

**Minutes**  
**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
Monday – September 19, 2005  
**Police Station Community Meeting Room**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**7:03 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, Department of Public Works Director Michael Wrabel, B. Wagner, M. Caronna, Mike Pequignot, E. Ratner, L. Kornet, L. Polep, Clare Cummings, J. Cummings, Carolyn Cummings, C. Schepps, L. Abrams, N. Rogers, D. Nadeau, J. Occhiuti, B. Knaus, M. Regan, L. Sarage, E. Sarage, L. De Carlo, M. Cropsy, Dale Oleksak from the Longmeadow News, Collector /Treasurer/Acting Clerk Mary Pequignot, Betsy Port Historical Commission Member, and several other members of the public.

**Acceptance of Minutes:**

*September 6, 2005 Regular Meeting:* Select Person Kathleen Grady motioned to accept the minutes as presented; Select Person Brian Ashe seconded. The Select Board voted unanimously to accept meeting minutes as presented.

*September 6, 2005 Executive Session:* Select Person William Scibelli motioned to accept minutes as presented, Select Person Brian Ashe seconded. The Select Board voted unanimously to accept meeting minutes as presented.

*September 12, 2005 Executive Session:* Select Person Kathleen Grady motioned to accept minutes as presented, Select Person William Scibelli seconded. The Select Board voted unanimously to accept meeting minutes as presented.

**Visitor Comment/Question Period:** Select Person Hal Haberman suggested that the Select Board hold off on the visitor comment/question period until after the Chandler Avenue presentation due to the fact that all of the persons present were there because of Chandler Avenue and some questions may be answered during the presentation. Chair Person John Papale agreed.

**7:06 p.m. Collector/Treasurer/Acting Clerk Mary Pequignot** – Mary Pequignot shook hands with each member of the Select Board and introduced herself to the room. She is very excited for the opportunity to work for the Town of Longmeadow and is looking forward to making improvements to the department. The Select Board welcomed her warmly and thanked her for coming to the meeting.

**7:07 p.m. Old Business:**

1. **Town-Wide Facilities Improvement Committee** – Select Person William Scibelli didn't want this topic to fall off the table. He feels that it is very important to have a committee that will prioritize, for the Town and the people of Longmeadow, the fixing and updating of both municipal and school buildings. Select Person William Scibelli stated that the School Committee is positive about the creation of a Town-wide Facilities Improvement Committee because they don't want to compete with other committees to achieve the same goal: updating and repairing Longmeadow's buildings. Select Person William Scibelli made a motion to adopt a Town -wide Facilities Improvement Committee. Select Person Brian Ashe seconded. The Select Board voted unanimously to start the process.
2. **7:16 p.m. Electricity** – Select Person William Scibelli requested that Paul Pasterczyk, the Acting Finance Director, attend the next Select Board meeting on October 5, 2005 to inform and update the Select Board what exactly is going on with reference to the new law on the electric rate system. He wants Mr. Pasterczyk to present to the Select Board what their options and alternatives are. He suggested that the Chair Person of the School Committee also place a discussion regarding power rates on their agenda. Town Manager Robin Crosbie will follow up with Paul Pasterczyk.
3. **7:22 p.m. Chandler Avenue Discussion** –Chair Person John Papale introduced the topic and stated that the Select Board does not have the right to say whether or not the project can go forward based on planning or zoning. He went on to say that the discussion this evening is not a hearing but a meeting to allow them (Mr. Eckman and Mr. Costello) to educate the Select Board as well as residents as to what they are proposing with the property called 52 Chandler Avenue. There is a public hearing scheduled in front of the Planning Board September 29, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. All residents interested in this topic are urged to attend this meeting. Residents unable to attend may submit written comments to the Planning Board via mail or deliver in person prior to the hearing on September 29<sup>th</sup>. Attorney Alfred Geoffrion, Jr., and his clients Ronald G.

Eckman and J. David Costello were present at the meeting. Mr. Eckman and Mr. Costello are in the process of purchasing land at the end of Chandler Avenue pending approval for the modifications desired. They attended the meeting to present the modifications to the existing Chandler Avenue and answer any questions the Select Board may have. As part of the development they are proposing to (and pay for), widen the road surface, adding a sidewalk, correcting some deficiencies in the drainage system as well as improving the sewer and water systems on Chandler Avenue. They met with the Safety Officer, Police Chief and Fire Chief in February and stated that they would execute all recommendations made by those individuals. Department of Public Works Director Michael Wrabel stated that he has an independent consultant reviewing the plans and currently has several issues that need to be addressed. Mike Wrabel will present the Select Board, Town Manager and Planning Board a full report when it is finalized. Select Person Hal Haberman clarified the information shared with the Select Board and proposed modifications are all subject to approval by the Planning Board on September 29<sup>th</sup>.

**8:00 p.m. Visitor Comment/Question Period** Chair Person John Papale allowed several residents to speak their thoughts regarding the modifications on Chandler Avenue. No speaker expressed support for the development of the land or the modifications to Chandler Avenue. Betsy Port from the Historical Commission appeared and shared the Commission's concern with the adverse impact on the Town, the historic Town green and historic district. The residents of Chandler Avenue agree that some improvements could be made to their street, however not at the expense of the history, charm and the safety of the children that reside there. One resident said, "The Avenue has remained the same for the last one hundred (100) years and we ask that it remains the same for the next hundred (100) years."

