

Minutes
Select Board Special Meeting
Monday March 9, 2009
7:01 pm

Chair Person Paul Santaniello called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Present: Select Board Persons Paul Santaniello, William Scibelli, Brian Ashe and Kathleen Grady.

Absent: Robert Barkett

Also Present (as signed in): Town Manager Robin Crosbie and Recording Secretary Stacy Wieners.

Announcements – None this evening.

Acceptance of Minutes

- Select Person William Scibelli made a motion to accept the March 9, 2009 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. Select Person Kathleen Grady seconded the motion. Chair Person Paul Santaniello called a vote and the motion carried 4:0.

Visitor Comment and Question - None this evening

Old Business

1. ***Budget Discussion continued – 8:06 pm*** – The Select Board continued the discussion with Town Manager Robin Crosbie, Finance Director Paul Pasterczyk, Finance Committee Member Mark Barowski and School Department Business Manager Tom Mazza, regarding the budget. The Select Board will continue the discussion at the March 16th meeting; a vote may take place that evening. If more information is needed, they will vote at the March 18th meeting.
2. ***Water and Sewer Discussion – 7:24*** - The Select Board discussed the options presented to them regarding water and sewer rates. After much discussion the Board requested a detailed report consisting of the following:
 - ***Water Meter Replacement from the Capital Budget***
 - ***Cost of commercial meters be added to commercial base rates***
 - ***A single rate increase***
 - ***No change in the sewer cap***
 - ***An administrative fee increase in \$5 per billing cycle for Water and Sewer (total \$20 per year)***
 - ***.05 per unit charge to fund Maple Road***

The Board also agreed that a policy needs to be discussed to combat those large increases due the difference in usage and the amount billed, after the new meters are in place. Select Person William Scibelli requested a list of those expenditures that are listed under both the Capital Budget and the Operating Budget such as the water valve replacement project. Town Manager Robin Crosbie will provide a list to the Select Board at the next meeting. Select Person Kathleen Grady inquired as to Longmeadow’s “Drought Plan” and others as outlined in the Water Conservation By-Lay provided to the Select Board. No such plans exist at this time the deadline to have these in place is 12/31/2017. Select Person Kathleen Grady is interested in participating in the creation of those plans.

3. **Audit Committee – 7:02** - Vice Chair Glen Rosenberg and Secretary Ray McCarthy were present to discuss the Audit Committee's recommendation to the Select Board for Audit Services. There was some discussion regarding the language in the by-laws pertaining to the ability of the Select Board to terminate the contract with only thirty days notice. Town Manager Robin Crosbie suggested striking the language from the by-laws and using it in the contract if necessary. The Audit Committee will discuss this and the other suggestions. After more conversation, Select Person William Scibelli made a motion to authorize a two year extension to Scanlon & Assoc. at the cost of \$25,000 each year. In addition they would also reduce the current year FY09 contract from \$29,000 to \$25,000. Select Person Brian Ashe seconded the motion. Chair Person Paul Santaniello called a vote and the motion carried 4:0.

New Business- None this evening.

Consent Agenda - None this evening.

7:02 pm Town Manager Robin Crosbie reported the following to the Select Board:

- The snow budget shortfall, after the storm last week, is estimated at \$139,000.
- The School Dude Maintenance Direct program is in place. A detailed report was provided to the Select Board for their review.
- The Green Team recommended replacing incandescent bulbs and fixtures in all Town and School buildings. The cost savings is expected to be about 70%.
- A meeting was held with Bari Thomas regarding the proposed Town Green Policy. A letter was sent to the Historical Society regarding the constitutional matters raised by the town, as well as the ACLU. The Chairman reported they will comply.
- A meeting with Bari is scheduled to discuss Long Meddow Days.
- Eleven hydrants have been replaced by the DPW to date.
- The Counsel on aging reported that meals have increased 15%, from 60 per day to 70 per day.
- The Health Department has been dealing with a number of public health housing matters lately.
- Code violations at 124 Benedict Terrace have been corrected and the Town has no further cause of action at this time.
- Copies of the report on streetlights are being made for the Select Board, Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee to review and discuss.
- The following reports were provided to the Select Board as requested at previous meetings: 2 proposals regarding energy services related to streetlights, information regarding take home vehicles, the water registration permit issued by the DEP detailing conditions of water conservation and a review on the Cell Tower revenue (\$113,000, \$22,000 expected from the water tower and a 30% commission from the Pondsides site).

Select Board Reports / Correspondence / Comments

- Select Person Kathleen Grady requested CPA come before the Board after the Budget process is completed.

Chair Person Paul Santaniello made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting and enter into Executive Session for the purpose Collective Bargaining not to return to open session. A roll call vote: K. Grady – YES; P. Santaniello- YES; W. Scibelli-YES; B. Ashe- YES. R. Barkett-Absent. The Select

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3/16/2009 – Accepted as Presented.

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Board closed the Regular Meeting and entered into Executive Session. The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Wieners