

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MARCH 11, 2002  
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES  
APPROVED**

**Present:** Chairman Peter S. Cunningham, Clerk Dann Chamberlin, Administrative Officer Jean E. Kitchen and Administrative Secretary Doris T. Wheeler.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

**REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**

Mr. Chamberlin moved the appointment of Susan S. Slade as a Registrar of Voters, term to expire March 31, 2005. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

**PESTICIDE APPLICATION – Groton School**

Groton School requested written permission from the Selectmen to use pesticides for aesthetic reasons on the main campus grounds, pursuant to Chapter 85 of the Acts of 2000, Section 11, subsection 6G, which is a new law. Tim Dumont, Supervisor of Grounds at Groton School, was present for the discussion. He explained that all public and private schools, as well as day care centers are required to prepare an Integrated Pest Management Plan, which includes aesthetic pesticide use. Groton School will take care of the necessary notification of the application of the pesticides, to the intent of the law. Last year the school tried cutting back on the pesticides for the crab grass, but had a poor lawn as a result.

The Water Department was concerned about the "Drought Watch". With respect to that, Mr. Dumont said that he would work closely with the Water Department and Highway Department, as he has in the past.

Peter Morrison, Conservation Commission Chairman, asked if the pesticides would be used within 100' of the wetlands. He noted that there was an existing Order of Conditions on the ball fields. Mr. Dumont was aware of this and said that they would stay away from the wetlands and apply as minimal amount of pesticides as possible in the ball field areas.

Mr. Chamberlin moved to authorize Groton School to use pesticides for aesthetic reasons on the main campus grounds, pursuant to Chapter 85 of the Acts of 2000, Section 11, subsection 6G. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

**GREENWAY COMMITTEE – Increase Membership & Appointments**

Stacey Chilcoat, Greenway Committee Chairman, was present for the discussion. She said that the Greenway Committee currently had 7 active members, of 9. There are 2 vacancies and 3 people interested in being members, so the Committee asked if the membership could be increased by 1. The activities of the Committee have grown. The Riverfest is the biggest event of the year. The Committee is also working with Neal Menschel on River Awareness Days. Slide presentations and a trip on the river with interested families are involved in this program. She said none of the current members wanted to step down to accommodate a new member coming on board. With the added commitments of the Committee, it would be helpful to increase the membership.

Mr. Cunningham said he did not want to get into a position of increasing the membership while there is high interest, then when the motivation falls they experience a problem getting a quorum for meetings.

Mr. Chamberlin noted that the Board had several committees request increased membership. The Board decided that it would be important to have the committees justify the request. He suggested inviting the third interested party as a Greenway Committee member come to the meetings and provide input. In the event that a vacancy comes along later, that third person could fill the vacancy.

Mr. Chamberlin moved (unenthusiastically) to increase the membership of the Greenway Committee from 9 to 10 members. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

Mr. Chamberlin moved the appointment of the following as members of the Greenway Committee: Rollin Willis, Deborah O'Rourke and Pamela Gill, terms to expire June 30, 2002. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

**PAY AS YOU THROW – Board of Health & Recycling Committee**

The Board of Health and Recycling Committee were present. John Alphin, Director of SCRAM and consultant for DEP, and Irene Mulville, Central Mass Municipal Recycling Incentive Program Coordinator, did a presentation on the Pay as You Throw (PAYT) program for municipal solid waste. Over 100 municipalities have gone to PAYT in Massachusetts. The MSW Hierarchy Pyramid showed that Waste Prevention was the most favorable route, Composting and Recycling would be next, and Landfill and Combustion would be the least. The potential benefits to PAYT are that it would encourage people to reduce, reuse and recycle their solid waste. It also would encourage awareness of the environment, economics and equity. He explained just how much of the natural resources would be saved by recycling. The City of Worcester cut its trash in half the first year it went with PAYT. He gave other examples as well. Lexington, for example, had a 34% reduction in trash and 24% increase in recycling. One of the concerns towns have is that with the PAYT program, people would tend to get rid of their trash on the side of the road. Studies have shown that is not the case. One reason is probably because all the mail would have a name and address, so it could be traced. Mr. Alphine said people tend to want to stay within the law. He handed out the attached which shows the expenses, income and options of the PAYT program.

Ms. Mulville said that there would be more grant money for the Town with this program. Groton already rates very high with its recycling program. This would be the next step. The Town would also receive technical assistance with the program, bags, stickers and recycling containers. The bags hold up to 30 pounds of waste.

