

Minutes
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Tuesday - September 6, 2005
Police Station Community Meeting Room
7:00 p.m.

Minutes

7:02 p.m. Chair Person John Papale called the meeting to order.

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

Also Present: Town Manager Robin Crosbie, Joe Occhiuti, Rick Schwarzenbach Sr., Rick Schwarzenbach, Betsy Huber Port, Kate Butler, Natasha Clark from the Reminder and Dale Oleksak from the Longmeadow News.

Acceptance of Minutes:

August 15, 2005 regular meeting minutes were accepted with the correction of spelling Attorney Martel, and addition of revised membership/term adjustments to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Kathleen Grady moved to accept with changes, William Scibelli second; Select Board voted unanimously to accept with changes.

7:06 p.m. Visitor Comment/question Period

No public comments.

7:06 p.m. Applicant Interviews

Kate Butler: Cultural Council: Ms. Butler opened with an apology for missing the last meeting due to a communication error. Ms. Butler has an extensive background and has taught at Longmeadow High School since 1997. She is currently taking leave to stay home with her small children and feels this would be a great way to stay involved with the arts and the community while out of the school system. There would be no problems with commitments to meetings and other responsibilities the Council would require of her. Select Person Papale stated applications cannot be voted on for 7 days. Board will vote at next meeting.

Elizabeth Hoff: Historical Commission: Ms. Hoff has a history degree from Duke. She is a 12 year resident of Longmeadow and appreciates the historic character of the town. She enjoys research and wants to be involved with the Historical Commission. Applications cannot be voted on for 7 days. Board will vote at next meeting.

7:17 p.m. Historical Commission

Ms. Elizabeth Port and Mr. Christopher Hall from the Historical Commission were present at the meeting. Their goal at the meeting was to bring the demolition delay bylaw to the attention of the Select Board and public. They suggest changing specifics in the original draft to protect only older homes in the community. The commission is currently compiling a list of homes one hundred (100) years or older that would potentially fall under the protection of the bylaw. The bylaw would delay demolition of a home on the list for nine (9) months giving the town time to research and inspect the home in detail. If the architecture is special or something of historic value happened in the home, the owners would be notified and perhaps demolition would be cancelled. The home owner would have the right to continue demolition at the end of the nine (9) month delay if he/she wishes. Should the new construction be due to a fire or unsafe structural damage, the waiting period could be waived. There are several other towns with similar bylaws with varying details. Select Person Kathy Grady feels the bylaw would be an inconvenience for home owners in town, especially those just purchasing homes who may want to renovate, while Select Person William Scibelli feels that it may deter buyers whose sole goal is to tear down and rebuild. The Select Board wishes for more public input. The Historical Commission will be present at a meeting tentatively scheduled for early February discussing land use and zoning issues. It was suggested all owners of homes 100 years or older be invited as well.

7:35 p.m. OLD BUSINESS

John Papale requested a motion to move the Select Board meeting from Tuesday October 4 to Wednesday October 5, 2005 in observance of Rosh Hashanah. Brian Ashe motioned to move the meeting. Kathleen Grady seconded the motion; Select Board voted unanimously to change meeting date.

7:40 p.m. NEW BUSINESS

- Select Person Hal Haberman wanted to remember the people in the Gulf, and encourage the public to make contributions if at all possible.
- Select Person Kathleen Grady suggested doing something as a town and encouraged residents to contact her if they are interesting in helping.
- Town Manager Robin Crosbie has had several discussions with Chief Madison regarding Longmeadow's emergency procedures. Chief Madison will be present to go over those procedures, improvements in process and those needed at the next meeting.

1. Committee Appointments:

Select Person John Papale requested a motion to appoint Milton Reach to the Historical Commission. Select Person William Scibelli made a motion to appoint Mr. Reach for a 3 year term Select Person Brian Ashe second; The board voted unanimously.

Select Person John Papale requested a motion to appoint either Crystal Diamond or Edward Burt as a member or alternate on the Historic District Commission. Select Person William Scibelli made a motion to appoint Mr. Burt as a member of the Historic District Commission. Select Person Brian Ashe seconded the motion; the board voted unanimously.

Select Person Paul Scibelli made a motion to appoint Ms. Diamond as an alternate member to the Historic District Commission. Select Person Kathleen Grady seconded the motion; the board voted unanimously.

2. Article for Repairs to Private Ways:

Town Manager Robin Crosbie gave Select Board samples of bylaws from surrounding towns. The Select Board discussed the options and felt the Halifax example was the best one and requested Town Manager Robin Crosbie present a draft of the new bylaw for the Town of Longmeadow for the next meeting.

3. Approval of Sewer Easement Agreement – Bay Path College:

Easement Agreement at Bay Path College – Wheelmeadow Brook has been a work in long process. All final reports were submitted. The town will own and maintain the pumping station but the College will own and maintain the new sewer lines once they are installed. Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to approve the easement and move forward. Select Person Brian Ashe seconded the motion; the Board voted unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Block Party Applications (3): Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to approve all the block party applications. Select Person Brian Ashe seconded the motion; the Board voted unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Select Person William Scibelli had several points to mention:

- Set a meeting for the possible widening of Chandler Avenue and get it on the agenda for next meeting. Need feedback from other departments and boards.

- Zoning Board of Appeals requested procedures about appointment process – do we have a formal response to them?
- Park Commissioners – Select Person John Papale has a letter drafted in response to a letter received in August.
- Traffic lights and electricity issues (were addressed with Town Manager’s report).
- Fall leaf collection – Board agreed to purchase the additional 10,000 bags, no vote needed.
- Updated list of warrant articles for next meeting.

Select Person Kathleen Grady:

- Wanted an update on settlement agreement for work on dumps in town.
- Tipping fees have gone up retroactively from 7/03 for tipping fees. She strongly encouraged recycling.

8:15 p.m. TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

Town Manager Robin Crosbie reported that 12 issues were discussed at her Traffic Meeting. She is compiling a detailed written report for the next meeting.

Town Manager Robin Crosbie reported that zoning bylaws have been approved and are in effect.

Town Manager Robin Crosbie reported Bay Path College will be sending over 2 interns. They will be working at the Town Hall 15 hours a week and paid by the Government through a work study program. She also reported that Bay Path College will be taking a break from planning, and reevaluating campus use. The College is interested in assisting the town in other ways and would like finite suggestions from the Select Board. Town Manager Robin Crosbie requested the Board come up with some ideas.

Town Manager Robin Crosbie reported that a deadline has been set for quotes from the two electricity supply companies. Proposals must be in by Tuesday and a decision will be made by next Wednesday.

A roll call vote was taken (Haberman-yes, Papale-yes, Scibelli-yes, Ashe- yes, Grady-yes) was made to enter into executive session, to discuss strategy with respect to litigation and will not reconvene in open session. Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Wieners
Recording Secretary