

Minutes
Select Board Meeting
Monday, August 9, 2004
Police Station Community Room
7:00 p.m.

Acting Chair Person John Papale opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Select Board members Brian Ashe and John J. Papale

Also Present: Norman Thidemann, Int. Town Administrator, the press and private citizens.

Acceptance of Minutes:

The minutes of the July 12, 2004 Regular Meeting were approved as read.

The minutes of the July 12, 2004 Executive Session were approved as read.

Introduction of School Superintendent Scott AndersEn: Mr. Papale introduced Dr. AndersEn to the Select Board. Dr. AndersEn expressed his thanks to the town for having the “privilege” of serving Longmeadow and of his desire to forge a good working relationship with the town.

Visitor Comment and Question Period:

Roger Wojcik questioned the exact number of members to the Capital Planning committee. The question was generated by the fact that the person being interviewed was for a “sixth” slot and usually committees have an odd number of members. (Please note that it was later confirmed that when the Select Board created the committee in 1998 it consisted of six members). Joe Occhuiti mentioned the work that Fran Boudreau has done to clean up the mess in the town hall basement. Mr. Papale thanked Joe for his comments and also added words of praise for Fran as well.

Vacancy Applicant Interviews:

The Select Board interviewed Ms. Karen Chadwell for the Conservation Commission and Nicholas Katsoulis for the Capital Planning Committee. The Board asked each member why they wished to serve and after a brief question and answer period the Board voted unanimously to appoint Ms. Chadwell to the Conservation Committee and Nicholas Katsoulis to the Capital Planning Committee. Chair Person Papale and Select Board member Brian Ashe thanked both applicants for volunteering to serve the town. Additionally both applicants were complimented for their high level of experience and education.

WMECO Hearing – Longmeadow Street: Dr. Papale opened the public Hearing at 7:26 p.m. Walter Seifert, representing WMECO explained the new location for the power line and transformer cabinet to serve 128 Longmeadow Street. One neighbor (Michael Lyons) commented that the new location is an improvement over the former location. Also one neighbor had a question about the size of the transformer cabinet, to which Mr. Seifert replied. Tree Warden Michael Mc Carty requested the power company restore any damage done on the town tree belt and that the tree nearest the transformer not be disturbed. The Board voted unanimously to approve the petition from WMECO as presented.

Old Business:

Appoint Charter Review Committee: In follow up to discussion at the previous Select Board meeting, the Board voted to appoint a “Charter Transition Committee” as follows:

Finance Committee; Jerry Nolet, School Committee; Bill Hoff, Planning Board; (Chair to appoint), Charter Commission; Joe Occhuiti and Roger Wojcik, At Large; Paul Pasterczyk and representing the Select Board; Norman Thidemann. The purpose of the Charter Transition Committee (CTC) is to work with and advise the major policy boards (Select Board, School Committee & Finance Committee) and the town's department heads relative to the implementation of the new Home-Rule Charter for the Town of Longmeadow, as enacted by the voters. The CTC will coordinate and consult on the re-ordering of departments and functions and provide guidance concerning the "Legislative Intent" of the framers of the charter. The CTC will also monitor the implementation of the charter to make sure that it is on schedule. By consensus, the Select Board also approved the advertisement for the Town Managers position, as prepared by the Interim Town Administrator.

New Business:

Town Building Request for Inspection of Town Buildings: The request for the asbestos inspection of town buildings was voted unanimously, as presented.

Award Lease for Cell Phone Installations on Town Water Tower: Select Person Brian Ashe moved that the Town of Longmeadow lease space and land on the town water tower at 303 Academy Drive for a Wireless Communications Facility to Bell Atlantic of Massachusetts (d/b/a Verizon Wireless) for the annual fee of \$20,100.00 which is increased at the rate of 3% per year and an additional monthly rental of \$1675.00 which is increased at the rate of 3% per year. The length of the lease shall be for an initial five-year term and one additional ten-year term. This lease is granted as per the conditions outlined in the Town of Longmeadow "Request for Proposals" of June 15, 2004 and is subject to all applicable town zoning and regular by-laws. The motion was passed unanimously.

Zoning Enforcement Issue (Leetewood Drive) and Regional Select Board Meeting: The Interim Town Administrator was asked by the Select Board to work with town attorney on the Leetewood Road zoning issue and to schedule the Regional Select Boards Meeting for September.

Consent Agenda:

The Consent Agenda (1. Annual Appointment of Election Workers, 2. Sign State Primary Warrant, 3. Approve Tree Warden Request for 47 Warren Ttrace, 4. Award Sidewalk Contract, 5. Award Asphalt Paving Contract, and 6. Approve a One-Day Liquor Licence at Bay path was approved as recommended.

Town Administrator Report:

The Interim Town Administrator reported on his meeting with the Historic District Commission and their approval of the replacement streetlights for the Historic District. The Select Board also approved, subject to funding, the concept of adding additional period streetlights to the Town Green. The September Select Board meeting was moved to September 8th (formerly September 7th). The Interim Town Administrator also reminded the Board about the luncheon at Bay Path College, scheduled for August 24th.

The Selectmen voted to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation and collective bargaining at 7:50 p.m. Roll call vote: Ashe-yes and Papale-yes.

The Selectmen adjourned the regular meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Norman Thidemann, Int. Town Administrator