

Board of Selectmen's Minutes
Monday, March 21, 2011
6:30pm Town Hall

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Selectmen Cosmas Iocovozzi, Jack O'Reilly and Rick Stern. Also present: Gail Pare-HDC Chairman, Len Thomas-Road Agent, resident Dave Sweeney and Beatrice Marconi-Administrative Assistant.

Selectman O'Reilly moved for Cosmas Iocovozzi to be Board Chair until March 2012 Town Election, followed by a second from Selectman Stern. The motion passed 2-0-1 with Selectman Iocovozzi abstaining

Minute Approval: *Selectman O'Reilly moved to accept the minutes of March 7. Chr. Iocovozzi seconded. Motion passed 2-0-1 with Selectman Stern abstaining.*

CLG Grant

Gail Pare, representing the HDC presented the Board with the Grant agreement requiring signature in the amount of \$1,300 for continuation of archeological digging – this phase on Goat Island. ***Selectman O'Reilly moved for the Chair to sign. Selectman Stern seconded. Motion passed on a roll call vote 3-0.***

Appointments

Selectman O'Reilly moved to appoint Dot Noseworthy as Deputy Treasurer, as recommended by Treasurer Luanne O'Reilly and moved to appoint Stephen Bush as a Library Trustee alternate. Ms. Noseworthy's term to expire March 2012. Selectman Stern seconded. On a roll call vote, the motions passed 3-0.

Carriage House Gutter Proposal – Haas

\$11,200 proposed-At this time, the Selectmen tabled this proposal for future consideration.

911 Issue at Pease

Selectman O'Reilly brought the Board up to date and will continue to work with those parties involved.

DEFIB

At Town Meeting, it was suggested that the Selectmen look into costs of a defibulator for town hall. It was the Chairman's thoughts that with the Fire Department next door, the need was not really urgent. Selectmen Stern noted that the building is not always occupied with emergency personnel due to the calls. In the end, it was agreed upon that we should assess our needs first by speaking with the Fire Chief on the issue.

Road Agent

Len Thomas wanted to inform the Board that he was on vacation beginning March 31 – April 9. Frank Reinhold will be in charge. Picnic tables to be prepared for summer usage and are to be painted green. Culverts – Chairman Iocovozzi suggested the highway crew concentrate on culvert clean out and noted that the McIntyre Road culvert should be not only cleaned, but the debris hauled off. Len will look into taking care of this.

Highway Internet and Cable Service

It was suggested we not only consider Comcast, but Vios as well.

Man Cover on Shattuck

Len mentioned to the Board about the electric services man cover on Shattuck that has a crack on the ring. Chairman Iocovozzi said that Sewer should address this or when we pave Shattuck, we can repair it.

Tonka (DPW 1994 Truck) for Sale

Ad will be reviewed by Selectman Stern and sent out with opening mid-April. Minimum bid \$6,995.

Bugaboos Request to Serve Alcohol

The Board had no objections and asked the AA to forward a letter to the liquor commission stating so.

Selectman O'Reilly moved to approve the pole license as requested. Selectman Stern seconded and on a roll call vote, the motion passed 3-0.

Sickness in WorkPlace

The Board hopes that common sense will play a part on the decision to come to work or not when not feeling 100% with the potential of spreading germs and making co-workers sick. The Board hopes that it won't get to the point of re-addressing the buyback program as outlined in the personnel policy.

YMCA Summer Program – 2011 Contract

Since the 2011 budget line request for the summer program did not cover the YMCA contract amount, the Selectmen asked the AA to contact the Recreation Committee and ask that next year's summer program line be adjusted accordingly. ***Selectman O'Reilly moved to approve the contract at \$ 23,504 with Selectman Stern seconding. On a roll call vote, the motion passed 3-0.***

Fox Point Flower Garden Material Request

Janice Towne, who lives in the Fox Point rental unit asked the Board (through the AA) for up to \$150 to cover purchases of needed fertilizer or bulbs or plants to make the area around the house pretty. The AA was asked to call Walmart to see if they have material they can donate to the Town.

Town Hall Fundraiser April 4 – Borkland

It was asked if the Board would consider letting the hosts of the fundraiser use the round tables that are at the Old Town Hall. The Board felt that with equipment being shuffled back & forth, it created a high risk of damage. The AA was asked to notify the Borklands of the denial.

