

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**Proctor School Library**  
**Minutes of November 19, 2012**

Chairman Eldon Goodhue called the meeting to order at 7:30PM. 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 Topsfield Cable Walter Harmer, Tri-Town Transcript reporter Kate Evans, and Verizon Right of Way Representative Joe Gleason.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Chairman Goodhue opened the meeting with a moment of silence for reflection on the memories of the former Selectman Stephen S. Clark, who passed away on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

Selectman Powers informed residents that the Assessor's Public Disclosure for FY13 Property Values were available November 8-9 and 13-16. There are counter books available at the Library and Town Hall and property cards are also available at the Assessor's Office and online for viewing.

Selectman Powers reminded residents of the Holiday Walk to be held on December 1<sup>st</sup> from 4-7PM.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **Old Business**

**Pole Hearing on Wildes Road Continued:** Chairman Goodhue opened a continuation of the Pole Hearing and invited Joe Gleason, Verizon Right of Way representative to come forward. Mr. Gleason explained that the poles have been placed via the license agreement the Board of Selectmen had previously agreed upon. Mr. Gleason further explained the difficulty Verizon is experiencing with National Grid in obtaining any information regarding said poles. Mr. Gleason respectfully requested that the Board approve the poles, contingent upon the Planning Board Public Hearing set for November 20<sup>th</sup>.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to grant the placement of three (3) poles marked Verizon, Plan No. 37, dated 9-13-12 along Wildes Road, contingent upon the Planning Board's decision as to public shade trees and scenic road impacts and mitigation, seconded by Selectman Vogel; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Gandt made a motion to close the Hearing at 7:50PM, seconded by Selectman Powers; so voted: 5-0.

**JRM Hauling and Recycling Services Inc Proposal:** Selectman Gandt asked how other towns approach trash and recycling. Ms. Wilder stated she would investigate and report back to the Board. Item was tabled until further information was obtained.

**Surplus Equipment from Highway and Fire Department:** Selectman Gandt made a motion to award the equipment to the following high bidders:

One 1985 Baker/Flink Snowplow to Richard Northrup, Boxford, MA \$257.

One 1980 Chevrolet Fire Mini-pumper to Richard Northrup, Boxford, MA \$1,207.

One 1996 International 2554 Dump Truck with sander and plow to J. Masterson Construction, Danvers, MA \$26,433, seconded by Selectman Morrison; so voted: 5-0.

**Government Review Proposal:** Chairman Goodhue requested the Board discuss the path and timetable for this item. Selectman Powers requested a Working Session be scheduled for the Board to engage in making final changes to the proposal in order to move forward. Chairman Goodhue directed Secretary Donna Rich to post a meeting for Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 4PM with location to be determined as to availability. Chairman Goodhue commented that the Board

needed to begin drafting the proposal for the Warrant and prepare potential Ballot Question for the residents to decide upon.

**New Business**

**Cable TV/Town Website Personnel:** Selectman Morrison made a motion to approve Amendment #1 for a Professional Services Agreement with Amelia Mattson of Topsfield, MA to begin October 1, 2012 and with an ending date of June 30, 2013, seconded by Selectman Vogel; so voted: 5-0.

**Liaison Reports**

Selectman Vogel reported that Masconomet Regional High School had begun to prepare for the FY14 budget by publishing the enrollment data and a “thumbnail” view as it appears today.

Selectman Vogel reported that contract negotiations will proceed with the Police Chief Evan Haglund.

Selectman Powers reported that contract negotiations will also proceed with the Fire Chief Ron Giovannacci.

Selectman Powers reported that the Fire Department will have the new defibrillators at the Holiday Walk for demonstrations. Also, the Garden Clubs will be selling wreaths and table arrangements. Selectman Gandt added the Board of Health will be administering flu shots during the Holiday Walk.

Selectman Gandt reported that the work being done on the west side of Route One on the south bound direction is the State, MA DOT cutting the hill back to avoid further mud slides.

Selectman Morrison noted that there will be no replacement of trees in that area.

Selectman Gandt reported that the Rail Trail has installed the lights at Route 97 by the Ipswich River canoe launch area.

Selectman Morrison reported that the Green Communities/ Renewable Energy Committee will be displaying a solar powered wind mill at the Holiday Walk.

Selectman Morrison reminded residents that the Planning Board will meet tomorrow night, November 20 to address the trees on Wildes Road.

Selectman Morrison referred to an article in the “Beacon” publication relative to Historic Preservation Grants and Block Grants as they relate to facility planning.

**Town Administrator’s Report:**

- Facility Plan update provided; DRA will perform a walk-thru and have a “kick-off” meeting shortly.
- Town Meeting update provided, the Financial Team is beginning to meet with Department Heads relative to CIP consisting only of rolling stock and equipment. Building Capital improvements will be taken from the Building Assessment.
- Formalization of the Fire Detail process is being finalized.
- RECC update provided; building is complete and they are waiting for an occupancy permit. Topsfield is scheduled to move to the RECC in August of 2013. They are beginning to develop a budget with a Public Hearing in January. Ms Wilder suggested that the Board meet with Director to go over the RECC budget; a meeting to be scheduled.
- Comcast has sent a letter of notification that their contract expires on October 10, 2016.
- Reported on an invitation from the Wreaths Across America. They will be at the Topsfield Fair Grounds on December 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:30PM. All are invited to attend as they travel through Topsfield on their way to Arlington National Cemetery in DC.

- Ms. Wilder provided a copy of the 2005 Warrant Article regarding appointment of a Town Administrator as it was voted and the Attorney General’s ruling on the article.

**Correspondence & Reports**

Correspondence

Department of Public Utilities has petitioned MA Electric Co and Nantucket Electric, dba National Grid for approval of a 3 year energy efficiency plan.

Kopelman & Paige PC has sent a letter to Meeting Way Corporation’s President requesting their presence at the Planning Board meeting of December 4<sup>th</sup>.

Reports

Board of Assessors submitted the minutes of October 26.

Conservation Commission submitted the monthly report for October.

**Warrants:** The Selectmen signed and approved warrants in the amount of \$ **785,436.03**. The breakdown is as follows:

Warrant FY13:

041T	\$ 96,950.97
041School	\$ 246,551.71
041Misc	\$ 933.90
42	\$ 440,872.83
42M	\$ 126.62

Selectman Vogel wished the residents a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

At 8:37 PM, Selectmen Vogel made a motion to adjourn and Selectman Powers seconded the motion; so voted: 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Rich, Secretary  
Selectmen’s Office

*Approved as written at the December 17, 2012 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. Pole Hearing (continued) for Wildes Road.
3. Revised JRM Hauling & Recycling proposal.
4. Highway and Fire Surplus Equipment.
5. Cable TV/Town Website Personnel amendment documents.
6. Reports from the Board of Assessors and Conservation Commission.
7. Department of Public Utilities Notice of Filing & Public Hearing

Minutes – 11/19/12

Page 4

8. Kopelman & Paige letter for Hickory Beech Development
9. Wreaths over America event flyer
10. Fire Department documents for fire detail
11. Warrant Article 4<sup>th</sup> of the 2005 relative to the Town Administrator position
12. Attorney General's letter of June 13, 2007 relative to the 2005 Town Meeting

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.