

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JULY 25, 2005
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
“APPROVED”**

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

Absent: Mihran Keoseian, Member

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M.

Employee Recognition – 20 Years of Service- Bruce Dubey, Transfer Station

Mr. Bruce Dubey was not present for the meeting. The Board members expressed their appreciation for Mr. Dubey's years of service. Mr. Dillon noted that Mr. Dubey would receive a pin for his 20 years of service to the Town of Groton.

Bill Shute, EMA Director RE: FY05 Local Preparedness Grant

Mr. Bill Shute was present for this portion of the meeting.

Mr. Shute stated that the FY05 Local Preparedness Grant is for \$12,000 and non-competitive and only need be justified by what the money will be used for. Mr. Shute stated that the monies will be used for radios with the intent to install them at the Lost Lake Fire Station as an emergency backup for the Safety Complex.

Recreation Commission RE: CPA Application

Ms. Liza Judge, Mr. Peter DiFranco and Ms. Barbara Ganem were present for this portion of the meeting.

Mr. Dillon noted that the volume of applications was unusual this year because it was the first year of the CPA and the applications needed to be reviewed for the Fall Special Town Meeting. Mr. Dillon stated that there will be at least three more CPA applications on the August 9, 2005 meeting agenda and this gives the Board an opportunity to review the applications and then prioritize if the Board chooses.

Sargisson Beach Docks

Ms. Judge stated that Ms. Ganem had done a lot of work getting estimates for the docks. Ms. Ganem stated that she had looked at various docks and the Commission did not want wood docks and had requested a composite material. Ms. Ganem stated that aluminum appeared to be the material of choice and Highway Surveyor Tom Delaney thought that would be the most maintenance free and they have an extended warranty. Ms. Judge stated that Mr. Delaney wanted the docks to have internal floats.

Ms. Judge reviewed the bids and stated that there was an outstanding bid from Tri-City Marine. Mr. Cunningham asked if they could be contacted prior to submission. Ms. Judge stated that Tri-City Marine had to research the docks as it was not something that they usually carry.

Mr. Dillon asked if there was an understanding that this project would fall within the CPA guidelines. Both Ms. Ganem and Ms. Judge stated it did. Mr. Dillon stated that it was his understanding that swimming lessons were not taught this year because of the condition of the docks. Ms. Ganem confirmed that to be true.

Community Skate Park

Ms. Judge stated that she was approached by Officer Don Delorey in 2000 who had expressed an interest in a community skate park. Ms. Judge stated that she regularly gets phone requests from people interested in a skate park. Ms. Judge stated that the CPA monies could start funding for a skate park and she had spoken with Parks Commissioner Don Black regarding finding a location for a park. Mr. Cunningham stated he would like to get more information about where it would be located.

Ms. Casey stated that no new information had been received in two years and she would need to check with the Insurance Company

Mr. Dillon asked if there were any indication from the CPC that a skate park would fall under the CPA. Mr. DiFranco stated that other towns have used CPA monies for skate parks.

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Squannacook Hall

Mr. DiFranco stated that windows needed to be replaced at Squannacook Hall. Mr. DiFranco stated that if the building were declared a historical structure by the Historical Society the window replacement would fall under preservation not maintenance. Mr. Cunningham asked if a formal request had been made of the Historical Society to review the building. Mr. DiFranco stated that a member of the Historical Society had taken an informal tour of the building when asked to view a piece of artwork stored in the building.

Mr. Dillon asked if the window replacement were scheduled maintenance. Ms. Judge stated that it was in John Estabrook's maintenance plan.

Ms. Collette stated that the building was unique and historical and suggested that the Recreation Commission use an architect with experience in historical structures to ensure preservation of the building's historic features.

Mr. Cunningham asked if the Board could ask the Historical Society to take some action on the building.

Conservation Commission RE: CPA Application

Ms. Barbara Ganem was present for this portion of the meeting.

Ms. Ganem stated the request was for funds to maintain the funds in the Conservation Trust. Ms. Ganem stated land purchases have been made previously from the fund and purchasing the development rights for a property by placing a conservation restriction on properties. Mr. Dillon noted the requested amount was \$200,000. Mr. Cunningham stated that this item had been passed over at the budget process because of financial constraints and the hope of future funding by the CPA. Ms. Ganem asked if the Board would be willing to submit a letter of support for the application.

Earth Removal Exemption – Boston Road and Sandy Pond Road, Map/Parcels 120/3 and 133/55

Ms. Collette stated that the Earth Removal Advisory Committee had voted unanimously to recommend the Board of Selectmen approve the exemption request. Ms. Collette stated that Mr. Lacombe had submitted calculations showing 1800 cubic yards of material for removal but the ERAC had recommended 900 cubic yards as had been requested on the application. Ms. Casey asked if the ERAC had amended the amount. Ms. Collette stated that the ERAC would require another meeting to amend the amount. Mr. Dillon asked when Mr. Lacombe would start operation. Mr. Lacombe stated they would start Thursday or Friday and it would take approximately three days.

