

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES NOVEMBER 5, 2007  
APPROVED**

**Present:** George Dillon, Jr., Chairman; Joshua A. Degen, Vice Chairman; Stuart Schulman, Clerk; Peter Cunningham; Mihran Keoseian

**Also Present:** Jeff Ritter, Interim Administrative Officer; April Iannacone, Office Assistant

*Mr. Dillon called the regular meeting of the Board to Order at 7:05 p.m. and reviewed the agenda for the public.*

**Chief of Police Donald Palma, RE: Commendation of Officers Warren Gibson and Corey Waite**

Chief Palma informed the Selectmen that he was there to recognize 2 outstanding acts that were done by Dispatcher Warren Gibson and Officer Cory Waite. He stated that these incidences happened during Chief Mulhern's term and though he could not be here he sends best wishes to both. These officers went above and beyond the duties required. The actions taken by Dispatcher Gibson helped a woman survive a drug overdose. The actions taken by Officer Waite saved a woman's life and prevented paralysis. Mr. Dillon agreed that this was really an example of going above and beyond the call of duty and both did an exceptional job. The Selectmen presented certificates to the Officers and gave thanks to both of them.

**Bentley Herget, RE: Appointment of the Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer**

Mr. Dillon informed the public that the Board of Selectmen (BOS) had interviewed Bentley a few weeks ago and an agreement has been made. The vote of the Selectmen is to do due diligence to make the position official. The Selectmen gave thanks and welcomed Bentley

*.Mr. Degen moved to appoint Bentley Herget as Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer. Mr. Schulman seconded. Unanimous vote.*

**Wayne Addy, RE: Interview for Appointment to the Conservation Commission**

Mr. Dillon read a letter from the Conservation Commission recommending Mr. Addy. He then noted Mr. Addy's extensive background in conservation area. The Selectmen all gave thanks to Mr. Addy for his interest in serving on the Conservation Commission.

*Mr. Degen moved to appoint Wayne Addy to the Conservation Committee for the unexpired 3 year term vacated due to the resignation of Bruce Clements, term to expire June 30, 2010. Mr. Schulman seconded. Unanimous vote.*

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Affordable Housing Consultant, RE: Draft Request for Proposals**

Mr. Ritter stated that the \$25,000 CPC Application had been approved at the Special Town Meeting. He had pulled together the first draft proposal to solicit consultants. The BOS had some discussion on different edits and clarifications that they wanted Jeff to make. They then consented that if there were a large number of responses then the consultants would be prescreened and cut back to 3 before the Selectmen conducted there interview.

**Building Code Enforcement Official Certification**

Mr. Dillon stated that this was the process to certify the new Building Inspector. Mr. Ritter stated that this form had been received from the Town Clerk's Office and should be filled out tomorrow, signed, notarized and sent in as soon as possible.

**Letter to the Secretary of Environmental Affairs, RE: Area of Critical Environmental Concern**

Mr. Dillon stated that this was a letter written to the secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and & Environmental Affairs regarding the proposed amendments for Squannassit and Petapawag Areas of Environmental Concern. The letter deals with the Great Ponds and they are requesting a 2 year extension to the December 11<sup>th</sup> deadline to give the Town more time to work with the management plans for the Great Ponds. He then announced that there would be a public hearing held this Thursday from 7-9 at the middle school south auditorium. The Board consented that the letter was ok and should be sent.

Mr. Dillon then mentioned that Bill Shute would receive the Robert W. Lewis Award from the Nashoba Valley Chamber of Commerce this Wednesday evening and he looked forward to seeing him receive this award. He thanked Bill for his efforts and congratulated him.

**Orchard Lane, (One-Way) Discussion**

Mr. Degen stepped down from the Board for this discussion. Mr. Dillon stated that a site walk had been done by the BOS, the Chief of Police and the Fire Chief. The Groton Land Foundation had submitted a request to make a portion of the street a one way street. He stated that the 3 units being built on Brooks Orchard would not add a significant amount of traffic. Mr. Keoseian stated that the original plan had been for 12 units and has now been reduced. After hearing some concerns from abutters the Selectmen consented to work with Tom Delaney to improve signage and cut back tree growth to improve visibility. They also consented that they would leave things the way they were and then once the construction happened they would revisit the issue if necessary.

**Special Town Meeting (STM) Follow-up**

Mr. Ritter stated that he thought that this would be a good opportunity for the BOS to review all actions taken at the STM. Today he received back the letters that were going out to Representative Hargraves and Senator Pangiotakos with the Charter attached. The question has been worded to appear on the ballot for their action in filing with the legislation. Mr. Cunningham noted that on article 22 for the Squannacook River Rail Trail they were looking to get a group of people involved as an advisory committee which is a normal practice for processes like this. Jeff has started working on a charge and any residents that are interested in serving on this can contact the Selectmen’s Office. Mr. Degen noted that article 23 needed to be put back onto a future agenda to put an order to it and create a timeline. He asked Jeff if that would be happening soon and Jeff responded that it would.

**REPORT OF THE INTERIM ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Mr. Ritter informed the Board that he is preparing a draft of Request for Proposal’s for Town Counsel. He will have a more complete form ready for further discussion next week. He is looking to make sure that the Town is getting the best services for the money it is spending. Nashoba Valley Technical High School will be holding its open house on Wednesday from 6 – 9 p.m. He requested that the Board consider an Executive Session at 6:00 next Tuesday before their regular meeting to discuss collective bargaining and agreements. He then thanked the Information Technology Committee for their hard work in making the change to the computer infrastructure as seamless as possible.

**SELECTMAN LIAISON REPORTS**

Mr. Degen stated that he and Jeff had attended a seminar on affordable housing that was successful and informative. There are a lot of changes to be made to Chapter 40B and the only way to get the legislators to review it and make any changes is to sign the petition. If anyone is interested in signing the petition it will be available at the Groton Exchange.

**MINUTES**

*Mr. Degen moved to approve the regular session minutes of September 10, 2007 as amended. Mr. Schulman seconded. Voted 4 in favor (J.D., S.S., M.K., P.C.) and 1 abstained (F.D.).*

*Mr. Degen moved to approve the regular session minutes of October 9, 2007. Mr. Schulman seconded. Voted 4 in favor (G.D., J.D., M.K., P.C.) and 1 abstained (S.S.).*

*Mr. Schulman moved to approve the regular session minutes of October 29, 2007. Mr. Cunningham seconded. Voted 3 in favor (G.D., S.S., M.K.) and 2 abstained (J.D., M.K.).*

*Mr. Schulman moved to approve and not release the executive session minutes of October 29, 2007. Mr. Cunningham seconded. Voted 3 in favor (G.D., S.S., P.C.) and 2 abstained (J.D., M.K.).*

**ADJOURN**

*Mr. Degen moved to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. Mr. Schulman seconded. Unanimous vote.*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Stuart Schulman, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ *respectfully submitted,*  
April Iannacone  
Office Assistant

Date Approved: *December 10, 2007*