

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of September 15, 2008

Chairman Jackson called the meeting to order at 7:30PM. Board members present in addition to Chairman Jackson were Richard Gandt, Martha Morrison and Nancy Luther. Of the Selectmen's staff, Town Administrator Virginia Wilder, and Board Secretary Donna Rich, were in attendance. Other persons present were William Whiting of the Topsfield Cable, Brendan Lewis of the Tri-Town Transcript, Faye Raynard of the Village Reporter, Joe Geller, Rail Trail Chairman and Gregg Demers, Rail Trail member.

APPOINTMENTS:

7:30PM – 2008 DCR Grant Application and Signage – Joe Geller, Rail Trail Chairman, and Gregg Demers, Rail Trail member, addressed the Board to request that the 2008 Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Grant Application for the Recreation Trails Program be approved for submission to DCR. Selectman Gandt explained the Town has applied for and received the DCR Grant in 2006 and 2007; however, funds for 2007 have not yet been released. The 2008 request is for \$50,000 and there is a 20% matching from the Town, which the Rail Trail Committee obtains from gifts, grants and generosity. Selectman Morrison made a motion to approve the letter dated September 15, 2008 addressed to Paul Jahnige expressing the Board of Selectmen's support for the 2008 grant request, seconded by Selectman Luther; so voted: 4-0. Selectman Gandt made a motion to approve the 2008 Department of Conservation & Recreation grant application, prepared by the rail trail Committee, for the continued development of a 3.85 mile Rail Trail in Topsfield, referred to as the "Topsfield Linear Common". This application is being requested for \$50,000, total project is estimated at \$62,500 and for the Chairman to sign, seconded by Selectman Morrison; so voted: 4-0.

Signage for the Rail Trail: Selectman Gandt explained that previously the Rail Trail Committee had come to the Board for approval of the signage along the Rail Trail. The Board decided to obtain input from the Traffic Advisory Committee. With the suggestions from the Traffic Advisory Committee, and the Rail Trail Committee's approval, Selectman Gandt made a motion to accept as signs the 4 inch wide, 66 inch long flexible posts made of thermoplastic polymers with the Topsfield Linear Common logo on the top and a "warning absolutely no motorized vehicles" statement underneath, seconded by Selectman Luther; so voted: 4-0.

Selectmen Minutes: Selectman Luther made a motion to accept the minutes of August 26, 2008; seconded by Selectman Morrison; so voted 4-0. Selectman Luther made a motion to accept the minutes of September 2, 2008; seconded by Selectman Morrison; so voted 4-0. Selectman Morrison made a motion to accept the Executive Session minutes of September 2, 2008 and to hold until all issues have been resolved; seconded by Selectman Luther so voted 4-0. Selectman Morrison made a motion to accept the amended minutes of September 8, 2008; seconded by Selectman Luther; so voted 4-0.

GENERAL BUSINESS

New Business

Contract for Pavement Markings: Selectman Gandt made a motion to approve a contract with Markings Incorporated of Pembroke, MA in the amount of \$20,000 for the Highway Department to have pavement markings placed on the Town Roads, seconded by Selectman Luther; so voted: 4-0.

Town Administrator's Report:

Please see attached report.

Correspondence & Reports

Correspondence

Attorney General’s Approval: Town Clerk has submitted the Attorney General’s approval of articles from the 2008 May Town Meeting.

Massachusetts Municipal Association Fall Legislative Breakfast: Scheduled for October 17th in Salem, MA.

Massachusetts Municipal Association Fall Conference for Selectmen: Scheduled for October 18th in Sturbridge, MA

Emergency Fuel Assistance Program: Kopleman & Paige has sent a memorandum.

Change to Alcohol Licensing Statute for Golf Courses: Kopleman & Paige has sent a memorandum.

Verizon Franchise Manager Change: New FiOS manager-Adam DeFillippo.

Abutter Notification: Park & Cemetery has filed with Conservation Commission for work around the Civil War Monument.

Reports

Board of Assessors: Minutes submitted for July 25, 2008.

Cable TV Advisory Committee: Minutes submitted for August 6, 2008.

Conservation Commission: Minutes submitted for July 30, 2008 and monthly report for August.

Council On Aging: Minutes submitted for July 8, 2008

Board of Library Trustees: Minutes submitted for July 8, and August 18, 2008.

North Shore Vocational School: Agenda for September 11, 2008 and minutes submitted for June 12, 2008.

Planning Board: Minutes submitted for August 5, 2008.

Police Department: Monthly Report for August submitted.

Zoning Board of Appeals: Minutes of June 24, 2008 and July 22, 2008 submitted and Legal Notice for Station Sweet Shoppe.

Warrants: The Selectmen signed and approved warrants in the amount of **\$ 180,034.31**. The breakdown is as follows:

Warrant #FY09:

023T	\$ 81,076.21
024	\$ 98,958.10

At 8:20 PM, Chairman Jackson entertained a motion to adjourn, Selectman Luther made the motion to adjourn and Selectman Morrison seconded the motion, so voted: 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Rich, Secretary
Selectmen’s Office

Approved as amended at the September 29, 2008 Board of Selectmen’s meeting.