

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Town Hall Conference Room
Minutes of February 29, 2012

Chairman Laura Powers called the meeting to order at 3:45PM. Board members present, in addition to Chairman Powers, were Martha Morrison, Dick Gandt, Eldon Goodhue and Ken Vogel. Of the Selectmen's staff, Town Administrator Virginia Wilder and Board Secretary Donna Rich were in attendance. Other persons present during all or part of the meeting were Fire Chief Ron Giovannacci, Police Chief Evan Haglund, Elementary School Chairman Jeanine Cunniff, Tri-Town Union Superintendent Bernard Creeden and resident Kim Sherwood.

2012 Town Warrant Continued:

Reband Public Safety Communication System: The Fire Chief and Police Chief were present to provide insight and answer questions on this Article. The Fire Chief explained that the requested amount of \$23,000 is an estimate. It was suggested that some research be done to find out the expected cost of rebanding the radios the Town owns, and/or the cost of new radios. The Fire Chief agreed to obtain a more accurate figure. It should be noted that the rebanding will be mandatory as of January 1, 2013.

Alcohol Issue: Selectman Gandt provided a suggestion that the Board move forward with a petition to allow Alfalfa Farm to sell wine at retail only under the label of Alfalfa Farm. Selectman Morrison reminded the Board that the issue began by the proposed need for Alfalfa Farm being permitted to sell wine at the Farmers Market in Topsfield, at the corner of Central Street and Boston Street. There was a discussion on the parameters that the Board would want to stipulate on this issue.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to place Alfalfa Farm Winery License on the 2012 Town Warrant and authorize Selectman Gandt and Ms. Wilder to work with legal counsel on the language, seconded by Selectman Gandt; so voted: 5-0. Selectman Gandt volunteered to speak with Mr. Adelman and express the consensus of the Board as it relates to this issue.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to remove the Article entitled Town Record Restoration and Preservation, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; there was a brief discussion stating that more information would be needed before moving the article forward; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to remove the Article entitled Water Treatment Plant Design; seconded by Selectman Goodhue; Ms. Wilder explained that it would be premature to put the article before the Town at this time; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Gandt made a motion to remove the Article entitled Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical School Assessment, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; Ms. Wilder stated that an email had been received to warrant this removal; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Morrison relayed that the Zoning Articles: Storm Water & Erosion Control Bylaw, Amend Updated Zoning Map and Adopt Revised FEMA Map are not yet finalized and she would work with Selectman Gandt on the titles of these articles.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to accept, as proposed, the following Articles (1-6 on the list dated: 2/28) Reports, Reserve Fund, General Operating Budget, Water Department Operating Budget, Masconomet Regional School District Assessment and North Shore Vocational School District Assessment, (8-13 on the list dated: 2/28) Lease of Emerson Field, Grant Authorization

for Town Projects, Massachusetts Department of Transportation Contract, Park Revolving Fund, Cemetery Revolving Fund, Conservation Commission Revolving Fund, (15-20 on the list dated: 2/28) Annual Engineering & Landfill Monitoring, Fiscal 2013 Additional Real Estate Exemption, Fund Triennial RE-Certification, Fund Town Employee Employment Separation, Tri-Town Council on Youth and Family Services, and Water Main Project, seconded by Selectman Gandt; so voted 5-0.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to accept, as proposed, the following Articles (33-43, without 34 & 38 on the list dated: 2/28) Amend Dog Registration Fees, Amend Strom Water & Erosion Control Bylaw, Amend Updated Zoning Map, Adopt Revised FEMA Map, Fund Post Employment Benefit-General, Fund Post Employment Benefit-Water, Reserve For Wages, Stabilization Fund and Free Cash, seconded by Selectman Vogel; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Morrison asked Ms. Wilder what action would the Finance Team have taken if the Reband Public Safety Communication System had been submitted as a Capital Improvement Program item, Ms. Wilder replied that most likely the Highway Pick –Up Truck would not have been chosen.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to eliminate the Article entitled Purchase of Highway Pick-Up Truck and to accept the Article entitled Reband Public Safety Communication System, seconded by Selectman Vogel; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to place the Article entitled Purchase Library Storm Ejector Pump onto the Special Town Meeting Warrant and to combine the Articles entitled Library Exterior Painting and Library Exterior Repair into one article and to be renamed Library Exterior Maintenance, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to accept the Article entitled Town Building Assessment, seconded by Selectman Vogel; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to accept the Articles under the Capital Improvement Program (22, 24-27 on list dated: 2/28) Lease of Highway Dump/Sander/Wing/Plow Truck, Purchase of 4X4 Police Vehicle, Purchase of Police Cruiser, Purchase of Voting Booths and Purchase of Fire Department Rapid Response Vehicle, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 5-0.

It is noted that a Citizens Petition entitled Underride had been received and placed on the Warrant as stated in Massachusetts General Law.

Chairman Powers asked for an update on the Article entitled Upgrade Elementary School Technology Infrastructure. Elementary School Chairman Jeanine Cunniff was present to address the Board. Ms. Cunniff stated the School Committee would be seeking a sense of the Board on a direction they might go with the article which she would let the School Committee know at their meeting on Monday, March 5th. Chairman Powers stated the article would most likely require funding by an override ballot question. There was a brief discussion on the issue.

Procedure for Remote Participation: Ms. Wilder distributed a document and suggested the Board review the procedure for adoption at the March 12th meeting.

At 5:41 PM Selectmen Gandt made a motion to adjourn and Selectman Morrison seconded the motion; so voted: 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Rich, Secretary
Selectmen's Office

Per the Open Meeting Law, the documents that were either distributed to the BOS before the meeting in a packet, or at the meeting were:

1. Agenda
2. Revised Warrant Article List dated 2/28/12
3. Warrant Draft #6
4. Draft of a Procedure for Remote Participation

Approved as amended at the March 26, 2012 Board of Selectmen's meeting.

<p>Pursuant to the 'Open Meeting Law,' G.L. 39, § 23B, the approval of these minutes by the Board constitutes a certification of the date, time and place of the meeting, the members present and absent, and the actions taken at the meeting. Any other description of statements made by any person, or the summary of the discussion of any matter, is included for the purpose of context only, and no certification, express or implied, is made by the Board as to the completeness or accuracy of such statements.</p>
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