

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES JANUARY 26, 2009
APPROVED**

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

Absent: Stuart Schulman, Vice Chairman

Also Present: Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager; Patrice Garvin, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Degen called meeting of the Board to Order at 7:00 p.m. and reviewed the announcements and agenda.

TOWN MANAGER REPORTS

1. Mr. Haddad reported that negotiations with the Town Accountant had concluded. Mr. Haddad stated that there were three changes in the contract; reporting structure; increased vacation; three year contract at 2 2 2. Mr. Cunningham asked if other Towns were surveyed. Mr. Haddad stated that the Town Accountant comparatively was under the average of other towns.

Ms. Eliot moved to ratify the contract between the Town of Groton and the Town Accountant, effective July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2012. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. Mr. Haddad stated that he Mr. Delaney and Ms. Garvin would be attending the mandatory meeting for MEMA to be reimbursed for the December 2008 Ice Storm.
3. Mr. Haddad reported that a meeting has been set to discuss the Jenkins Road property for January 29th at 2pm. Mr. Haddad commented on the Sewer Commissions correspondence regarding the site but no response will be made until after the meeting.
4. Mr. Haddad requested that a letter be sent to the Monachusett Enterprise Center under the HUD's American Dream Down Payment Initiative supporting their continued program.

CLASS II LICENSE

Ms. Eliot moved to approve a Class II License for Philip Smith, d.b.a. Town Line Auto at 11 Town Line Road conditional on Zoning Board of Appeals, Case #13-08, conditions as filed with the Town Clerk on January 14, 2009. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ONE-DAY LIQUOR LICENSE

Ms. Eliot moved to approve a one day Wine & Malt license to Karen Johnson of the First Parish Church for a fundraising dinner; to be held on February 28, 2009 at The church hall 1 Powderhouse Rd., Groton; 5:00pm to 9:00pm. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COMMON VICTUALLER LICENSE, MAIN STREET CAFÉ

Ms. Eliot moved to approve a Common Victualler License to Otto Wright Ventures, LLC d/b/a for Main Street Cafe, license to expire December 31, 2009; contingent on final approval from the Board of Health and a Certificate of Insurance that is dated December 31, 2009. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion.

APPOINTMENT TO THE CPC

Mr. Strauss explained to the Board why he wanted to be on the Community Preservation Committee. Mr. Degen read the letter of support from the CPC. Mr. Cunningham commented that this appointment would be from the Parks Department.

Ms. Eliot moved to approve Jonathan Strauss to the Community Preservation Committee to fill an unexpired term to expire June 30, 2009. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT TO HE WILLIAMS BARN COMMITTEE

Ms. Eliot moved to approve the appointment of Kathy E. Stone to the Williams Barn Committee; term to expire June 30, 2009. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ATTORNEY RAY LYONS, NEFF

Mr. Dillon recused himself from the discussion because he is an abutter to property off of Kemp Street that NEFF would be purchasing with some of the sale proceeds. Whitney Beals of NEFF and Ray Lyons stated that they have had discussions with the Water department with their proposal to use CPC monies to purchase land from the NEFF that could install a well. Mr. Beals commented on a house on the property and that the purchase would be beneficial for the Town. Mr. Beals stated that state funding could be sought. Mr. Lyons commented that there were 45 acres and 16 acres in zone 1 with a total value of 725,000 and a request would be made from the CPC for \$350,000. Mr. Lyons stated that the Water Department was asked to be a co-applicant on the CPC application but the Water Department was looking at alternative sites for a well.

Mr. Cunningham asked if there was enough money in the CPC account for this proposal. Mr. Haddad replied that he needed to get the exact figure from the CPC. Mr. Beals noted that no borrowing would be necessary for this proposal. Mr. Cunningham was concerned with rights of access onto the property. Mr. Degen stated that an easement would be needed. Mr. Beals stated that the septic system was approved by the Board of Health. Mr. Lyons noted that some surveying would need to be done on the site. Mr. Degen pointed to the large amount of wetlands on the property.

Mr. Orcutt stated that in terms of priority for a well this site was number 4. Mr. Orcutt commented that he still needed to meet with the Water Commissioners to discuss this proposal. Mr. Degen stated that he would like to hear the Water Commissioners comments before making a decision. Ms. Collette asked if there would be a Conservation Commission Restriction on the property, which could help in the sale of the property. The Board decided to wait to hear from the Water Commissioners and would put it on a future Agenda.

LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Dillon stated that he and his fellow Board members and the Town manager attended the Annual MMA Meeting. The Governor stated that there would be cuts to the FY09 Budget. The GIC was also discussed and possible changes to the union buy in percentage, which is currently 70%. The other Board members commented on some workshops they attended at the conference. Ms. Eliot commented on the continued efforts by the Economic Development committee and their meeting with a representative from Congresswoman Tsongas's office.

MINUTES

Ms. Eliot moved to approve the minutes of December 15, 2008. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion carried (3-0-1)

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the minutes of December 22, 2008. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the joint session minutes of January 6, 2009. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the minutes of January 12, 2009, as amended. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Motion carried (1 abstention)

ADJOURN

Ms. Eliot moved to adjourn the Board of Selectmen's meeting at 8:20p.m. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned

Approved: _____
Anna Eliot, Clerk

_____ respectfully submitted,
Patrice Garvin
Administrative Assistant

Date Approved: 3-9-09