

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
JUNE 27, 2005  
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES  
“APPROVED”**

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

**Absent:** Robert W. Nordblom, Clerk and Mihran Keoseian, Member

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

**Dan Barton RE: One-Day Liquor License**

*Mr. Saball moved to approve a Wines & Malt License for Daniel J. Barton on Saturday, July 9, 2005 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at Williams Barn, 160 Chicopee Row, Groton, Mass.; contingent upon receipt of the Certificate of Insurance listing Town of Groton as additional insured. Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

**Electrical Inspector Louis D. Shattuck - Proclamation**

Building/Zoning Officer Michael Tusino and Mr. Louis Shattuck were present for this portion of the meeting.

Mr. Dillon read a proclamation and thanked Mr. Shattuck for his years of dedication and service. The Board members expressed their thanks and best wishes to Mr. Shattuck.

**Interviews for Electrical Inspector Applicants and Appointment**

Building/Zoning Officer Michael Tusino, Mr. Edward Doucette, Mr. William Mitchell and Mr. Patrick Kenney were present for this portion of the meeting.

Mr. Dillon noted that there were three candidates for the position of Electrical Inspector. Mr. Tusino introduced the applicants.

Mr. Edward Doucette reviewed his credentials. Mr. Dillon stated that one of the requirements was to spend one hour a day in the Building Department. Mr. Doucette stated that he had worked out a schedule with his employer. Mr. Dillon asked if Mr. Doucette operated an electrical business. Mr. Doucette stated that he did have a small business which he would give up if he became the electrical inspector. Mr. Saball asked if Mr. Doucette felt there would be any conflict of interest with his services to the town. Mr. Doucette stated he did not feel there would be a conflict.

Mr. William Mitchell reviewed his credentials. Mr. Dillon asked Mr. Mitchell if he felt he would be flexible enough to schedule inspections. Mr. Mitchell stated that he had spoken with Mr. Tusino regarding the required office time and inspections; noting that he would be available to contractors.

Mr. Patrick Kenney reviewed his credentials. Mr. Dillon asked if Mr. Kenney did much business in town. Mr. Kenney stated that the majority of his business was out of Groton. Mr. Saball asked Mr. Kenney if he felt there would be any conflict of interest. Mr. Kenney stated that it was not a concern as there is reciprocity between towns if needed. Mr. Saball asked if Mr. Kenney thought that he would be able to keep the time frame of the 24 hour inspection. Mr. Kenney stated that by being self-employed he was flexible and did not see a problem.

Mr. Dillon stated that the Board needed to decide between three very qualified candidates. Ms. Kitchen stated that the Board could make a nomination or a motion. Mr. Cunningham asked Mr. Tusino if he had a recommendation. Mr. Tusino stated that the Board could not make a wrong choice with the applicants. Mr. Dillon asked for a suggestion. Ms. Kitchen suggested the Board could vote and determine who was chosen. The Board cast ballots.

Ms. Kitchen tallied the votes: Edward Doucette- 2 votes; William Mitchell – one vote.

*Mr. Saball moved to appoint Edward Doucette as Electrical Inspector for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006, (effective July 1, 2006). Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

**Attorney Robert Orsi RE: Gamlin Crystal Spring Christmas Tree Farm**

Attorney Robert Orsi, Mr. Robert Pine, Mr. and Mrs. Gamlin were present for this portion of the meeting.

Mr. Robert Pine stated that the conservation restriction had been agreed to and the Groton Land Trust would take possession of the land once the restriction had been placed on the land by the State. Mr. Pine stated that a small portion of the land would come before the Board of Selectmen for the right of first refusal under Chapter 61A. Mr. Pine stated that the land is approximately 152 acres off Old Dunstable Road which is a critical link to two other parcels and a strategic link from a conservation standpoint. Mr. Pine described the parcel's attributes and noted that Groton Land Trust had come to an agreement with the Gamlin's and will receive a grant from the State that will protect 100+/- acres and they have agreed to cut 25 acres which will be set aside to develop approximately 5-8 of those acres.

Mr. Pine noted that hunting would still be allowed on the property and Mr. Gamlin had been crucial to the drafting of the restriction.