**8:26 p.m. Trash Update and Discussion** – Arlene Miller from the Recycling Commission and Public Works Director Mike Wrabel, updated the Select Board on trash and recycling. According to Arlene Miller, over the last three (3) years trash has increased 7% and recycling has decreased. Chair Person John Papale is very aware that the Town needs to recycle more and requested to add the subject to the Town Forum to get a sense of what the residents think and expect from the Town (Select Board) regarding the issue. The Select Board asked Arlene Miller to attend a meeting in early November to present to the Board options for trash removal. Leaf collection for the Longmeadow will start on November 7 thru December 9, 2005. Starting on October 24, the leaf site on West Road will be open. The leaves can be loose or bagged, but bags must be emptied on site. A recycle sticker is required to enter the leaf site and is available at the Clerk's office in the Town Hall. The Town has purchased new draw string bags, however the bags left over from last year will be used up first. All information will be posted on the web site for public access.

**8:55 p.m. Shaker Road/Maple Road Intersection** –After a Board discussion of a 1990 Pioneer Valley Planning Commission report recommending a signal or 4-way stop, and after reviewing recommendations by the Police Chief and Department or Public Works Director Mike Wrabel, Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to install a four-way stop, four-way blinking red light and "stop sign ahead" signs at the intersection of Shaker Road/Maple Road. Select Person Brian Ashe seconded the motion. The Select Board voted unanimously to install the Four Way Stop Sign four-way stop, four-way blinking red light and stop sign ahead signs at the intersection of Shaker Road/Maple Road.

**Street Lighting:** Town Manager Robin Crosbie suggested upgrading the street lighting on Bliss Road near the pedestrian cross walk because currently there are no street lights. Director of Public Works, Mike Wrabel, explained using existing poles, brighter lights, and the installation of one more light would solve the problem. Select Person Hal Haberman mentioned that perhaps overgrown trees could be causing some problems with lighting and suggested those areas be checked out by the Department of Public Works. The street light request on Avondale Road a 100 watt bulb be installed to be updated and consistent with other lights. Western Massachusetts Electric Company (WMECO) will upgrade at no cost to Town. The Select Board approved the changes although no formal vote was needed.

**Other Traffic Issue:** Other complicated traffic matters such as cross walks on Bliss Court will be revisited at a future date by the Traffic Safety Committee. Select Person Brian Ashe has detailed information regarding the Longmeadow Street/Forest Glen issues and will pass the file onto Town Manager Robin Crosbie. Select Person Kathleen Grady also requested to review the file.

Regarding the Traffic Safety Report, according to Town Manager Robin Crosbie, the Traffic Safety Committee will respond to the complainants.

#### **New Business:**

##### **1. 9:09 p.m. Committee Appointments**

Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to appoint Kate Butler to the Cultural Council; Select Person Kathleen Grady seconded the motion. The Select Board voted unanimously to appoint Kate Butler to the Cultural Council.

Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to appoint Elizabeth (Beth) Hoff to the Historical Commission. The Select Board voted unanimously to appoint Elizabeth (Beth) Hoff to the Historical Commission.

**2. 9:10 p.m. Close Warrant:**

Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to close the Warrant for the meeting; Select Person Kathleen Grady seconded the motion. The Select Board voted unanimously to close the Warrant for the meeting.

**Set Warrant:** A petition has been added to the Warrant regarding the fluoridation of the public water supply for domestic use being discontinued. The Select Board agreed to set the Warrant with the following changes. Select Person Kathleen Grady suggested that Capital Planning endorse any monies over \$10,000 in item 3 (a list of building maintenance requested by the schools), and the Select Board requested adding the line "not to exceed \$186K" under *LPS Proposed use of \$186K*. The following items will be removed from the Warrant: Item ten (10) The Select Board feels the request from the school is not itemized enough to place on Warrant at this time. Items fourteen and fifteen (14 & 15 zoning changes) will also be removed for the reason that wording is not available to the Select Board to review these items. Item eighteen (18), with respect to setting earlier hours for Town Meeting, will be forwarded for review by the Rules Committee. Town Manager Robin Crosbie reminded the Select Board that the Warrant can be re-opened and items can be added at a later date.

**3. Announce Town Forum**

The Town Forum will be held on Tuesday September 27, 2005 starting at 7:00 p.m. at the High School Cafeteria.

**9:48 p.m. Consent Agenda:**

1. Block Party Applications:  
Warren Terrace  
Concord Road
2. One-Day Liquor License Application  
Annual LEEF Board Cocktail Party

Chair Person John Papale motioned to accept the consent agenda, Select Person Kathleen Grady seconded the motion. The Select Board voted unanimously to accept all applications.

**Correspondence-** No comments.

**9:50 p.m. Town Manager's Report**

Town Manager Robin Crosbie attended the Emergency Management Workshop and found it very informative and attended NIMS (National Incident Management Systems) workshop at the Fire Department.

Town Manager Robin Crosbie organized and attended a training class on conducting hearings, meetings, and writing decisions. She reported that one intern from Bay Path College will be starting soon, and a second will be coming on board as well; she also confirmed that the initial site assessment maps were completed and distributed, reported the environmental compliance audit was submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection and a draft of the environmental management systems was as well. Mike Wrabel and Chief Madison are currently looking over those documents. There are several questions and issues that need to be cleared up before presenting the file to the Select Board. Select Person William Scibelli inquired about Department Head Meetings, Town Manager Robin Crosbie has been holding such meetings on a monthly basis, on a cabinet-level basis.

A roll call vote was taken (Papale-yes, Scibelli-yes, Ashe- yes, Grady-yes) was made to enter into executive session, to discuss collective bargaining and will not reconvene in open session. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m. Select Person Hal Haberman was not present for executive session.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Wieners  
Recording Secretary