Patterson Lane Boat Ramp and Engineering Proposal

Selectman O'Reilly moved to sign the Waterfront Engineer's proposal for engineering not to exceed \$ 9,500. Selectman Stern seconded. Discussion ensued regarding permitting and if this number included permitting costs. The Town will pick up permitting fees as needed. The Board also discussed the lack of parking at length. Selectman Stern spoke of restricted parking signage. The Board will research land ownership in that area and see if they can find a spot for a few trucks & trailers to pull off the road. ***On a roll call vote, the motion passed 3-0.***

Lamprey Rep

The Board felt that in the absence of Margaret Lamson, Planner Tom Morgan would be a good alternate to represent Newton's needs at the meetings. He will attend their next meeting slated for March 23.

Reports from Chief Sylvia and Bldg Inspector Stowell

The Board accepted the reports and will place on file.

Credit Card

The Board is having the Treasurer research alternate means of credit card purchases on behalf of the Town and asked the AA not to use her own personal card as time sensitive check needs can be processed by the Board.

Financial Spreadsheet – TD Bank

The Selectmen felt it was extremely helpful and very enlightening as it displayed all town TD bank accounts – even Trustees CDs.

Fox Point Pavilion Engineering Proposal – Altus Engineering

As discussed at Town Meeting, the Selectmen must forward construction and placement information to the Planning Board for their feedback and as mentioned, Planning (or the Board) will host a public hearing. Selectman Stern will get information from the manufacturer – then pass on to the Selectmen for review, however, the final plan will be including incorporating characteristics of the Carriage House, where possible for aesthetic tie in.

Facility Use Requests:

May 15	Old Town Hall	Religious Hat Service	All Day	Sandi Clark
Historical Society	April 20	Town Hall	Meeting	Gail Pare

Selectman O'Reilly moved to approve those requests and to waive the deposit fee and usage fee. Selectman Stern seconded. Passed on a roll call vote 3-0.

Great Bay Services Building Permit

From a memo from Bldg. Inspector John Stowell, the Board agreed to waive the application fees.

Roadside Trees

Dave Sweeney spoke of limbs and dead roadside trees and would like the highway crew to mark probmatic trees as they find them. He also mentioned widow makers near Cooley and at the PD. Selectman O'Reilly will look into this.

Flying Flags – Town Buildings

Dave Sweeney voiced his concern about days when all flags should be flown at half-mast and felt there should be more communication between the departments, town hall and the school.

Vehicular Parking at School

Dave Sweeney felt the Board should know of his concern about a white pickup parking at the school and stated that it could be blocking emergency access areas. Chairman Locovozzi stated that he should bring this up to the school board.

March 2011 Stipends

Chairman Locovozzi stated that the stipends payout dates should not have been changed from June (covering from Election Day through mid Sept) and December (covering from mid Sept through the day before Election Day). This change was previously discussed Feb 10 and March 1, 2010 whereas the new coverage and payment dates for stipends would be Sept (covering from day of election through mid Sept) and 2nd payment issued in March the following year (covering mid Sept through the day before election) Selectman O'Reilly stated that perhaps the transition overlap should have been taken into consideration, however it was not. The Board was presented opinions from Attorney Dave Connell of the LGC and Jen Dorr, our auditor which stated that the Selectmen had control over the stipends and therefore nothing was deemed illegal. Selectman O'Reilly noted that perhaps then the town should pay quarterly but in any case payment should be awarded ***after*** the service is rendered, as stated in the law. Chairman Locovozzi maintained that the check received in September covers mid Sept through the day before election and anyone receiving a stipend under the old proration dates should continue to be falling under those dates. Selectman Stern stated that money should not be paid unless services have already been rendered. Selectman O'Reilly noted that with last year's payment date change, receivers still received only 2 checks in any given year and in no case was the stipend line overpaid. He felt the action by the board a year ago corrected the town paying stipends prior to service rendered. Chr. Locovozzi said the money should come back. He went on to state that people were fronted the money in the beginning. Selectman O'Reilly left the meeting and said he will have no part in violating the stipend RSA. In the end, it was stated that those who fall under the old system-their Sept check will cover from mid Sept through election. Former Selectman Stuart will be paid from Dec 1 through Mar 15 as she was appointed midterm and her first check was paid in June 2003, therefore she served from Dec thru mid-March uncompensated. Three checks are to be voided from last check batch, those being Treasurer, Dep Treasurer and former Selectman.

At 8:26pm, Selectman Stern moved to adjourn and with no objection, on a roll call vote, the motion passed 2-0.

Respectively Submitted,

Beatrice Marconi
Administrative Assistant