

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
APRIL 11, 2005
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
“APPROVED”**

Present: George F. Dillon, Jr., Chair; Peter S. Cunningham, Vice Chair; John L. Saball, Clerk; Virginia C. Wood, Member; Administrative Officer Jean E. Kitchen, Maria Casey, Administrative Assistant and Kathleen Newell, Office Assistant

Absent: Robert W. Nordblom, Member

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

Public Hearing 2005 Main Street Reconstruction Schedule

Mr. Cunningham moved to open the hearing at 7:01 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Nordblom).

Mr. Dillon read the legal notice, published April 1 & 8, 2005, in the Groton Herald.

Highway Surveyor Tom Delaney reviewed the construction schedule timeline (enclosed herein), stating the he believed that the contractor would be able to do most of the construction work during daylight hours of 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mr. Delaney further stated there he did not believe that there would be major closings or conflicts with the events planned for the 350th Anniversary celebration throughout the year.

Mr. Cunningham asked if Mr. Delaney had consulted with Mr. Black regarding the 350th events. Mr. Delaney stated Mr. Black had seen the timeline and he (Delaney) would further consult with him regarding scheduling around the events.

Ms. Wood asked Mr. Delaney about the proposed bump outs stating they would be a challenge for snow removal. Mr. Delaney agreed. Ms. Wood stated that the benefits of pedestrian safety would outweigh the challenge.

Mr. Paul Matisse stated that he had seen the proposed Conway School plan and was impressed and asked if there would be any plantings in the bump outs. Mr. Delaney stated that shrubs or trees in the bump outs would be counter productive in making pedestrians more visible to traffic.

Mr. Dillon referenced a letter from Mr. Dan Barton on behalf of the Historic Districts Commission.

Mr. Neil Murphy asked if the traffic would be diverted. Mr. Delaney stated that the road was wide enough to allow for the work to be done and two lanes of traffic to flow.

Mr. Saball asked if Mr. Delaney would be painting the road and parking spaces. Mr. Delaney stated he was not a proponent of painting parking spaces because many spaces would be lost if painted to the state required twenty feet. Mr. Delaney stated it would be better to paint the areas in which parking would not be allowed.

Mr. Cunningham moved to close the hearing at 7:27 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Nordblom).

Chief of Police Robert Mulhern RE: Commendations

Chief Mulhern, Officer John Rooney, Officer Eric M. Watkins and Officer Edward D. Sheridan were present for this portion of the meeting.

Chief Mulhern read a letter he had submitted to the Board of Selectmen from which he summarized a police call which had been responded to by Officer Edward Sheridan and Officer Eric Watkins. Chief Mulhern stated that situation could have resulted in the use of deadly force however both officers displayed professional actions and courage. Mr. Dillon expressed his thanks to Officer Sheridan and Officer Watkins and presented each with a commendation. The Board members each congratulated the officers.

Other Business:

One-Day All Alcohol Liquor License – Linda C. Deasey c/o Trustees of Lawrence Library

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve a One-Day All Liquor License for Linda C. Deasy on behalf of the Trustees of Lawrence Academy on Saturday, April 30, 2005 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at Lawrence Academy, Powder House Road, Groton, Mass. Seconded by Mr. Saball, 4 in favor, 1 absent (Nordblom).

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve a One-Day All Liquor License for Linda C. Deasy on behalf of the Trustees of Lawrence Academy on Friday, May 13, 2005 from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Lawrence Academy, Powder House Road, Groton, Mass. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Nordblom).

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve a One-Day Liquor License for Wine & Malt for Linda C. Deasy on behalf of the Trustees of Lawrence Academy on Saturday, May 14, 2005 from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Lawrence Academy, Powder House Road, Groton, Mass. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Nordblom).

Auctioneer License – Richard C. Jumpp – Scholarship Auction @ Lawrence Academy

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve a One-Day Auctioneer License for Richard C. Jumpp for the Bi-annual Scholarship Auction for Lawrence Academy on Saturday, April 30, 2005 to be held at the Gray Building, Lawrence Academy, Powder House Road, license to expire on April 30, 2005. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Nordblom).

GIS Contract with Cartographic Associates, Inc.

Ms. Kitchen stated that the last flyover had been in 1998 and this would bring the Assessor's up to date and then following would be yearly updates. Ms. Kitchen asked that the Board amend the motion to "not to exceed \$7,500" as that was the amount in the GIS Committee's budget.

Mr. Cunningham moved to execute the contract between the Town of Groton and Cartographic Associates, Inc., for GPS Data Collection Services, not to exceed \$7,500, as dated March 18, 2005, and as recommended by the GIS Committee. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Nordblom).

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

Ms. Kitchen stated that the 350th Anniversary books are available. Mr. Dillon stated that it is a very high quality book with extremely nice pictures and the Book Committee was to be congratulated.

SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Dillon wished to thank the various groups and organizations which have and will participate in the Adopt-a-Road program. Mr. Dillon stated that the Transfer Station had agreed to take the trash collected and the Highway Department had agreed to collect the bags from the roadside and take them to the transfer station.

Mr. Dillon stated that he and Mr. Saball had attended a banquet honoring Bob Johnson upon his retirement as Commander of District 5 of the Laurence W. Gay, American Legion, Post 55.

Mr. Cunningham stated that he and Mr. Dillon had attended the Historical Society Auction which was a very well attended event.

Mr. Cunningham stated that Dr. Alan Genovese had been selected as the new school Superintendent, and he had a great wealth of experience within the school and in advocacy at the state level.

Mr. Cunningham moved to enter into Executive Session in accordance with MGL Chapter 39, Section 23B, for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have detrimental effect on the Town's bargaining or litigation position. Also, to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel; and will not reconvene back into Open Session. Seconded by Mr. Saball. Roll call vote: Dillon – yes, Cunningham – yes; Saball – yes; Wood – yes.

Approved: _____
John L. Saball, Clerk

respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Newell
Office Assistant

Enclosure (1): Main Street Construction Time Line

Date Approved: May 16, 2005