BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Working Session
Town Hall Conference Room
Minutes of March 25, 2013

Chairman Eldon Goodhue called the meeting to order at 4:03PM. Board members present in addition to Chairman Goodhue, were Martha Morrison, Dick Gandt, Laura Powers 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 Moderator George Hall, and Edward J. Collins Jr. Center for Public Management at UMass Boston consultants Richard Kobayashi and Mary Aicardi.

2013 Town Warrant Review: Ms. Wilder reviewed the final warrant by article with the Board to ensure that all changes that had been made by individuals were acceptable to the whole Board. There were minor changes and all were accepted as presented in the version dated 3/20/13. Override Question was briefly discussed and would wait for Finance Committee's final budget numbers to be discussed at their March 27th meeting.

Special Town Meeting: Ms. Wilder noted that the formal language for the Citizen Petition has not been received electronically from Alfalfa Farm Winery. Selectman Powers noted that the Board should meet to discuss the petition. Also noted was that legal counsel Lauren Goldberg should be included in that discussion.

Consent Calendar: Moderator George Hall recommended that a Consent Calendar be instituted at the Town Meeting. Definition: a series of Articles that are normally not contested be collectively voted in one motion. The Board approved the approach and decided that Articles 8-14 be addressed in this manner at the May 7, 2013 Town Meeting. By the end of the week, George would provide Ms. Wilder with language to put in the Town Warrant to explain the process .

Town Administrator Search: Edward J. Collins Jr. Center for Public Management at UMass Boston consultants Richard (Dick) Kobayashi and Mary Aicardi addressed the Board. Dick Kobayashi began by confirming that the Board's intent was to hire a "strong" Town Administrator, which he went on to explain was not the interpretation of the Bylaw, or how the position was executed. There was discussion of the meetings with the Department Heads, who stated that there is a perceived diffusion of power and sometimes confusion on who is in charge of the day to day issues. Dick Kobayashi commented that it would be a good time for the Board to possibly look at the "power" structure of the position and opt for an interim Town Administrator. Dick Kobayashi looked to the Board for clarity on their desire to restructure the position to be a "strong" position. When asked about the Liaison system the Board agreed that it could be abolished. It was agreed that Dick and Mary would develop a list of items that would strengthen the position to be a "strong" Administrator, which would be prioritized and accepted over time, if need be. The Board would discuss the "list" at the April first meeting.

Warrants: The Selectmen signed and approved warrants in the amount of **$ 555,102.07**. The breakdown is as follows:

Warrant #FY13:
077T	$ 90,879.10
077School	$ 253,193.35
078	$ 211,029.62

At 5:45 PM, Selectmen Morrison made a motion to adjourn and Selectman Vogel 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. 2013 Warrant

Approved as written at the April 29, 2013 Board of Selectmen's meeting.