be held on Thursday, October 18, 2001 so she should have more information for the public after that meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Town Hall fountain work proceeding quickly .

Mr. Chamberlin mentioned how great the Band Stand Dedication was. He just wished there were more people present. Mr. Cunningham noted the excellent performance by the High School Chorus. Mr. Chamberlin

thinks the town should do a 4th of July gatheri ng of some sort.

Mr. McCuin wanted to make a statement regarding the town's safety regarding the national events. He said we are blessed to have John Hewitt in our court and he has much faith and confidence in John ability with emergency planning. He noted that we ha ve our own water supply and we are not a big time city like New York.

Mr. Chamberlain said he thought we should continue our lives as normal as we can. Jean added how she is having the Town Hall mail person wearing gloves just as a precaution.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:30 PM Mr. Chamberlin moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

> Respectfully Submitted, Diane Aiello Acting Secretary

Approved:_____ Dann Chamberlin, Clerk

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