

**Minutes
Select Board Meeting
Monday March 6, 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): Town Manager Robin Crosbie; G. Nolet Finance Committee; J. Occhiuti; M. Gold; R. Wojcik Charter Transition Team; E. Stotan; D. Nadeau; P. Bonnier; C. Tunn Finance Committee; S. Gelling Capital Planning; J. Hutchins School Committee; D. Oleksak from the Longmeadow News and N. Munoz from The Republican.

Reminder: Public Session on Parks & Recreation Strategic Planning March 7, 2006 7:00 p.m. at the Community House.

Chair Person John Papale took a moment to observe the 230th anniversary of the taking of Dorchester Heights. This was a strategic and pivotal military achievement made by General Washington; more historic than even the Battle of Bunker Hill. Pointing out that the challenges we face today are minute compared to the challenges our forefathers faced. If anyone is interested in more information on this event it can be found in the book 1776 by David McCullough.

Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes of the February 21, 2006 Regular Meeting notes were accepted with one correction.

7:06 p.m. Visitor Comments and Questions: Gerry Nolet from the Finance Committee and liaison to the Select Board, feels that the consolidation of building and ground maintenance clearly cannot be done by committee for the July 2006 deadline. He suggested hiring outside individuals to complete the task.

Diane Naduea requested some clarification regarding the budget information from the last meeting.

Mary Vogel from the School Committee responded to Mr. Nolet's comments. Just recently Mike Wrabel Director of Public Works, Mike McCarty Director of Parks and Recreation and Steve Carignan Town Buildings Superintendent, met to discuss the consolidation and have made great progress. There are two meetings scheduled before the end of March to continue this task. She also stated that the Charter outlines that the School Committee and Department of Public Works must handle the consolidation.

7:17 p.m. Capital Planning Committee – Presentation of Capital Budget: All members of the Capital Planning Committee were present at the meeting: Mr. Mark Gold Chairman, Mr. Nick Katsoulis, Mr. Roger Cloutman, Mr. Steven Gelling and Mr. Roger Wojcik. The Capital Planning Committee recommends that the Town appropriate \$521,487 from the Capital stabilization account, \$134,000 from the Water retained earnings fund, \$218,000 from the sewer retained earnings fund and \$140,000 from the ambulance fund – a total of \$1,055,265 – to fund

the 23 highest priority projects for the Fiscal Year 2007. Town Manager Robin Crosbie mentioned that the Police Department is in need of immediate roof repairs and funds need to be allocated which is not outlined in the budget. A vote will be taken at the next meeting.

7:53 p.m. Twin Hill Country Club Change in Manager Hearing: Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to officially open the Public Hearing, Select Person Brian Ashe seconded the motion. Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to approve the change in manager for Twin Hills Country Club Corporation. Mr. Mike Desmarais will be the new Food and Beverage Manger. Select Person Brian Ashe seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to officially close the Public Hearing. Select Person Kathleen Grady seconded the motion a vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

