

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of August 31, 2009

Chairman Martha Morrison called the meeting to order at 7:33PM. Board members present, in addition to Chairman Martha Morrison, were Richard Gandt, Nancy Luther, Karen Dow and Laura Powers. Of the Selectmen's staff, Town Administrator Virginia Wilder and Board Secretary Donna Rich were in attendance. Other persons present were Evelyn Hammond of the Topsfield Cable, Brendan Lewis of the Tri-Town Transcript, Ben Nutter, resident, Police Chief Evan E.J. Haglund and Lucien M. DiStefano, Project Manager-Bohler Engineering, representing TD Bank, N.A.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chairman Morrison announced the Fred Berry Charitable Fund Leadership Challenge Food Drive is being held on Sunday, October 25th from 10AM-5PM at 5 Hutchinson Drive in Danvers. Selectman Dow had the following announcements: 1) September 21st is Town Day at the Ferncroft Country Club, \$75.00 to play 18 holes and \$45 to play 9 holes; 2) School opens this week: 7th & 9th graders attending Masconomet Regional High School will begin on Wednesday, September 2nd and the remaining classes, except kindergarten, will begin on Thursday, September 3rd. Please be aware of school buses and children out on the streets; and 3) the Proctor School playground is being demolished by the end of September as part of the renovations to the Proctor School Playground.

Selectman Luther announced that September 12th is Movie Night on the Common. This event is sponsored by the Police Department. *Madagascar 2* will be played on a 40 foot inflatable movie screen and there will be free popcorn and ice cream sundaes. The Police Department will also be giving out bicycle helmets to the first 75 children.

Chairman Morrison asked Police Chief Evan Haglund to come forward and present the recommendations for appointments to the Police Department. Selectman Luther made a motion to appoint the following to the titles listed; seconded by Selectman Powers, so voted: 5-0.

- Full Time Communications Dispatcher: James Bonfanti
- Auxiliary Police Officers: Justin Bullis, Michael Balsley, Melissa Alleruzzo, Arthur Green, and James Dunn
- Part Time Dispatchers: Jillian Harp & Marion Cahoon

APPOINTMENTS:

7:30 – TD Bank, NA Signage: Lucien DeStefano, project manager for Bohler Engineering, representing TD Bank, NA, presented the revised signage proposed for TD Bank, NA located at 16 Main Street.

E01 was replaced with a smaller size sign; size is in accordance with the Town Bylaw.

E03 replaced the previous placement of sign E04 and the sign has been reduced in size.

E04 was removed.

E05 will only have DO NOT ENTER displaying.

E06 is the signage on the building in the front and in the back.

E12 was removed.

E13 displays the hours of operation.

E14 had no change; it is grandfathered in reference to the internal illumination.

It was discussed that the parking signs will be revisited when the parking area issues have been resolved.

Selectman Luther made a motion to accept the proposal dated August 26, 2009 from Bohler Engineering for the signage at 16 Main Street, TD Bank, NA with the conditions as stated:

1) E14 is grandfathered to be internally illuminated, 2) acknowledgment of the parking signage not being presented in this proposal, 3) Illumination of E01, signage in front of the building off to the south side, is within the Bylaw, section 13.4c; seconded by Selectman Powers; so voted: 4-1. Selectman Gandt opposed to the height and appearance of the E01 sign.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Old Business

Special Olympics Massachusetts: Due to severe weather the Ride with the Champions scheduled for Saturday, August 29, 2009 was postponed. The organizers are requesting approval to reschedule the event on Sunday, September 20, 2009. Police, Fire and Highway Departments approve. Selectman Powers made a motion to approve the Ride for Champions to be rescheduled from August 29th to September 20th using the same route as previously approved; seconded by Selectman Gandt; so voted: 5-0.

New Business

30th Topsfield Fall Foliage Classic: Selectman Powers made a motion to grant approval to the Topsfield-Boxford-Middleton Rotary Club to hold their 30th annual charity road race, the Fall Foliage Classic, on Sunday October 18, 2009 as specified, seconded by Selectman Luther; so voted: 5-0. Next, Selectman Powers made a motion to approve the Fall Foliage Classic banner to be placed between Proctor School and Town Hall from October 8th – 18th, seconded by Selectman Gandt; so voted: 5-0.

American Diabetes Association-North Shore Tour de Cure: The Selectmen gave tentative approval to the annual bicycle race to be held on Saturday, May 22, 2010 provided that, once the final details of the route are known, the organizers come back for final approval.

Board of Health Member: Chairman Morrison announced that the Board of Health had endorsed the appointment of Gerald Topping to their Board. Selectman Luther made a motion to appoint Gerald Topping to the Board of Health, seconded by Selectman Dow; so voted: 5-0.

Historical Commission: Selectman Luther made a motion to appoint Daniel Philpot to the Historical Commission, seconded by Selectman Dow; so voted: 5-0.

Town Administrator's Report:

- North Shore Regional Vocational School Merger update
- Essex Regional Retirement Board Advisory Council Meeting update
- H1N1 Updates
- MMA Legislative Breakfasts

Correspondence & Reports

Correspondence

Candace Waldron, Executive Director of HAWC has sent a letter thanking the Town of Topsfield for their continued support.

Chief Giovannacci has sent a letter with information about the first month of ambulance service with North East Regional Ambulance Service.

Arthur Howe III, Ipswich Fire Chief sent a letter of thanks for the help they received from the Topsfield Fire Department with the recent three alarm fire in Ipswich.

Comcast has sent a letter detailing their promise to guarantee customer service.

Reports

Police Department monthly report for July submitted.

Planning Board approved minutes of June 16 & July 21 are on the web for review.

Board of Assessors submitted minutes of July 24, 2009.

Cable Advisory Committee submitted minutes of July 1, 2009.

Zoning Board of Appeals submitted Legal Notices for hearings: September 2 at 8:15PM for 6 panel antennas at 285 Boston Street and September 2 at 8:45PM for the Arena at the Fair Grounds to be used as a sports arena for athletic games, etc.

Warrants: The Selectmen signed and approved warrants in the amount of **\$280,233.81**. The breakdown is as follows:

Warrant FY10:	
019T	\$ 75,053.86
020	\$ 205,179.95

At 9:05 PM, Selectman Luther made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Powers; so voted: 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Rich, Secretary
Selectmen's Office

Approved as amended at the September 28, 2009 Board of Selectmen's meeting.