Mr. Dillon asked for details on the 25 acres of which 5-8 acres would be developed. Mr. Pine stated that a cluster of possibly 12 units geared toward over 55 without the restriction. Mr. Pine stated that 25 acres had to be cut from the whole parcel to meet planning board requirements, but only 5-8 acres would be used and the remaining land would be restricted also. Mr. Dillon thanked Mr. and Mrs. Gamlin. Mr. Gamlin stated that his family had owned the property for three generations and he wanted to ensure its preservation.

Mr. Saball thanked Mr. and Mrs. Gamlin and stated he had questions on the 25 acre parcel. Mr. Pine stated that when trying to minimize environmental impact the best choice is to put houses closer together. Mr. Pine stated that the land behind the Lewis' property is the parcel with the least environmental impact and has frontage on Bridge Street, while preserving the connection between the Conservation parcels. Mr. Pine noted that there will be a long process ahead and this is an agreement between the Gamlin's and a developer.

Mr. Cunningham suggested discussing at least one affordable unit with the developer and thanked the Gamlin's commending them for their stewardship and efforts to orchestrate the conservation restriction.

Ms. Marion Stoddart thanked the Gamlin's for their choice to preserve the land and keep it accessible to the public.

#### **Fire Chief Bosselait RE: "SAFER" Grant**

Chief Joseph Bosselait, Ms. Susan Ragusa and Ms. Valerie Jenkins, Town Accountant were present for this portion of the meeting.

Chief Bosselait distributed an update and reviewed the contents with the Board (enclosed herein).

Mr. Dillon asked if the per diem shift could be funded through the grant. Chief Bosselait stated that it could be but it was not currently a full time position. Ms. Kitchen noted that the position would then one full time position not a shared position.

Chief Bosselait stated that the grant deadline was the following day at 5:00 p.m. and he needed the approval of the Board of Selectmen.

Ms. Kitchen noted that there were funds in the Fire Department account and \$16,000 would be the responsibility of the Town. Ms. Jenkins stated that benefits were not covered by the grant, but the remaining money would come from volunteer shifts.

Mr. Dillon stated he would support one firefighter and would like to see the per diem shift turned into a full time position. Mr. Cunningham stated that if money were not object he would support two, but he would like to keep the per diem shift in tact. Chief Bosselait stated that if the call model were not supporting the per diem shift he would come back to the Board.

Mr. Dillon asked if the SAFER program dictated how the new position is filled. Chief Bosselait stated that the Department has the open hiring process in place and therefore scores higher than town's which do not.

Mr. Saball stated the Town had approved the budgeting for the per diem shift and asked for an overview, particularly dependability of coverage. Chief Bosselait stated that the shift was absolutely dependable and during the normal week he had had good luck filling the shift and was working to develop good quality fire fighters with experience in inspections. Chief Bosselait stated he had confirmed that this is a funded program and the money won't dry up during the next four years.

Mr. Dillon stated a lot of work had gone into the grant and thanked Ms. Ragusa for all her work and the statistics which had been provided.

Ms. Kitchen asked if the Board needed to sign anything for the grant. Ms. Ragusa stated that the Chief would need to electronically confirm that the Board of Selectmen had approved. Mr. Saball asked if a vote of consensus was needed. Ms. Kitchen stated a vote.

*Mr. Saball moved to approve that the Fire Chief apply for one position to the SAFER grant as outlined in the application reviewed by the Board of Selectmen on June 27, 2005. Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

## **OTHER BUSINESS:**

### **Review Code of Groton**

Ms. Kitchen stated that the Town Clerk was doing the entire Code book and she had thought it would be good to include some of the Board of Selectmen policies. Ms. Kitchen reviewed the following:

