

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JANUARY 18, 2005
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
“APPROVED”**

Present: George F. Dillon, Jr., Chair; Peter S. Cunningham, Vice Chair; John L. Saball, Clerk; Robert W. Nordblom, Member; Administrative Officer Jean E. Kitchen and Kathleen Newell, Office Assistant

Absent: Virginia C. Wood, Member

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

Kevin McKenzie RE: Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School Budget

Mr. Kevin McKenzie was present for this portion of the meeting.

Mr. McKenzie stated that Nashoba Valley Regional Technical School was celebrating its 35th Anniversary and there would be a dedication of the new performing arts center and open house on February 9, 2005. McKenzie proceeded to display a Power Point presentation.

Geoff Howie and Gary Hebert RE: Four Corners Discussion

Mr. Geoff Howie, GPI; Mr. Gary Hebert, Mr. Ron Englade of Representative Hargraves and others (see attached attendance sheet) were present for this portion of the meeting.

Ms. Linda DeCiccio-Fanning read a letter from the Four Corners Neighborhood Association (enclosed herein).

Mr. Howie stated the project had been started in 1998 with traffic counts done in 1999 from which they developed a concept plan. Mr. Howie stated the two-lane road will become a five-lane road at the intersection. Mr. Howie stated Mass Highway requires a 20-year traffic projection be carried out and the design approved to handle that kind of volume.

Ms. Sarah Campbell referenced a plan regarding queues and asked how that would interpret to the intersection. Mr. Hebert stated the intersection would create equity of traffic for the side roads, and the current one lane becomes a bottleneck for rush hour traffic.

Ms. Collette stated that both Boston Road Marketplace and Samantha Realty Trust could not receive occupancy permits until the traffic light is functional. Ms. Collette further noted that the Planning Board had sent the applicant of Boston Road Marketplace back to the drawing board and would be reviewed by the Planning Board on February 10, 2005.

Mr. Saball asked how the signalization of the lights would work. Mr. Howie explained that it would be fully actuated in all the lanes and would be set to optimize thru-traffic.

Ms. Campbell asked if the area could be designated as a village which could be looked at as a whole instead of piecemeal. Ms. Campbell stated the neighborhood does not feel that there are any guidelines that guide the character of the area with each development.

Union Request for Recognition – Library & Town Hall Employees

Ms. Stacy Schwartz and Ms. Shanna Weston of the SEIU Local 888 and Town Hall and Library employees were present for this portion of the meeting.

Mr. Dillon read a letter submitted to the Board of Selectmen requesting voluntary recognition of the SEIU (enclosed herein). Ms. Schwartz stated a majority of Town Hall and Library employees would like to form a union and be recognized instead of going to Town Meeting. Ms. Schwartz submitted a list of positions (enclosed herein). Mr. Dillon asked Ms. Schwartz to read the list. Mr. Cunningham asked how the union knew there was a majority. Ms. Schwartz stated the majority had signed cards or the petition. Ms. Rena Swezey stated she did not know that the Assistant Assessor came under the category of the union and had thought what she signed was to obtain more information.

Mr. Dillon stated the Board would take the matter under advisement and meet in Executive Session in two weeks. Ms. Kitchen stated she would confirm the results of the meeting in writing to the union representatives.

Review Budgets for Administrative Officer Budget; Insurance & Bonding Budget; Postage & Office Budget

Administrative Officer Budget - Ms. Kitchen stated there had been a miscalculation in the budget which lost vacation coverage and explained that was the reason for the increase in wages. Ms. Kitchen stated the travel and conferences had been level funded for three years.

Postage and Office Budget – Ms. Kitchen stated the postage maintenance is leased and totals \$27,000 annually.

Mr. Saball asked about the need for the MGL updates as they are available on-line. Ms. Jenkins stated the Bills are not available on-line and only available in hard copy.

Mr. Dillon asked about the request for a new copier. Ms. Kitchen stated there was a new copier downstairs and she was requesting a new copier for the second floor use.

Ms. Kitchen stated she would have the Street Lighting budget for the next meeting.

- **Common Victualler License – Gibbet Hill Grill**

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the Common Victuallers License, to serve All Kinds of Alcoholic Beverages, for Gibbet Hill Grill, LLC d/b/a Gibbet Hill Grill Restaurant, at 61B Lowell Road, Thomas Totman, Manager, license to expire December 31, 2005. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Wood).

- **Administrative Officer Report**

Ms. Kitchen stated that Shaw's had received a building permit. Ms. Kitchen stated that Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Dillon and Mr. Mike Flynn had attended a January 11, 2005 session at the school for public officials and there would to be representatives from a screening group to make a decision on the Superintendent.

Selectmen Liaison Update

Mr. Dillon stated that there had been a comment made that the Board of Selectmen had allowed some jobs to go before the Personnel Board for rating and that had opened the flood gates. Mr. Dillon explained that there was no guarantee that new positions would be granted, but merely allowed to be rated.

Mr. Cunningham moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Saball. Unanimous vote.

Approved: _____
John L. Saball, Clerk

respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Newell
Office Assistant

Date Approved: January 31, 2005

Enclosures (3): Letter from FCNA dated 12/15/04, Letter from SEIU & Positions