

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MAY 13, 2002  
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES  
"APPROVED"**

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm

**Groton Jade-Keno license**

The Selectmen had no objection to Groton Jade's request for a keno license.

**Early Retirement**

Mr. Hartnett noted that the retirement bill was on the Governor's desk for signature. Ms. Kitchen had given a synopsis of the current version of the bill to the Selectmen. Mr. Hartnett commented that only 9 people from the Town side would participate in Early Retirement. He will not participate as he wants to help with the transition of financial departments that will occur. Of the 9 who would retire 3 are professional. Mr. Hartnett would recommend Christine, his assistant to take his position. Then hire her replacement at 15 hours. There could be a savings to the town if done this way. If a Finance Director is created she would report to that person. Mr. Hartnett estimated the cost of the early retirement to the town would be about \$9,000 a year (without reorganization of his office).

Mr. Beeltje said his Board's (GELD) position has not taken a vote but would recognize some savings (between \$52,000-\$67,000). The biggest concern of his department is if the 4 people who were eligible would take it. Mr. Hartnett noted that if GELD has savings it goes to the ratepayer. Mr. Beeltje noted that with new employees the accrued sick leave buy back would be capped or the first ten years, as you cannot reap the benefits of sick leave buy back until you've been with the department for 10 years.

Mr. Hartnett noted that the increase in the assessment from early retirement would not hit the budget until 2004.

All the Selectmen expressed their support for the early retirement article.

**Appointment of Admin. Sec. To BOS and Administrative Officer**

Ms. Kitchen introduced Maria Casey to the Board, her choice to fill the position. Mr. Chamberlin was impressed with her ability as a school secretary and letters of reference. Mr. Cunningham was impressed with experience and her references. Ms. Kitchen noted that there were over 50 applicants and she and Joyce conducted 10 interviews. All the reference checks on Ms. Casey were excellent. Ms. Casey had the direct experience, the computer knowledge and demeanor that was need for this position. Mr. Chamberlin asked why she was leaving her current position. Ms. Casey said it was bittersweet. She loves her job, but cuts are coming. She has always loved working for town government and could begin in Groton on June 10. Motion to hire Maria Casey at grade 7 and request the personnel board allow her to begin work at step 4, due to her years of experience in a similar position. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Kitchen will schedule a meeting with the Personnel Board.

**Summer Schedule**

The summer schedule, meeting every other Monday beginning June 3 was approved.

**LRTA Appointment**

Motion by Dann Chamberlin to appoint Paul Routhier to the Lowell Regional Transit Authority for a term of one year to expire on June 30, 2003. Motion carried unanimously.

**Sign Committee Appointment**

Motion by Dann Chamberlin to appoint John D. MacLeod, Jr. to the Sign Committee for a term of one year to expire

on June 30, 2003. Motion carried unanimously.

**Election Worker Appointment**

Motion by Tom McCuin to appoint Patricia M. Campagna as an Election Worker for a term of 1 year to expire on June 30, 2003. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:30 motion to adjourn by Tom McCuin. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Respectfully submitted  
Jean E. Kitchen  
Administrative Officer