- Electrical Inspector should read ...sum of money; whereas there is currently a fee schedule.
- Junk collectors – is from 1935 and antiquated and should be removed.
- Peddlers and Solicitors – current bylaw would not hold up, there was a newer version drafted but it had been held up because it would have impacted the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary festivities.
- Sanitary Landfill should be removed because there is no landfill and the Board could vote to remove.  
Mr. Cunningham asked if the Board of Health had bylaws before the Board rescinded the existing bylaw. Ms. Kitchen noted that the bylaw did not pertain to the transfer station, but was specific to the obsolete landfill. Mr. Saball concurred with Mr. Cunningham. Mr. Cunningham asked if the Board could formally request that the Board of Health adopt some regulations regarding the Transfer Station.
- Smoking – is under the Board of Health  
Mr. Dillon stated he was confused because some say policy, some regulation and some code. Ms. Kitchen stated that the code has numbers and anything adopted by the Board is a regulation and anything adopted by Town Meeting is a bylaw.
- Chapter 270 – Vehicles – Mr. Saball asked if there had been any input from the Chief of Police as he remembered when they had been omitted because they were to have been reviewed and the regulations were to parallel the state highway regulations, because without that there is a gap in enforcement. Ms. Kitchen stated that may be different, but what is there now is simply a place holder and there is no regulation. Ms. Kitchen asked if she could have agreement that Chapter 270 could be removed and she could tell the Town Clerk that the page did not need to be printed. *The Board concurred.*
- Unregistered Vehicles – Ms. Kitchen asked if she could advertise that the Board would be raising the fee to \$25. *The Board concurred to proceed.*
- Charity Poker Tournaments – Ms. Kitchen stated that the Attorney General had suggested that we have something covering the events. Ms. Kitchen stated that the Town would be charging organizations for the licenses as the applications do require work.

Mr. Dillon stated that the members would need to review the bylaws and hold a hearing.

