

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES JULY 7, 2008
APPROVED**

Present: Joshua A. Degen, Chairman; Anna Eliot, Clerk; Peter Cunningham; George Dillon, Jr.

Absent: Stuart Schulman, Vice Chairman

Also Present: Jeff Ritter, Interim Administrative Officer; Patrice Garvin, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Degen called the regular meeting of the Board to Order at 6:45 p.m. and reviewed the agenda for the public.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board tabled the approval of the regular session minutes for February 11, 2008 and April 7, 2008.

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the regular session of May 12, 2008 as amended. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0).

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the regular session of June 23, 2008 as amended. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0).

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve but not release the Executive Session minutes of June 23, 2008.

ONE-DAY LIQUOR LICENSE

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve a one-day all-alcohol license to Marc Chudnow of Newton Hospitality d/b/a Event Temps Catering & Culinary Personnel for the Wedding Reception of Joseph Sheppard to be held on August 23, 2008 at Lawrence Academy, Powderhouse Rd., Groton from 2:30p.m. to 10:00pm. Contingent on the receipt of a new Certificate of Insurance listing the Town of Groton Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0).

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve a one-day beer & wine license to Marc Chudnow of Newton Hospitality d/b/a Event Temps Catering & Culinary Personnel for the Wedding Reception of Holly Dutton; to be held on August 23, 2008 at the Groton School, 282 Farmers Row, Groton from 4:00pm to 9:30pm. Contingent on the receipt of a new Certificate of Insurance listing the Town of Groton Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0).

REQUEST FOR AN ADDITIONAL MECHANIC POSITION

Mr. Delaney explained the need for a full-time mechanic and how it would enhance the operations of the garage. Mr. Delaney also proposed that all Town vehicles would soon be able to bring basic maintenance on their vehicle to the DPW garage, such as oil changes. Mr. Delaney noted that all other departments were in favor of this proposal and could save the Town money.

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the replacement of the equipment operator position with an additional Mechanic position. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0).

LANDFILL MONITORING CONTRACT (BOARD OF HEALTH)

Mr. Hanninen, member of the Board of Health stated that the Board of Health unanimously voted to give the contract to Terracon for \$22,975.00.

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the signing of the Landfill Monitoring Contract as presented by the Board of health. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0).

TOWN MANAGER SCREENING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Mr. Flynn, chairman of the committee requested that the Board increase its advertising budget. Mr. Flynn commented that the committee plans on advertising the Town Manager position on the MMA web page, the ICMA

publication, Career Building web page and the Boston Globe. Mr. Flynn noted that the submission deadline is Tuesday, August 5th and that seven resumes have been received.

Mr. Dillon moved to authorize an additional \$1,200 in expense to advertise the Town Manager position for a total authorized amount to date to be \$3200 of the \$5000 allocated for this purpose and pursuant to the recommendation of the Town Manager Screening Committee. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0).

SELF-HELP GRANT APPLICATION (CONSERVATION COMMISSION)

Mr. Easom of the Conservation Commission stated that there was a deadline for the application for the self-help grant. Mr. Easom was requesting two actions from the Board: 1. Approve applying to the grant 2. Appointing an official representative from Groton. Mr. Easom requested that a letter of support be included in the application from the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Cunningham moved to authorize the Town to apply for the "land grant", formally known as the Self-Help Grant under the Conservation Land Acquisition Programs under the Division of Conservation Services. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0).

Mr. Cunningham moved to designate Bruce Easom to act as the official representative of Groton in connection with the FY09 land grant application. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0).

BASE DOCUMENT REPORT ACADEMY HILL (CONSERVATION COMMISSION)

Mr. Giguere explained the project and asked the Board to approve the report. Mr. Degen stated that there was no action needed by the Board and recognized the final report.

SARGISSON BEACH CONTRACT (CONSERVATION COMMISSION)

Mr. Giguere stated that through the donations the beach will be able to stay open this year. Mr. Degen noted that the Certificate of Insurance has not been received and the motion to approval the contract would be contingent on receipt.

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the Sargisson Beach Contract subject to receipt of a Certificate of Insurance. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0).

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Cunningham moved to appoint John Giger to the By-law Review and Study Committee, for a one-year term to expire June 30, 2009. Ms. Elliot seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0).

The Board tabled the appointment of William Gavazzi to the Greenway Committee until the Board hears from the Chairman of the Greenway Committee.

Mr. Cunningham moved to reappoint Susan Slade to the Board of Registrars for a three-year term to expire June 30, 2011. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0).

ELECTION & TOWN MEETING SCHEDULE

Mr. Dillon explained the need to have a Special Election for Debt Exclusion. Mr. Dillon stated that if the question did not pass on the ballot then a Town meeting vote would be needed as to where to get the money. Mr. Dillon stated that there was some confusion about the Debt Exclusion question at the last Town election, Mr. Degen added that if the question does not pass then the money would be taken from already allocated budgets. Mr. Dillon suggested the Board start looking at places to cut if the question does not pass.

Mr. Cunningham moved to hold a Special Election on October 7, 2008 and a Special Town Meeting on October 20, 2008. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0).

Mr. Cunningham moved to open the Special Town Meeting Warrant on September 2, 2008 and close the warrant on September 11, 2008. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0)

LETTER TO PHILIP DENORMANDIE

Mr. Degen asked for comments from the Board on the current letter. Mr. Degen added that the Town would ask Mr. DeNormandie for compensation. Mr. Cunningham suggested listing in the letter that it has been the past practice of the Town to seek compensation. Ms. Eliot had concerns with the amounts given by the Department Heads and felt that the Town should meet with Mr. DeNormandie. Mr. Dillon suggested additional language that urges Mr. DeNormandie to meet with the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve and send the claim letter to Philip DeNormandie, as redrafted with additional language. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0).

WATER RESOURCES PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Mr. Ritter explained the grant process. Mr. Degen read the committees charge.

Mr. Cunningham moved to establish a seven (7) member Water Resource Protection Committee. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0).

ZBA APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Cunningham moved to reappoint the following to the ZBA for a one-year term as alternates to expire June 30, 2009: Harris McWade Gerber; Chase Duffy; and Megan Mahony-Wickman. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Motion carried (3-0-1).

Mr. Cunningham moved to reappoint Cynthia Maxwell to the ZBA for a three-year term to expire June 30, 2011. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Motion carried (3-0-1).

ADJOURN

Mr. Cunningham moved to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing land acquisition. Ms. Eliot seconded. Roll Call- Dillon-yes; Cunningham-yes; Eliot-yes; Degen-yes.

Approved: _____
Anna Eliot, Clerk

_____ respectfully submitted,
Patrice Garvin
Administrative Assistant

Date Approved: 8-4-08