- **7:55 p.m. Waste Reduction – Second Forum:** A second forum will be held on **Tuesday March 14, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.** Town Manager Robin Crosbie will confirm the location but it will most likely be held at the Fire Station. The purpose of the forum is to allow residents of Longmeadow to share their thoughts, concerns and suggestions with the Select Board prior to an official vote being taken. Residents may write to the Select Board or attend the forum in person.
- **7:58 p.m. Vote on Waste Reduction:** Select Person Kathleen Grady made a motion that the Town of Longmeadow adopt a Waste reduction program beginning July 2006 as proposed by the Recycling Commission. The proposed program would provide the first barrel of bag or residential trash for each household to be collected each week. (Maximum volume 35 gallons / maximum weight 40 pounds.) This service will be funded by the tax base. Excess trash can be disposed of in special marked Town of Longmeadow Official trash bags at a cost of \$1.75 per bag, which will be sold at convenient locations in Town. Recycling pickup will continue to be weekly at no charge to the residents. Chair Person John Papale seconded the motion. The topic opened for discussion. Select Person William Scibelli amended the motion changing the maximum volume is 36 gallons because the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has a grant available to pay the Town \$4 per household to assist with implementation of the program if a 36 gallon barrel is used. (The Recycling Commission has already applied for this grant.) The Select Board took a vote and the amendment passed unanimously. (Maximum volume 36 gallons / maximum weight 40 pounds.) Select Person Hal Haberman suggested an amnesty week, allowing extra bags perhaps during the Holiday Season. A hardship policy could be created allowing extra bags for families who qualify and it was suggested to perhaps hand out bags during Town Meeting or at the Polls to encourage attendance. The Recycling Commission shared that the Town received a check in the amount of \$28,758 for their recycling efforts from July/05 to December/05 and that number will only increase with the new program. It was also mentioned that meetings would be scheduled for the residents to attend to assist them with any questions and offer information if the program is passed. Any of these suggestions could be implemented after the program is voted on. *No vote was taken, an official vote will be taken at the next meeting.*
- **8:30 p.m. Electrical/Plumbing/Gas Fees:** Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion the stipend be changed to \$500. Select Person William Scibelli seconded the motion, the topic

opened for discussion. After little discussion a vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

- **8:35 p.m. Weights and Measures Fees:** Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to accept the fees as presented. Select Person Brian Ashe seconded the motion. A vote was taken the motion passed unanimously.
- **8:38 p.m. Vote on Tree Committee:** Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to establish a Tree Committee, comprised of three citizen members, the Director of Public Works and Director of Parks and Recreation. Citizen terms to be for three years, with one term expiring annually. Select Person Brian Ashe seconded the motion. Chair Person John Papale thanked the individuals who took the time to present this idea to the Select Board. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

- **8:39 p.m. JCC Request for “No Turn on Red”:** The Town received a request from Mark Dindas of the Jewish Community Center to replace the “No turn on Red” sign recently removed from the intersection of Dickinson and Converse Streets. Residents of the area desire that, if the sign is replaced, it be for a limited period. The Traffic Safety committee met on February 27th to review this request. The Committee requests the Select Board consider posting a sign at the southbound Dickinson to read: “*No Turn on Red 7-9 am 4-6 pm*”. The Select Board encourages public feedback before they make a motion on this subject. It will be placed under Old Business at the next regular meeting. Select Person William Scibelli informed the group that as of now the *No Turn on Red* is up. Chair Person John Papale requested a report comparing the number of accidents from 2005 to 2006 at the intersections where 4-way stops were installed.
- **8:47 p.m. Set Warrant:** Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to accept the Warrant as presented. Select Person Brian Ashe seconded the motion. The topic opened for discussion. The Select Board and Town Manager Robin Crosbie reviewed the Warrant. Select Person Kathleen Grady suggested that estimated money amounts be inserted in Articles 3, 4 and 8. On page four the seventh Article to vote on a defibrillator will be removed and voted on at the fall meeting. Select Person William Scibelli suggested removing the third article down on page seven and in the fourth Article the amount of \$40,000 will be changed to \$25,000. Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to accept the Warrant as amended. Select Person William Scibelli seconded the motion. A vote was taken the motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was moved to the Fire Station after signing off of Longmeadow Cable Television. Three members of the School Committee joined the Select Board for the remainder of the meeting. Select Person Hal Haberman did not attend. There was some discussion regarding School Choice and budget issues.

- **9:55 p.m. Vote to Adopt Budget:** Select Person William Scibelli made a motion to delay the vote on the budget until the March 13, 2006 Special Meeting. He requested that Mike McCarty, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department, attend the meeting to explain his proposed budget in detail. Select Board Brian Ashe seconded the motion. A vote was taken the motion carried unanimously.

9:58 p.m. Consent Agenda: none at this time

Correspondence: none at this time

Select Board Reports: none at this time

Town Manager's Report: none at this time

10:00 p.m. Executive Session

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Wieners
Recording Secretary