### **Reappointments**

*Mr. Dillon moved to appoint Martha Campbell; Craig Auman; and Peter Cunningham to the Affordable Housing Task Force for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Dillon moved to appoint James R. Western; Michelle Collette; Thomas D. Hartnett; and Brooks Lyman to the Building Committee for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Dillon moved to appoint John Ellenberger; Russell Harris; Dorothy Davis; Kathy Harrington; and Gabriel Nucci to the Cable Advisory Committee for the one-year term; term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Dillon moved to appoint Joseph M. Woods; Sarah E. Mickle; Edward J. Bushnoe; Darlene A. Touchette; April L. Melvin; and Paul E. Martell as Communications Officers for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Dillon moved to appoint Michael E. Roberts; and Richard A. Hughson to the Community Preservation Committee for the three-year term; term to expire June 30, 2008. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Saball moved to appoint Jeffrey Pike; Jean E. Kitchen; Steven D. Morlock; Steven H. Webber; Stuart M. Schulman and Valerie D. Jenkins to the Computer Committee for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Saball moved to appoint Michelle Collette and Arthur Blackman to the Conductorlab Oversight Committee for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Saball moved to appoint Bruce H. Easom and Craig S. Auman to the Conservation Commission for the three-year term, term to expire June 30, 2008. Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Saball moved to appoint Frank C. Belitsky; Elbert L. Tompkins; and Grace B. Marsolais to the Council on Aging for the three-year term, term to expire June 30, 2008. Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Saball moved to appoint Elizabeth Zanelli; Gregory Maloney, Jr.; Margaret Connolly; Ellen Hargraves; Lynne Kavanagh; Jane Chalmers; and Stephen Legge as Election Workers for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to appoint Joel Magid; Lawrence Swezey; Steven Mickle; Francis Cusack; Heather Emslie; and Leroy Johnson, Jr., to the Emergency Management Agency for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Dillon. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to appoint Paula Martin; Lawrence Swezey; and Michelle Collette to the GIS Steering Committee for the two-year term, term to expire June 30, 2007. Seconded by Mr. Dillon. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to appoint Deborah Beal Normandin as Graves Registration Officer for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Dillon. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to appoint Susan Horowitz; Robert Lewis; Francoise Forbes; John Diezemann; Steven White; William Eger; Lawrence Swezey; and Bruce Clements to the Great Pond Advisory Committee for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Dillon. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to appoint David Manugian; Pamela Gill; Stacey Chilcoat; and Marion Stoddart to the Greenway Committee for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006 Seconded by Mr. Dillon. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to appoint Daniel Barton and Sanford Johnson to the Historic Districts Commission for the three-year term, term to expire June 30, 2008. Seconded by Mr. Dillon. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Dillon moved to appoint M. Theresa Ragot and Peter S. Cunningham to the Housing Partnership for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Dillon moved to appoint April Melvin; Paula Martin; Valerie Jenkins; Jack Balonis; Maria Casey; Jean Kitchen; and Ann Walsh to the Insurance Advisory Committee for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Dillon moved to appoint Robert Mulhern; Thomas Orcutt; John Walsh; William Shute; Kathy Puff; Catherine Lincoln; Leroy Johnson, Jr.; Susan Horowitz; R. Thomas Delaney, Jr.; Norma Garvin; Joseph Bosselait; and Claudia Saball to the Local Emergency Planning Committee for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. . Seconded by Mr. Saball. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Dillon moved to appoint Robert Mulhern; Edward Kopec; Jane Bouvier; and R. Thomas Delaney, Jr. to the Main Street Committee for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. . Seconded by Mr. Saball. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Saball moved to appoint Ellen Hargraves; and Deborah Beal Normandin to the Old Burying Committee for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Saball moved to appoint Kenneth Pero; and Mark Miller as Police Auxiliary for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Saball moved to appoint Deborah Richardson as Police Matron for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Saball moved to appoint Jeffrey Frates Fox; Edward Sheridan; James Cullen III; Derrick Gemos; John Rooney; Eric Watkins; Richard Elie; Jeffrey Gigliotti; Athanasi Darviris; and Keith Weidlich as Police Officer(s) for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Saball moved to appoint Michael Brady; Teresa David; and Bruce Dubey to the Recycling Committee for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Saball moved to appoint Sean K. Lando as Reserve Patrolman for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Saball moved to appoint Mary Ellen Sweeney; Lyn Blouin, Robinson Moore and Barbara Ritz to the Scholarship Committee for the three-year term, term to expire June 30, 2008.*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to appoint Alberta Erickson; Joseph Bassett, Jr.; and John MacLeod, Jr. to the Sign Committee for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to appoint Jodi Deuger and Bruce Clements to the Squannassit-Petapawag ACEC for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to appoint Joachim Preiss; Bruce Easom; Paul Funch; Wendy Good; Edward McNierney and Stephen Legge to the Trails Committee for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to appoint David Hill; Steven Morlock; Steven Webber; and Richard Hughson to the Web Site Committee for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to appoint Robert Watson; Russell Mallard; Bradley Harper; Carole Watson; and Elizabeth Montgomery to the Weed Harvester Committee for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Cunningham moved to appoint Stacey Chilcoat; Bruce Clements; Joshua Degen; Lili Ott; Bradbury Smith, Alfred Wyatt and Victor Burton to the Williams Barn Committee for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Saball moved to appoint Shaun Sullivan; Jay Prager; and Megan Mahony-Wickham to the Zoning Board of Appeals for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Saball moved to appoint Robert Cadle; Stuart Schulman; and Cynthia Maxwell to the Zoning Board of Appeals for the three-year term, term to expire June 30, 2008. Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

*Mr. Dillon moved to appoint Jack E. Balonis as Special Police Officer for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

#### **Community Preservation Act Application – Norris Property**

Ms. Kitchen stated that she would like to apply for CPA funds through the CPC application for the demolition of the Norris property with the Board's approval. *The Board concurred to allow Ms. Kitchen to proceed with the application.*

#### **Minutes**

*Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the Regular Session Minutes of May 16, 2005. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 3 in favor, 2 absent (Nordblom and Keoseian).*

#### **SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORT**

Mr. Cunningham stated that he had attended the 350<sup>th</sup> Gala Ball and it had been a lot of fun.

Mr. Dillon stated he had attended the Extraordinary Service Awards by Nashoba Publishing and John Walsh had won an award for his work with EMS. Mr. Dillon congratulated Mr. Walsh.

*Mr. Cunningham moved to enter into Executive Session at 9:01 p.m. in accordance with MGL Chapter 39, Section 23B for the purpose of considering purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property and will not reconvene in Open Session. Seconded by Mr. Saball. Roll call vote: Dillon – yes; Cunningham – yes; Saball – yes.*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
George F. Dillon, Jr., Chair

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respectfully submitted,  
Kathleen Newell  
Office Assistant

Enclosure: Groton Fire Department SAFER Grant Information

Date Approved: July 25, 2005