

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**Minutes of December 14, 2009**

Chairman Martha Morrison called the meeting to order at 5:30PM. Board members present, in addition to Chairman Martha Morrison, were Karen Dow and Laura Powers. Nancy Luther and Richard Gandt were absent. 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 Brendan Lewis of the Tri-Town Transcript, Board of Assessors members Eldon Goodhue, Jack Minnehan and John McArdle, and Principal Assessor Pauline Evans.

Chairman Morrison announced that the Board would go into Executive Session to discuss the Town Administrator's contract at the end the meeting and would not return to open session.

**APPOINTMENT**

**5:30 PM – Tax Levy Public Hearing** – Board of Assessors: Eldon Goodhue, John McArdle and John Minnehan, and Principal Assessor Pauline Evans presented the annual percentage of the tax levy for the different classifications (residential, commercial and industrial). Clerk Dow read the Legal Notice that was published in the Tri-Town Transcript on December 3, 2009. Chairman of the Assessors Jack Minnehan explained what options are available to the Board. Following a discussion on the options, Selectman Dow made a motion to adopt a residential factor of 1 for FY10 taxation of all classes of property, seconded by Selectman Powers; so voted: 3-0.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**New Business**

Dog Complaint: Chairman Morrison explained the details of a letter received regarding a potential violation of a restraining order placed on Finn, a German Short-haired Pointer. Carol LaRocque, Animal Control Officer, has submitted a report relative to a recent incident and recommends that Finn be confined to a room that has no outdoor access. After a discussion of the situation it was agreed that one member of the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator would meet with the residents involved to ascertain the facts of the events and report back to the full Board their findings.

Regional Ambulance Feasibility Study: Selectman Powers made a motion to approve the submission of a District Local Assistance Grant to conduct a regional ambulance/EMS feasibility study and to authorize the Town Administrator to submit to Metropolitan Area Planning Council, MAPC, seconded by Selectman Dow; so voted: 3-0.

Danvers Savings Bank: Proposed signage for Danvers Savings Bank at 15 Main Street was distributed. The Public Hearing is scheduled for January 4<sup>th</sup>. There was a discussion relative to the development of a sub-committee to review special sign permit applications for the proposed size, placement and material of signs, and perhaps develop guidance for future applicants.

**Warrants:** The Selectmen signed and approved warrants in the amount of **\$ 519,586.50**. The breakdown is as follows:

Warrant FY10:	
049T	\$ 328,904.59
050	\$ 190,681.91

Minutes – 12/14/09

Page 2

At 6:13 PM Selectman Dow made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the Town Administrator's contract; seconded by Selectman Powers. In a roll call vote, a yes vote was recorded for Chairman Morrison, Selectman Dow and Selectman Powers. The Board would not return to open session.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Rich, Secretary  
Selectmen's Office

*Approved as written at the January 19, 2010 Board of Selectmen's meeting.*

<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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