

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Proctor School Library
Minutes of April 28, 2014

Acting Chairman Martha Morrison called the meeting to order at 7:30PM. Board members present in addition to Acting Chairman Martha Morrison, were Dick Gandt, Laura Powers and Eldon Goodhue. Of the Selectmen's staff, Town Administrator Kellie Hebert and Board Secretary Donna Rich were in attendance. Other persons present during all or part of the meeting were Topsfield Cable operators Caleb Hudson, Tri-Town Transcript reporter Anna Burgess, Police Chief Evan Haglund, Auxiliary Officer Daniel Bell, Essex Agricultural Society President Frank DeLuna, Fair Manager James O'Brien, Essex Agricultural Society legal counsel Nancy McCann, Eagle Candidate Aidan Crowley, residents Amy Crowley, Kim Sherwood, and Richard Cullinan.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Selectman Morrison reminded residents that Town Clean-up would be May 3rd from 8AM – Noon. This year it is sponsored by Congregational Church. Members will be on hand in the Town Hall parking lot to pass out trash bags and gloves to volunteers who claim their routes on the Town map and to pile the trash bags up as they come back full of road-side litter.

Selectman Gandt reminded residents that the Metal and White goods pickup would be May 14, 15 and 16. Place household metals such as stoves, dishwashers, etc. at curbside by 7AM for pickup. No stickers are required for items. If you have an item containing Freon, please call 978-887-1500 to register the item prior to pick-up.

Selectman Powers announced that hydrant flushing was scheduled to start on April 22nd between the hours of 9PM and 1AM during the week.

Selectman Powers reminded residents that the Annual Town Meeting would be held on May 6th beginning at 7PM at Proctor School Auditorium. Bring your Warrant with you.

Selectman Goodhue announced that the fourth quarter real estate and personal property tax bills would be due on Thursday, May 1st. The fourth quarter bills were mailed with the third quarter bills; there will be no separate mailing of the fourth quarter tax bills.

APPOINTMENTS:

7:30PM – New Police Officer - Police Chief Haglund presented Auxiliary Officer Daniel Bell to be considered for appointment to student police officer. Mr. Bell is a long time resident of Topsfield and expressed his joy at the opportunity to give back to the community that shaped him to who he is today. Selectman Powers made a motion to appoint Daniel Bell to the position of student police officer effective September 8, 2014 upon entrance to the approved Police Training Academy, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 4-0.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Old Business

Special Town Meeting of April 22nd: Chairman Morrison reviewed the Special Town Meeting that was held on April 22nd, expressing there was good discussion and a great display of democracy in action.

New Business

Childhood Cancer Awareness Week: Selectman Goodhue made a motion to proclaim June 1st – 7th as Childhood Cancer Awareness Week and for the Chairman to sign the proclamation, seconded by Selectman Powers; so voted: 4-0.

Congregational Church Request: Selectman Gandt made a motion to recognize the installation of Reverend Martin J. Riekert as the new minister to the Congregational Church of Topsfield with a citation, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 4-0.

APPOINTMENTS:

7:45PM - Essex Agricultural Society Citizen Petition – Fairgrounds Manager James O’Brien explained to the Board the reasons why the Essex Agricultural Society had submitted a Citizen Petition requesting a pouring license for wine, beer and spirits to be used at 207 Boston Street, the Fairgrounds. Veteran Agent Richard Cullinan expressed his support for the Fairground’s request.

8:00PM - Eagle Project Presentation - Boy Scout Troop 81 member Aidan Crowley presented his choice for an Eagle Project, which would be to clean up the area previously known as the Buttercup Cottage located at 362 Boston Street. Mr. Crowley stated that he had been before the Conservation Commission and was waiting for the Yankee Clipper Council to approve the project. The Board expressed their support for the project as presented.

CITIZENS QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

Kim Sherwood addressed the Board expressing her concerns of the cable taping and distribution of the Special Town Meeting of April 22nd and the Annual Town Meeting scheduled for May 6th.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Old Business (continued)

ATM/STM – May 6th: Ms. Hebert went through some logistics for the Annual Town Meeting. It was a consensus of the members that any discussion on articles from the Board would be directed through the Chairman to answer or identify the Board member who would respond.

Town Administrator’s Report:

- Nazareth Academy requested an amendment to their One Day Liquor License. Selectman Gandt made a motion to amend the prior One Day Liquor License from May 7th to May 28th, with the same hours and conditions as previously voted, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 4-0.
- Special Town Meeting transfers were reviewed.
- Board Meeting Schedule draft distributed, to be voted on May 19th. Selectman Gandt made a motion to move the meeting of the 12th to the 19th, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 4-0. The date of the 19th coincides with the first meeting date in the draft Meeting Schedule.
- Pay & Compensation Study update provided.
- Cable TV agreement update provided.
- Trust Commissioners update provided.

Minutes

Selectman Gandt made a motion to accept the Minutes of the Working Session of March 10, 2014, as amended, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted 4-0.

Selectman Gandt made a motion to accept the Minutes of the Working Session of March 12, 2014, as amended, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted 4-0.

Selectman Gandt made a motion to accept the Minutes of the Working Session of March 27, 2013, as amended, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted 4-0.

Selectman Gandt made a motion to accept the Minutes of the Joint Meeting with the Finance Committee of March 31, 2014, as amended, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted 4-0. Selectman Gandt made a motion to accept the Minutes of April 14, 2014 as amended, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted 4-0.

Correspondence & Reports

Correspondence

Topsfield was awarded \$40,686 under the Massachusetts Department of Transportation “Winter Rapid Recover Road” program which would be used to repair roadways damaged by the winter. Park & Cemetery Commissioners submitted a letter relative to the Park & Cemetery Trust Funds. Board of Library Trustees Chairman Philip Madell submitted a letter relative the Library Trust Funds.

Jen Collins Brown had been elected as union president, Charles Denault is vice president and Conor Brown is secretary.

Fire Chief appointed Reverend Michael B. Medas of Saint Rose of Lima Church as Chaplain for the Fire Department.

At 8:58 PM, Selectmen Powers made a motion to adjourn and Selectman Goodhue seconded the motion; so voted: 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Rich, Secretary
Selectmen’s Office

Approved as written at the June 2, 2014 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. Preliminary BOS Minutes –Working Session for March 10th, 12th and 27th, Regular Session of March 17 and April 14th and Joint Meeting of March 31st.
3. Childhood Cancer Awareness Week Proclamation Request
4. Congregational Church Proclamation request.
5. Police Officer Appointment Request
6. MassDOT awarded \$40,686 to Topsfield for winter road repair.
7. Park & Cemetery Commissioners submitted a letter regarding trust funds.
8. Library Trustees submitted a letter regarding trust funds.
9. Fire Department Local 3250 has reorganized its leadership.
10. Fire Chief has appointed a new Chaplain
11. STM list of transfers

<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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