



**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Proctor School Library
Minutes of March 21, 2016**

Chairman Powers called the meeting to order at 7:30PM. Board members present, in addition to Chairman Laura Powers, were Selectmen Martha Morrison, Steve Lais, Boyd Jackson and Eldon Goodhue. Of the Selectmen's staff, Town Administrator Kellie Hebert and Board Executive Assistant Susan Sordello were in attendance. Other persons present during all or part of the meeting were Topsfield Cable operators Baxter & Ben Demers, Tri-Town Transcript reporter Doreen Burliss, Members of the call and full time fire departments, residents and spectators Steve Mackey, Al Wallace, Woody Lancaster, Jack Donaher, Clifton Elliot, Steven Grasso, David Johnson, Jeanine Cunniff, Melissa Ogden and others.

The Board stood for the Pledge of Allegiance and then observed a moment of silence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Selectman Lais announced that the Topsfield Police Department has scheduled 2 upcoming 4-hour, Firearm Safety Courses on Sunday, April 3, 9 AM -1 PM and 1-5 PM. The courses would be hosted at the Topsfield Police Department, 210 Boston Street, Topsfield. This course fulfills the State of Massachusetts requirement before residents can apply for a Firearms Identification Card or License to possess or carry a handgun. Selectman Morrison announced that the Town Hall Building Committee schematic design and financial information was located on the Town website.

CITIZENS QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None heard

GENERAL BUSINESS

New Business

Selectman Morrison made a motion to appoint Peter Mulholland as the inspector of animals. This nomination would cover the year starting May 1, 2016 and run until April 30, 2017, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 5-0. Selectman Morrison made a motion to approve a one day liquor license to the Ipswich Republican Town Committee for an event at Coolidge Hall on 04.07.16, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; Selectman Lais questioned the 30 day advance notice requirement, Selectman Morrison amended the motion to waive the 30 day requirement; seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so moved. No further discussion, amendment so voted: 4-1; Selectman Lais opposed. Vote on the original motion for the license: 4-1; Selectman Lais opposed.

Selectman Jackson made a motion to appoint Selectman Goodhue and Selectman Lais to a sub-committee to conduct a dog hearing on behalf of the Board of Selectman, seconded by Selectman Morrison; so voted 5-0.

Discussed letters from a Wildes Road resident requesting street light on Wildes Road and traffic light on Route 1. Matter was referred to the Traffic Advisory Committee.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to appoint Auxiliary police officer Christopher Lippi to the position of Special police officer effective March 22, 2016 through June 30, 2016, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to approve the contract from Boxford Cable Access Television in the amount of \$31,384.00 for the 2016 calendar year, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 5-0.

Old Business

Selectman Morrison made a motion to approve Warrant Articles #1,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,17,18,and 19, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to approve Warrant Articles #20-28, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Jackson made a motion to approve Warrant Article #31, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to approve Warrant Article #32, 33 and 34, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 5-0.

It was decided to come back to Article #35

Selectman Morrison made a motion to approve Warrant Article #36, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 4-0, Selectman Lais abstained.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to remove Warrant Article #37 and defer it to next year, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Goodhue made a motion to approve Warrant Article #38 and 39, seconded by Selectman Lais; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to approve Warrant Article #40, seconded by Selectman Lais; so voted: 5-0.

It was decided to leave Warrant Articles #41-43 on pending approval and to wait on Articles #44-46.

Selectman Goodhue made a motion to approve Warrant Article #35, seconded by Selectman Lais. Board discussed putting "Strong Chief Status" on the warrant and letting the Town decide. Further discussion included input from Chief Giovanacci and 24/7 Fire Safety Committee member Melissa Ogden so voted: 5-0.

Administrator Hebert clarified two budget transfer items on the Special Town Meeting portion of the Warrant which were in relation to the fire department recruiting and risk assessment. Administrator Hebert will contact the vendor and arrange for him to present at the next meeting.

Town Administrator's Report: Town Administrator Hebert recommended to postpone discussion specific to the 24/7 Fire Safety Committee due to confusion of a delay of it being on the agenda. Administrator Hebert also stated that two members of that committee have formally resigned due to their task being completed. Selectman Lais requested the administrator revisit an issue from December regarding signs and provide an update.

Appointments: At 8:00 Selectman Lais read the public notice regarding a public hearing to vote on the application from Essex County Co-Op for Special Permit for non-conforming sign. Members of the Essex County Co-Operative Farming Association made a presentation regarding the proposed sign and answered questions. Selectman Morrison made a motion to approve the special permit to replace their sign, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; Selectman Lais suggested to amend the permit to state that the lighted portion of the sign is not to flash or scroll, it should have a static message only; the amended motion was voted: 5-0.

Minutes

Selectman Morrison made a motion to accept the Minutes of 02.29.16, 03.07.16 and 03.10.16, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted 5-0.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to accept the Executive Session Minutes of 03.07.16 as written and to hold until all issues have been resolved, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; Board decided to table vote until determination is made regarding the content requiring Executive Session status.

At 9:15 PM, Selectmen Goodhue made a motion to adjourn and Selectman Morrison seconded the motion; so voted: 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Sordello, Executive Assistant
Board of Selectmen

Approved as written at the April 25, 2016 Board of Selectmen's meeting.

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. Draft Town Meeting Warrant and Articles list
3. Animal Inspector nomination form.
4. One day liquor license application
5. Dog hearing information
6. Letter from Wildes Road residents seeking traffic and street lights
7. Special police officer nomination form
8. Preliminary BOS Minutes – Executive Session on March 07, 2016, Regular meetings of February 29 and March 7, 2016 and working session of March 10, 2016.
9. Conservation Commission monthly report for February 2016

<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>