Mr. Saball asked if removing just the 900 cubic yards would be sufficient. Mr. Lacombe stated he would remove that amount and if more was necessary he would return to the ERAC.

Mr. Saball moved to approve a Certificate of Exemption to the Earth Removal By-Law, Chapter 134, Section 10, for Robert Lacombe for the removal of up to 900 cubic yards of top soil located at Boston Road and Sandy Pond Road, shown on Assessors Maps/Parcels 120/3 and 133/55, to include the following conditions:

1. *No operating on site before 8:00 AM or after 4:00 PM.*
2. *Material taken off site limited to 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.*
3. *The roadway must be cleaned at the end of the workday.*
4. *No operating on weekends or holidays.*
5. *Applicant shall notify the Earth Removal Inspector prior to commencement of activity.*
6. *Slope of stockpiles not to exceed 2:1*
7. *Appropriate dust control measures to be undertaken.*
8. *Applicant shall provide the Earth Removal Inspector with calculations verifying the amount of material in stockpile prior to the removal of any material from the site.*

Seconded by Mr. Nordblom. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

Request for Proposal for Station Avenue Redevelopment

Ms. Doris Chojnowski, Ms. Michelle Collette and Mr. Richard Curtis were present for this portion of the meeting.

Ms. Chojnowski reviewed the history of how GELD obtained the land on Station Avenue and how the Master Plan called for the relocation of GELD. Ms. Chojnowski submitted an updated version of the RFP and reviewed the changes: GELD had purchased sewer capacity and should be compensated; underground utilities; extended the deadline to September 30, 2005; Environmental section – GELD will conduct a site assessment; also a scale model of the proposed project will be submitted to the Planning Board for Town Meeting review by a registered architect.

Mr. Cunningham stated that an earlier plan had showed a road from Station Avenue to Broadmeadow and asked if Ms. Chojnowski had any thoughts on that. Ms. Chojnowski stated that the RFP calls for consideration of traffic management, but not everyone agrees there should be through traffic.

Review STM Articles

Mr. Dillon stated that a public hearing was scheduled for August 9, 2005 and the Board will take positions on the article on August 22, 2005. Ms. Casey stated that the warrant needed to be posted that week.

Mr. Dillon stated that the primary reason for the STM was for West Groton Water District to have a well in the southern end of the Town Forest and they need certain commitments from the Town to pursue a low interest loan. Mr. Dillon stated the second reason was for Article 4 which would authorize the Board to take by eminent domain the land located next to the GELD substation. Mr. Saball read article 1. Mr. Nordblom read article 2. Mr. Cunningham read article 3. Mr. Cunningham stated that a tentative agreement had been reached and the matter needed to be brought before Town Meeting. Mr. Dillon stated that the article may be pulled and placed on the regularly scheduled STM. Mr. Dillon read article 4. Mr. Saball read article 5.

Ms. Casey stated there had been a question of joint sponsorship on Article 1 by the Town Forest Committee and West Groton Water District. Mr. Cunningham questioned the reason. Ms. Casey stated possibly a preference because the Town Forest Committee was appointed by the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Fitch stated the article should be conditional with an easement on Lawrence Lane and Town Forest Road. Mr. Dillon stated it was his understanding the Town Forest Committee and the West Groton Water District were working on that. Mr. Cunningham asked if there were a memo of understanding. Mr. Fitch stated that everything had been verbal and the Town Forest Committee was meeting with the Superintendent of the Water Department.

Mr. Dillon stated that it was his understanding that the Town Forest Committee was supposed to be working on that and the Conservation Commission was not in agreement with the use of Ames Meadow Road. Mr. Fitch again stated communications had been verbal. Mr. Dillon stated that the agreements needed to be "reduced to writing".

Ms. Collette stated that Chapter 97 of the state constitution for change of use requires a 2/3 vote of Town Meeting and 2/3 of both House and Senate. Ms. Collette asked at what stage MEPA would review.

Mr. Cunningham stated that the language of the Article was to see if the Town would authorize the Board of Selectmen and the Town Forest Committee to enter into an agreement. It is to request permission to enter into an agreement that is settled and satisfactory to all parties.

OTHER BUSINESS

Disband Fire Hydrant Task Force Committee

Ms. Casey stated that the Committee had submitted a report and the Committee members had not been reappointed. Mr. Dillon and Mr. Cunningham expressed appreciation for the work the Committee members had done.

