

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES AUGUST 9, 2010
APPROVED**

Present: Stuart M. Schulman, Chairman; Anna Eliot, Vice Chairman; George Dillon, Jr., Clerk; Peter Cunningham;

Absent: Joshua A. Degen

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

Mr. Schulman called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and reviewed the agenda for the public.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Mr. Haddad requested that the Board ratify his appointments of the Station Ave. Overlay District RFP Review Committee.

Mr. Cunningham moved to ratify the Town Manager appointments of the following to expire June 30, 2011: Michelle Collette, Town Planner; Dan Barton Design Review Committee Representative; Anna Eliot, Selectman Representative; George Barringer, Planning Board Representative; Mark Haddad, Town Manager; Kevin Kelly, GELD. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion carried, 3-0-1 Ms. Eliot abstaining.

2. Mr. Haddad [Document #1-Volunteer Interest Form for Colleen Neff] requested that the Board appoint Colleen Neff to the Affordable Housing Trust for a three year term. Mr. Haddad noted Ms. Neff was in attendance and asked the Board to refer to Ms. Neff with questions. Mr. Schulman asked why Ms. Neff was interested in serving on the trust. Ms. Neff stated that she was new to the community and wanted to be involved. Mr. Cunningham asked if Ms. Neff received all the necessary documents regarding the trust. Ms. Neff replied that she had read all the required documents and asked a question regarding the funding of the trust. Mr. Dillon stated the hope is that money is gathered from a multitude of sources.

Mr. Cunningham moved to appoint Colleen Neff to the Affordable Housing Trust, term to expire June 30, 2013. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

3. Mr. Haddad [Document #2-Bld Commissioner Report dated 8-3-10] referred to item number 5 on the Building Commissioners report submitted by the Executive Assistant that the Board of Selectmen requested at their last meeting. *I have not found any communities in this region to have contracted out services for a building commissioner. I have not found any communities in this region that are part of a consortium such as the ones found in western Massachusetts.* Mr. Haddad stated that he would continue to move ahead with sharing the Building Commissioner position with Boxborough and a final candidate will be presented to the Board at the 9-7-10 meeting. Mr. Cunningham requested that the Finance Committee be given a copy of the report.

4. Mr. Haddad distributed [Document #3-Ltr from MA Lottery RE Keno-To Go] this letter indicated that AL Prime on Boston Road has requested a Keno-To-Go permit and the Board of Selectmen had 21 days from the receipt of the letter to object. The Board requested that other towns be contacted to find out what they have done regarding Keno-To-Go. Mr. Haddad stated that he would bring this issue back to the August 23rd meeting.

5. Mr. Haddad distributed [Document #4-Email from D. Doneski dated 8-9-10 RE Jenkins Rd. Quote] listing 23k to continue with litigation. Mr. Haddad stated that he has not spoken to counsel about the quote. The Board requested that a conversation between the Town Manager and Town Counsel take place regarding the email before further action is taken.

6. Mr. Haddad distributed [Document #5-Email from D. Doneski dated 8-9-10 RE MatBob Invoice] and was looking for direction from the Board on how to pay Richard Heaton's invoice. Mr. Dillon stated that the final invoice was well beyond the original estimate for testimony in the case. Mr. Cunningham suggested sitting down with Mr. Heaton to discuss the invoice, but noted that counsel should have given the town notice once the testimony went beyond the estimate.
7. Mr. Haddad distributed [Document #6-Ltr from B. Lynch Lowell Manager RE Home Rule Petition GIC] which would give municipalities greater latitude to join the state's GIC health program. Lowell is suggesting that municipalities adopt a home rule petition requesting joining the GIC not be subject to collective bargaining as defined in chapter 150e of the general laws. Mr. Haddad stated that the Board can review the issue and can take it up at the August 23rd meeting. Ms. Eliot suggested seeking the Human Resource Director for more guidance on the issue. Mr. Cunningham suggested the town obtaining input from the Insurance Advisory Committee.
8. Mr. Haddad distributed [Document #7-Ltr from Police Chief RE Lt. invitation to FBI Academy] and wished him luck.
9. Mr. Haddad distributed [Document #8-Ltr to BOS RE Vacation Request and Temp Acting Town Manager 8-9-10].

JOINT MEETING WITH THE BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES-To Fill Vacancy on Board of Library Trustees, MGL 41 Sec 11

Ms. Jane Allen, Chairman of the board of Library Trustees called her Board to order at 7:30p.m. Ms. Allen briefly discussed the recent vacancy on the trustees and the interview process. Ms. Allen stated that there were eight qualified candidates and the Board narrowed down the candidates to Patricia Hewitt and John Kelly. Ms. Allen asked if the Board of Selectmen had any questions for the final two candidates.

Mr. Schulman thanked all the candidates for their interest to serve the town. Mr. Cunningham asked if the two candidates understood the workings of the library. Mr. Kelly stated that there were three networks in town; Highway, GELD and the GPL. Mr. Kelly saw the GPL as an essential to the Town and that private funding needed to be looked at. Ms. Hewitt stated that the efficiency needed to be looked at as well as private opportunities communicating the value of the GPL. Ms. Hewitt also suggested working with other towns.

Mr. Dillon asked what experience lead the candidates to the GPL and if they had attended any trustee meetings. Mr. Kelly stated that he had not been to any Trustee meetings but he and his wife know and understand the library. Mr. Kelly noted his technology background and analytical skills. Ms. Hewitt stated that she was new to the area but the first thing she did was get a library card. Ms. Hewitt noted that she was a small business adviser and understands growth initiatives. Ms. Hewitt noted she had not attended any trustee meetings.

Ms. Eliot noted that she had sat in on all the meetings and had no questions. Mr. Schulman asked the candidates what they thought the role of a trustee was. Mr. Kelly stated that the role of the trustees were to plan, create policy, manage the grounds and the financials. Ms. Hewitt stated that there were two aspects of the trustee and that was to run the library and strategic planning.

A paper ballot vote was distributed. The vote was calculated by Mr. Haddad. The vote was unanimous for Mr. John Kelly, to serve out the remaining term of the library trustees.

LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Cunningham stated that the Squannacook Rail Trail committee had a meeting in Boston with DCR to move the rails trail project along. Mr. Cunningham stated that he would report back to the Board once more information is obtained on possible designs of an extension to the trail.

OTHER BUSINESS

George Wheatley of West Groton distributed [Document #9-Squannacook Hall Packet] and explained that he wanted to discuss possible usage for Squannacook Hall. Mr. Wheatley proposed a user fee for the use of the hall and the need for the scouts, who currently store items there, to have their camper stored there. Mr. Wheatley referred in the packet some recommendations made by Kang Associates Inc. that proposed a feasibility study to the Town in 2008 on Squannacook Hall. Mr. Wheatley outlines site work, construction costs and a debt service schedule. Mr. Wheatley requested a Town Warrant Article securing a bond to renovate Squannacook Hall. Mr. Haddad noted the septic issues on the site. Mr. Cunningham stated that it was not clear what the town proposed to use the building for. Mr. Haddad suggested going to the Board of Health to get an update on the septic system. The Board thanked Mr. Wheatley for his presentation.

MINUTES

Mr. Cunningham moved to approve the regularly scheduled meeting minutes of July 26, 2010. Mr. Dillon seconded the motion. Motion carried with one abstention.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Approved: _____
George F. Dillon, Jr., Clerk

respectfully submitted,
Patrice Garvin
Executive Assistant to the Town Manager

Date Approved: 8-23-10