### **Layout of Autumn Leaf Drive**

At 8:30 PM Mr. Chamberlin moved to open the public hearing on laying out Autumn Leaf Drive. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

Ron Desrosiers, Candlelight Realty Trust, requested laying out the road. He was present for the hearing. He had already seen the Planning Board, who voted to recommend that the Selectmen lay out the road as a public way.

At 8:35 PM Mr. Chamberlin moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

Mr. Chamberlin moved approval of laying out Autumn Leaf Drive as further described in the "Order of Layout of Autumn Leaf Drive", dated March 11, 2002. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

### **COMMON VICUTALLER LICENSE TRANSFER**

Oswaldo Filho said his establishment would have mainly Italian food. He would have catering and luncheon menus. He would not be looking to provide table service at this time. He may have limited table service at a later date.

Mr. Chamberlin moved to transfer the Common Victualler License for Mort's Fine Foods to Oswaldo Filho, d/b/a Filho's Cucina, license to expire December 31, 2002. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

### **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES**

The warrant closed for submission of articles on Thursday. The Selectmen went over the 48 articles that were submitted. The petitioners will be invited to come in to explain their articles. The Sign Committee will be asked to come in because one of the petition articles has to do with the Sign Bylaw.

Mr. Chamberlin and Mr. Cunningham were interested in considering Mr. McCuin's suggestion at the last meeting regarding taking up the articles by lottery system, not necessarily in the order it is shown on the Warrant. The Moderator and Finance Committee will be invited to attend the next Selectmen's meeting to discuss this scenario.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **ACEC Letter of Support**

The Board approved the drafted letter to Secretary Robert Durand, Office of Environmental Affairs, for the nomination of the proposed Squannassit and Petapaway areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC).

#### **Streetlight Fixtures**

GELD requested that the Selectmen appoint a committee to select an appropriate light fixture for when the utility wires go underground. Although the decision to put the utility wires underground might not be for some time, interest had been expressed in putting area lighting in Wharton Fountain Park. GELD thought that the lighting would look best if it were the same as the future Main Street light fixtures. Mr. Chamberlin said that it was premature to be picking out lighting for Main

Street, since it was far from certain that putting the wires underground would fly. Mr. Cunningham said that maybe the time to put a committee together would be when it looks like the wires will go underground. The lighting at Wharton Fountain Park can wait.

### **1 Day Liquor License**

Mr. Chamberlin moved approval of a 1 Day Liquor License to serve all kinds of alcoholic beverages on premise for Christine Bergeron, Executive Director of the Nashoba Valley Chamber of Commerce for a function to be held at Groton School on March 19, 2002 from 5:30 PM – 9:00 PM, contingent on the Town receiving the proper insurance documentation. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

### **Request to Use Town Seal**

David Curren requested using the Town seal on telephone covers he will provide free of charge to residents of Groton. The cover has advertising from local businesses on it. The Selectmen did not approve the request. They did not think it was appropriate to use the Town seal for a profit-making private enterprise.

### **Minutes**

Mr. Chamberlin moved approval of the March 4, 2002 regular session minutes. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

Mr. Chamberlin moved approval of the March 4, 2002 executive session minutes, as amended. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT**

### **Lost Lake Chemical Treatment**

On March 26 the Conservation Commission will meet with the Selectmen regarding the Notice of Intent for the chemical weed treatment of Lost Lake. The Lakes Association will be funding the chemical treatment, therefor no article will be necessary. The Association will also help with the cost of the certified mailing of the notices.

### **Assessors – Overlay**

The Assessors will reconsider releasing overlay surplus from more recent years than what has already been released.

### **Sportsman’s Club**

There is no lead paint at the Sportsman’s Club, inside or out. Ms. Kitchen put Matt Robbins in touch with the Sportsman’s Club.

### **Meetings**

Ms. Kitchen stated that she would be attending an MMA meeting on Thursday.

There will be a meeting with the Planning Board and NRWA on March 21. The topic will be “Saving Farmland Locally”.

### **Directional Sign**

The Sign Committee requested that a directional sign for truck traffic be put up in the W. Groton square. The Selectmen supported the request. Ms. Kitchen will let the Highway Department know.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:17 PM Mr. Chamberlin moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dann Chamberlin, Clerk

Respectfully Submitted,  
Doris T. Wheeler  
Administrative Secretary