

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
JUNE 2, 2003  
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES  
"APPROVED"**

The reconvened meeting from the Senior Center, which began at 7:00 P.M., was called back to order at 8:20 p.m.

Present: Thomas D. Hartnett, Chair; George F. Dillon, Jr., Vice Chair; John L. Saball; Clerk; Peter S. Cunningham, Member; Virginia C. Wood, Member; Administrative Officer Jean E. Kitchen and Maria Casey, Administrative Secretary.

**Town Clerk Vacancy/Appointment**

Town Clerk Bonnie Biocchi was in attendance for this portion of the meeting, as well as Ms. Onorina Maloney. Ms. Biocchi informed the Board of Selectmen (BOS) that she has submitted her letter of resignation effective July 4, 2003. She also informed the BOS that her transition plan for the month of June is as follows: Prepare the Street List, Prepare Jury List, Complete AG Submissions, Complete Voter Confirmation Mailings, Certify Recap Sheet, Transition Monthly Reports and Financial Transactions, Educate on Archived Files and a Vital Record Project Turnover. During July 1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> - she will vacate her office and complete the turnover. Ms. Biocchi also presented Ms. Onorina Maloney, her recommendation as Town Clerk. *Mr. Cunningham moved to appoint Onorina Maloney as Town Clerk effective July 5, 2003, term to expire upon the election or appointment of a Town Clerk. Seconded by Mr. Saball. Unanimous vote.*

**Lisa Davis Associates - Shaws Development and MRPC TIP List**

In attendance for this portion of the meeting was Ms. Lisa Davis of Lisa Davis Associates, representing Mr. Bob Lacombe (also in attendance) for Shaws; Mr. Brad Harris of Montachusett Regional Planning Commission, Mr. Rob Woodland; Traffic Engineer; Mr. Geoff Howie of Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. (GPI) and Representative Robert S. Hargraves. Ms. Davis requested that the BOS not only send a letter of support for the Route 225/Route 119 Intersection Improvement to be prioritized as No. 1 on the MRPC TIP (Traffic Enhancement List) for FY04 but also attend the MPO meeting, date still to be determined, in order to move this project in a timely fashion. She further stated that all of the above parties have worked hard on getting this project off to a good start. All of these improvements to this intersection need to be taken as proposed by Mass Highway. This project, due to state funding, got bumped to 2007. Ms. Davis stated that the MRPC TIP requirements have all been met. Many projects get bumped due to other criteria not being met. This is not the case with this intersection. All of the parties outlined the improvements that had been discussed previously, as well as GPI stating that the plans are now at 100% completion and will be sent to Groton within the next week. Mr. Harris went over the timeline for funding of TIP projects and stated that a letter of support as well as representation at the MPO meeting will assist to weigh this project as a No.1 priority. The BOS was in unanimous consensus for sending out a letter of support, as well as Mr. Hartnett stated that he would attend the MPO meeting as the representative for Groton.

**Weed Management Advisory Committee Drawdown, Progress Report and Committee Charge**

Dr. Eger, John Diezemann, Bruce Clements, Bob Hannihan, Josh Degen, Bob Lewis, Susan Horowitz and Larry Swezey were in attendance for this portion of the meeting. Dr. Eger read the Committee's progress report, attached herein) and recommended an extension date for completion of this committee. The Weed Management Committee will be requesting the BOS sign the Notice of Intent for the Drawdown when it is prepared. The WMC is also requesting the Town to employ a professional to look at the wells that have been identified as projected to fail and to do a professional consult and assessment. Dr. Eger stated that there are currently 15 - 16 resident wells on their red list (well will fail). Dr. Eger explained that the drawdown of 18" would take approximately one hour or so and within a day would be at that level. The ideal time is to perform it before the frost hits (sometime in December). It would remain in effect for a few months (approximately March). The WMC received 80% respondents to the survey. It was noted that 125 homes are waterfront.

Mr. Hannihan stated that Lost Lake/Knops Pond is one of the 10 great ponds in the state and that perhaps the Department of Environmental Management could assist with either technical expertise or funding/sources.

**Notice of APR - Brooks Orchard**

Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 7, Section 40I requested that the Department of Food & Agriculture (DFA) notify the local Board of Selectmen of the State's intent to purchase, rent, sell or significantly change the use of one or more acres of real estate. Pursuant to that section, the DFA is considering acquiring an interest in approximately 192 acres of land, Orchard Lane, Assessors' Map 232, Lot 30, within the Town of Groton for inclusion in the Agricultural Preservation Restriction. The property, which is currently used for agricultural purposes, is privately owned and will so if it becomes a participant in the APR Program. The development rights would be acquired to secure the presentation of land for agricultural purposes as provide in MGL Chapter 132A, Sections 11A-D and Chapter 184, Sections 31, 32 and 33.

**OTHER**

The BOS informed the public that any item coming before them for the agenda needs to be scheduled in advanced and any information relative to that item needs to be in to the Selectmen's Office no later than Thursday at noon. If the information is not received, the appointment will be taken off the agenda and rescheduled in the future. They added further that any appointments made to other committees need the written recommendation of the committee itself prior to appointment

**Emergency Management Agency Appointment - Steve Legge**

This item was tabled for next week's agenda pending the appointment recommendation of EMA Director Leroy Johnson.

Mr. Hartnett stated he was upset that the Water Department refused to waive the \$12,000 fee for water hookup for Lost Lake Fire Station. He further stated that this budget for the Lost Lake Fire Station is very tight. He stated that there is already water there. This was a "paper fee." He asked the other BOS members if they would support his drafting a letter to the Water Commissioners. All other 4 BOS members were in support of his drafting a letter.

**Administrative Officer Report**

Ms. Kitchen updated the Board with her Administrative Officer Report enclosed herein.

Ms. Kitchen added further that in the BOS packets are all information relative to upcoming annual reappointments during the month of June. There is a myriad of information. Should any BOS member have an issue with any reappointee, please let the office know beforehand.

Ms. Wood moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Dillon. Unanimous vote.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
John L. Saball, Clerk

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*Respectfully submitted,*  
Maria Casey,  
Administrative Secretary

Date Approved: June 30, 2003

Attachments (2) - WMC Report RE: Lost Lake  
Administrative Officer Report