

Minutes
Select Board Meeting
Tuesday - February 21, 2006
Police Station Community Room
7:00 p.m.

Chair Person John Papale called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Select Board Persons John Papale, Kathleen Grady, William Scibelli, Brian Ashe and Hal Haberman.

Also Present (AS SIGNED IN): Robin Crosbie Town Manager; J. Nolet Finance Committee; D. Nadeau; R. Townsend; P. Bouvier; K. Carnahan; R. Hashie; R. Wojcik Transition Team; M. Gold Capital Planning Committee; J. Occhiuti Rules Committee; E. Stalar; J. Duquette; R. Barkett; G. Weigard; M. Vogel and J. Hutchins

Reminder: Public Session on Parks & Recreation Strategic Planning is on March 7, 2006, 6:30 p.m., at the Community House

Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes of the February 6, 2006 Regular Meeting notes were accepted with corrections.

Visitor Comments and Questions: Chair Person John Papale moved comments and questions to the end of the meeting to be sure all pertinent discussions were on television for the residents of Longmeadow.

7:05 p.m. Appoint ZBA Member: Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to appoint David Lavenburg to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Select Person Brian Ashe seconded the motion. Chair Person John Papale called a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

7:07 p.m. Request to Form a Tree Committee –Rebecca Townsend, Peter Bouvier and Kristin Carnahan (all present at the meeting) prepared a letter for the Town requesting the creation of a Tree Committee. They included a petition of 21 signatures, and several reasons why such a committee would benefit the Town. Creating the committee would place Longmeadow in line for grants and would help the Tree Warden, Mike Wrabel, advance the tree program in Longmeadow. The Committee would be comprised of five (5) persons: three (3) Town residents, the Town Tree Warden and the Director of Parks & Recreation. The Town residents (appointed for varying terms) should be knowledgeable or experienced in arboriculture, horticulture, or natural resource management. Select Person William Scibelli believes the Tree Warden should be involved in the process of appointing members of the committee. The Select Board is very much in favor of creating a Tree Committee; a vote will be taken at the next meeting.

7:24 p.m. Consolidation Discussion: Mr. Barkett requested coming before the Select Board to address a concern he has with the progress of the current consolidation of the Department of Public Works with the Maintenance Department of the Schools. Much progress has been made

thus far and he asked the Select Board to consider phasing the transition, instead of rushing it in by the July 2006 deadline. There was much discussion regarding if the Select Board had the authority to delay the deadline set by the Charter. Select Person Kathleen Grady and Mr. Barkett suggested placing a question on the ballot, if the majority vote approved a delay in the deadline there would not be a conflict with the Charter. The discussion continued and an interim budget meeting date was set with the School Committee for March 2, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the Police Community House.

8:37 p.m. New Business

- **8:37 p.m. Discussion / Approval of Human Resource Consolidation-** Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to approve the Human Resource Consolidation as stated in the Memorandum of Understanding. Select Person Kathleen Grady seconded the motion. Chair Person John Papale called a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
- **9:15 p.m. Close A Town Meeting Warrant-** The entire Select Board voted to close the Warrant.
- **9:20 p.m. Fees for Electrical and Plumbing/Gas-** Chair Person John Papale needs more information before voting on this topic.
- **9:25 pm Fees for Weights and Measures:** Chair Person John Papale needs more information before voting on this topic.

8:40 p.m. Presentation of Budget: Town Manager Robin Crosbie presented a copy of the proposed budget to the Select Board and those in attendance. With Finance Director, Paul Pasterczyk, she briefly explained the layout of the budget and answered questions from members of the Select Board. The Select Board will review the presented budget at the next meeting and have an opportunity to ask questions. After the Select Board approves the budget, it will be passed onto the Finance Committee for review.

Old Business: none at this time

Consent Agenda: none at this time

9:20 p.m. Correspondence: Select Person Kathleen Grady requested that the letter regarding the Longmeadow/Springfield resurfacing and related work on Route 91 be made available for the public to view. Pertinent information as follows:

“MassHighway’s Project Review committee (PRC) has determined that the subject project is eligible for Federal Aid IM funding in the amount of \$10,000,000. This is a state highway improvement project for which all design and permitting is the responsibility of MassHighway. The project extends from the CT state-line to the southerly limits of the viaduct bridges. Although these repairs are scheduled for Interstate 91, a state highway, I wanted to inform the town of the upcoming project which had been advertised. Construction is expected to begin this spring.”

Albert. Stegemann, P.E.
District Highway Director

8:39 p.m. Select Board Reports: none at this time

8:39 p.m. Town Manager's Report: none at this time

Executive Session

The Select Board voted to go into executive session to discuss labor negotiations: Kathy Grady - yes; John Papale-yes; Brian Ashe-yes; William Scibelli-yes. Hal Haberman was not present.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Wieners
Recording Secretary