

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES, APRIL 17, 2007
APPROVED**

Present: George Dillon Jr., Vice Chair; John L. Saball, Clerk, Joshua Degen

Absent: Peter S. Cunningham, Mihran Keoseian

Also present: Jeff Ritter, Interim Administrative Officer

Mr. Dillon called the regular meeting of the Board to order at 7:00p.m.

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Flooding and State of Emergency

Mr. Delaney, Highway Surveyor was present and briefed the Board as to the flooding conditions around town.

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Mr. Saball made a motion to declare a State of Emergency due to extraordinary flooding conditions throughout town, effective on Monday April 16, 2007, and to expire when the flooding subsides. Seconded by Mr. Degen. Voted 3-0

Adopt-a-Road Program

Mr. Dillon, on behalf of the Board, presented Certificates of Appreciation to various community groups as part of the town's Adopt-a-Road Program. It was noted that several years ago Sam Pierce setup the program and it has been very successful.

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Chief of Police Mulhern

Chief of Police Robert Mulhern was present and requested the Board's approval to hire Kathleen Newell as Administrative Assistant to the Chief. Mr. Degen asked if the Personnel Board reviewed the request. Chief Mulhern said the Personnel Board reviewed the request and voted that she be hired at a Grade Seven, Step 3. Mr. Saball made a motion to hire Kathleen Newell to be the Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Police at a Grade Seven, Step 3, effective on March 5, 2007. Seconded by Mr. Degen. Voted 3-0

Chief Mulhern stated that Officer Gigliotti recently performed above and beyond the call of duty in that he successfully resolved a potentially dangerous domestic dispute and would like the Board to formally recognize his performance. Mr. Dillon on behalf of the Board presented Chief Mulhern with a Proclamation that would be presented to Officer Gigliotti at a later date.

Chief Mulhern read a letter addressed to the Board explaining that he intends to resign during the month of September. Each member of the Board present stated how much they enjoyed working with the Chief and that he was professional leader in the law enforcement field and that his services to the Town will be missed.

Jennifer Arnold RE: One Day Liquor License

Mr. Saball made a motion to approve a One-Day Liquor License for All Alcohol for Jennifer Arnold on Saturday, June 23, 2007 from 2:00p.m. to 5:00p.m. at Williams Barn, Chicopee Row, Groton, MA. Seconded by Mr. Degen. Voted 3-0

Bridge Street

G. Dillon asked if there were any further comments on this matter. Mr. Ritter stated that he had received an E-Mail and had a telephone conversation with Attorney Orsi confirming that the two parties had received an Agreement and he had requested a copy of the Agreement for the Town's records. Rodney Hersh, 8 Bridge Street, confirmed that there was a site walk last Saturday and the Agreement had been signed between the parties.

J. Saball made a motion to close the Public Hearing continued from the previous week. Seconded by Mr. Degen. Voted 3-0

J. Saball made a motion not to take any action at this time. Seconded by Mr. Degen. Voted 3-0

Lost Lake Dam

This matter will be discussed next week.

Fire Chief Bosselait

Chief Bosselait provided an update to the Board regarding various grant activities the Department has undertaken. The Town

recently received a \$150,000 Homeland Security training grant; and a \$7,300 SAFE Grant; and a \$5,300 firefighter equipment grant.

The Chief reviewed with the Board Certificate's of Registration for Fuel Storage Renewal. Mr. Saball made a motion to approve the renewal the following Certificate's of Registration for Fuel Storage:

- The Groton School – Farmers Row
- Highway Department – 500 Cow Pond Brook Road
- Hollingsworth & Vose – 219 Townsend Road
- Groton-Dunstable Regional School District – 342 Main Street
- Mr. Mike's Peterborough Oil Company – 6 Boston Road
- May & Hally, Inc. – 40 Court Street
- A.L. Prime Energy, Inc. – 619 Boston Road
- PGI Realty LLC – 318 Main Street

Seconded by Mr. Degen. Voted 3-0

The Board decided to hold until next week New England Business Service, Inc. – 500 Main Street.

Jenkins Road Development Agreement

Mr. Degen made a motion to approve a Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Groton and Robert M. Hicks Development, Inc. that would allow for the sewer line to be extended and an affordable housing project to be built. Seconded by, Mr. Saball. Voted 3-0.

(Memorandum of Understanding is attached to these Minutes)

Annual Town Meeting

Mr. Dillon reviewed the status of various Town Meeting related issues and the status of certain Articles on the Warrant.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Appointment

Mr. Saball made a motion to appoint William A. Gavazzi to the GIS Committee for the vacant one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2007. Seconded, by Mr. Degen. Voted 3-0

Insurance Advisory Committee Appointment

Mr. Saball made a motion to appoint Tamason L. Lemire to the Insurance Advisory Committee for the vacant one-year term, term to expire June 30, 2007. Seconded, by Mr. Degen. Voted 3-0

Transfer Funds from the Recreation Gift Account to the Pavilion Gift Account

Mr. Saball made a motion that the remaining balance of the Recreation Gift Account be transferred to the Pavilion gift account and that signatory authority over those funds become the responsibility of the Park Commission. Seconded, by Mr. Degen. Vote 3-0

Excess Overlay

Mr. Saball made a motion to request that the Board of Assessors release of the excess from the Overlay Surplus Account for FY03, FY04, FY05 and FY06. Second by Mr. Degen. Voted 3-0

Nashoba Valley Technical High School Budget

Mr. Saball made a motion to increase Line Item 3000, Nashoba Valley Technical High School from \$352,314 to \$357,512. Seconded, by Mr. Degen. Voted 3-0

Report of the Interim Administrative Officer

Mr. Ritter said there would be a department heads meeting on Wednesday and that he planned to meet with the Boy Scouts regarding the status and history of Squannacook Hall. Also, he and other interested parties are working together to achieve an agreement on a proposed Memorandum of Understanding regarding the possible transfer of ownership of the Lost Lake Dam. Work continues in preparing for the Annual and Special Town Meetings and that the draft motions will be sent to Town Counsel for review and approval. His monthly report will be completed by tomorrow morning and will be posted to the front page of the Town's Web site.

Selectmen Liaison Reports

Mr. Degen said he surveyed the damage as a result of the recent heavy rains and there was significant damage throughout

town. There would be a Public Hearing with the Planning Board regarding the proposed Station Avenue Overlay District on Thursday evening at 8:00p.m.

Mr. Dillon said he attended a meeting of the Lost Lake Dam project and was hopeful that project was moving in the right direction. He attended an accreditation meeting for the Council on Aging at the Senior Center last Friday and there would a meeting at Lawrence Academy on Wednesday, April 18th regarding “sustainable building.”

Minutes

Mr. Saball made a motion to approve and release the minutes from April 9, 2007. Seconded, by Mr. Degen. Voted 3-0

Adjournment

Mr. Degen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:03p.m. Seconded, by Mr. Saball. Voted 3-0

Approved: _____
John L. Saball, Clerk

_____ respectfully submitted,
J. Jeffrey Ritter
Interim Administrative Officer

Date Approved: April 30, 2007