Mr. Saball moved to disband the Fire Hydrant Task Force Committee, as it has completed all its goals, effective July 1, 2005. Seconded by Mr. Nordblom. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

Appointments – Election Workers

Mr. Saball moved to appoint Eleanor Mariano and Michael Woods as Election Workers for the one-year term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Nordblom. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

Miscellaneous Reappointments – Affordable Housing Task Force; Alternate Electrical Inspector; Computer Committee; Conductorlab Oversight Committee; Election Workers; Emergency Management Agency; GIS Steering Committee; Historical Commission; Weed Harvester Committee

Mr. Nordblom moved to appoint Alicia Hersey and Carolyn Perkins to the Affordable Housing Task Force for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

Mr. Nordblom moved to appoint Carlton Paul to the Computer Committee for the one-year term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

Mr. Nordblom moved to appoint Kim Henry to the Conductorlab Oversight Committee for the one-year term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

Mr. Nordblom moved to appoint Marvin Caldwell, Peg Russell, Lorene Holston, Carl Flowers, Jean Secovich as Election Workers for the one-year term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

Mr. Nordblom moved to appoint John Dee III as Alternate Electrical Inspector for the one-year term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

Mr. Nordblom moved to appoint William Shute, Earl Russell, and Daniel Daigneault to the Emergency Management Agency for the one year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

Mr. Nordblom moved to appoint Carlton Paul to the GIS Steering Committee for the two-year term to expire June 30, 2007. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

Mr. Nordblom moved to appoint Shirley Wishart to the Historical Commission for the three-year term to expire June 30, 2008. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

Mr. Nordblom moved to appoint Stephen Painter to the Weed Harvester Committee for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006. Seconded by Mr. Saball. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

Reappointments Special Police Officers – Ayer, Dunstable and Townsend

Mr. Saball moved to appoint the following Special Police Officers from Ayer for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006: Officers Matthew Callahan, Austin Cote, Todd Crumpton, Brian Cunningham, Michael Edwards, Kevin Feeley, Brian Gill, Jesse Goguen, Ryan Griffin, David Hoffman, Andrew Kularski, John MacDonald, Terence McSweeney, Christopher Moore, William Murray, Edward Nelson, Christopher Newbould, Jolene Ramalho, Chief Richard Rizzo, Robert Soultanian, James Wilson and John Windhol. Seconded by Mr. Nordblom. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

Mr. Saball moved to appoint the following Special Police Officers from Dunstable for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006: Officers, George Aggott, James Dow, Chief James Downes, III, James Downes, Jr., Darrell Gilmore, Erik Hoar, Daniel Kowalski, John Koyutis, Michael Lynn, Nicholas Papageorgiou, Sean Ready, Benjamin Sargent and Cory Waite. Seconded by Mr. Nordblom. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

Mr. Saball moved to appoint the following Special Police Officers from Townsend for the one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2006: Officers, Robert L. Breault, Tony Brennan, James D. Capsalis, Austin Cote, Mark Francis, Mark Giancotti, Randy Girard, Andrew Gomes, James W. Johnson, John W. Johnson, Mary Ann Kinirey, James P. Marchand, Chief Erving M. Marshall, Jr., Cheryl Mattson, Daniel Morrison, Thomas Pearson, David A. Profit, Robert J. Rebovich, Kimberly J. Rebovich, George D. Reidy, Thaddeus G. Rochette, Jeffrey Thibodeau, and Christopher Van Voorhis. Seconded by Mr. Nordblom. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

Norris and Bissell Property – Acknowledgement of Baseline Reports

Mr. Saball moved to approve the Baseline Documentation Report dated June 30, 2005 for property located off of Pepperell Road Map/Parcel(s) 202/83 and 213/60, a.k.a. the Norris and Bissell property. Seconded by Mr. Nordblom. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

Minutes

Mr. Saball moved to approve the Work Session Minutes of June 14, 2005. Seconded by Mr. Nordblom. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

The Regular Session Minutes of June 20, 2005 was tabled until a later date due to lack of quorum of present members.

Mr. Saball moved to approve the Regular Session Minutes of June 27, 2005, as amended. Seconded by Mr. Nordblom. 3 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian), 1 abstention (Nordblom).

Mr. Saball moved to approve the Regular Session Minutes of July 6, 2005. Seconded by Mr. Nordblom. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

The Executive Session Minutes of June 20, 2005, Session 1 and Session 2 were tabled until a later date due to lack of quorum of present members.

Mr. Saball moved to approve and/ Not Release the Executive Session Minutes of June 27, 2005. Seconded by Mr. Nordblom.

3 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian), 1 abstention (Nordblom).

Mr. Saball moved to approve and/Not Release the Executive Session Minutes of July 6, 2005. Seconded by Mr. Nordblom. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Dillon stated that 125 employees and volunteers had attended a seminar on harassment.

Mr. Saball moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Nordblom. 4 in favor, 1 absent (Keoseian).

Approved: _____
Robert W. Nordblom, Clerk

respectfully *submitted*,
Kathleen Newell
Office Assistant

Date Approved: August 9, 2005