

**Minutes**  
**Select Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday October 10, 2006**  
**Police Station Community Room**  
**7:00 pm**

Vice Chair Person William Scibelli called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Present:** Select Board Persons William Scibelli, Kathleen Grady, Paul Santaniello and Hal Haberman.

**Absent:** Chair Person Brian Ashe

**Also Present:** Town Manager Robin Crosbie; J. Nolet; A. Santaniello; A. Miller; D. Rogeness; R. Wojcik and Department of Public Works (DPW) Director M. Wrabel.

**Announcements:**

- A Town Forum will be held on Thursday, October 12, 2006 at 7:00 pm at the Community House. There will be a presentation and a discussion on emergency preparedness in the community as well as raffle prizes.
- Due to the volume of sign complaints and violations the Town will start enforcing the bylaw stating that signs may not be placed on Town property. Signs in violation will be tagged with notices.

**7:02 pm Acceptance of Minutes**

- Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to accept the September 26, 2006 Regular Meeting notes as presented. Select Person Kathleen Grady seconded the motion. Vice Chair Person William Scibelli called a vote and the motion carried unanimously.
- Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to accept the September 28, 2006 Special Meeting notes as presented. Select Person Paul Santaniello seconded the motion. Vice Chair Person William Scibelli called a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

**7:06 pm Visitor Comments and Questions**

- Mr. Rogeness addressed the Select Board regarding an audit article for the Fall Town Meeting. He reviewed the details of the article and requested the Select Board's support.
- Mr. Roger Wojcik sat with Mr. Rogeness and supported his statement; he then added that he was pleased with the actions the Town is taking with the signs on the tree belts.
- Arlene Miller joined the Select Board to "talk trash". She shared a detailed report for month number three of the program. The total trash reduction year to date is 336.92 tons or \$24,687 saved. Recycling revenue year to date including the increased tons resulting from the Waste Reduction Program is about \$15,994. The total of new money from the program is \$2,999. Ms. Miller reminded everyone that plastic bags are not accepted at our plant and bottles or newspapers should not be placed in them for recycling. The issue with the haulers and their throwing barrels and bins around is being addressed.

**7:26 pm Discussion – Wheelmeadow Brook Project Update -** Mr. Ron Michalski of Tighe and Bond and DPW Director Mike Wrabel informed the Select Board that during the course of construction along Greenacre Avenue, the contractor (Bruschi Bros., Inc.) observed that storm drain lines, not marked on the plans, were proximate to sewer lines. They had to utilize a different form of digging to ensure the safety of the crew and the procedure caused some vibration which resulted in collapse of some sections of the drain pipes. Bruschi Bros. have been stopping work to repair the lines but due to the age and location of them, it is suggested that they be replaced at the same time as all the other utilities. Bruschi Bros., Inc. has also hinted that they have had extra costs due to the delays. It has been determined that some Chapter 90 (CH 90) funds are available to commence the replacement of the storm drains immediately. The price will be negotiated with Bruschi Bros. instead of going out to bid because, as Vice Chair Person William Scibelli stated, Bruschi Bros. is there already and should be able to save the Town money. The money withdrawn from CH 90 would mean that other paving and sidewalk projects would be deferred for a year. Members of the Select Board were not happy with that and Select Person Kathleen Grady suggested requesting \$100,000 at Town Meeting to replace some of the money. Select Person Hal Haberman was surprised to see funds left over from the past two years in CH 90 and he is very concerned with spending such a large sum of that money on one project. Select Person Paul Santaniello was extremely displeased with the “discovery” of the drain system, wanting clarification as to why the condition of the pipes was not known prior to the project starting. He went further to say that the contract with Bruschi Bros. states that the contractor is responsible for damage done to existing structures, and he feels strongly that Bruschi Bros. should be held responsible or the very least share the expense. He added that the job should be put out to bid, and inquired if Town Counsel has been contacted about this issue. Town Manager Robin Crosbie has contacted Counsel. Select Person Kathleen Grady wanted to be sure that more issues would not be discovered as the project continued and is concerned with not being able to have some sidewalks replaced as a result of the funds being allocated for the drainage system. Town Manager Robin Crosbie reminded the residents that there is a program in place where residents are able to share the cost with the Town in order to accelerate their sidewalk replacement. After much discussion, Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to approve the funding up to \$450,000 to replace the drain pipe system on Greenacre Avenue. Select Person Kathleen Grady seconded the motion. An amendment was made to place an article on the Warrant for Special Fall Town Meeting, requesting \$100,000 to replace a portion of the funds to Ch 90. Vice Chair Person William Scibelli called a vote with the amendment and the motion passed 3:1 with one absent. W. Scibelli-yes; H. Haberman-yes; K. Grady-yes; P. Santaniello-no; B. Ashe-absent.

**Old Business:** None at This Time

**8:09 pm New Business:** Select Person Hal Haberman made a comment regarding how the Special Fall Town Meeting has traditionally been a time to tie up loose ends, however it has grown to be just as important as the Annual Spring Town Meeting. The residents of Longmeadow however perceive it to not be as important as the Spring Town Meeting and attendance suffers because of that. He suggested having a Fall Town Meeting and a Spring Town Meeting with equal importance of attendance stressed on both.

**1. Set Special Town Meeting Warrant 8:16 pm** - There was some discussion regarding items submitted for the 2006 Fall Town Meeting.

- *The following articles were approved:*

Old Bills:

Brightwood Hardware \$4.99 Free Cash

WB Mason \$90.00 Free Cash

MIIA \$3,621.00 Sewer Retained Earnings

Amend DPW budget (per list): \$50,000

Transfer sum to Operating Stabilization: \$100,000

Additional appropriation for 10 Wheel Dump /Truck: \$30,000

Replace Fire Chief's aging vehicle with Command Vehicle: \$33,000

Cardiac Defibrillator: \$23,000

Dunn / West roads Water line- \$100,000 from water reserves

- *The following articles were approved as a group:*

Adopt Chapter 39, Section D- Allows members to miss one meeting of adjudicatory process:  
Planning Board, ZBA, Board of Health, and Conservation Commission

Petition General Court to eliminate Preliminary Elections

Transfer of Foreclosed land to Conservation Commission

Adopt COLA's for elderly Exemptions

Technical amendment to zoning bylaw regarding site and design review

Zoning change-Armata's Plaza – request by owner

- *The submitted petitions placed on the ballot:*

Fluoridation on ballot

Reinstatement of leaf pickup

Amend Audit bylaw

Special Legislation to Place Referendum on Ballot for Fluoridation

- *The following item was added to the articles:*

Transfer sum of \$100,000 to CH 90 money for paving and sidewalk improvements

- *The following items will be submitted for the 2007 Spring Town Meeting*

Amend appointment process bylaw

CPA bylaw

**2. Set Special Town Meeting Time 8:39 pm** - The meeting was set for 7:00 pm.

**3. Set Select Board Meeting Dates through June 2007 8:39 pm** - The Select Board will confirm the meeting dates at the next meeting.

**4. Vacancy Committee Appointments 8:40 pm** -

- Select Person Kathleen Grady made a motion to appoint James Brennan to the Park and Recreation Commission for a term to end 6/30/09. Select Person Paul Santaniello seconded the motion. Vice Chair Person William Scibelli called a vote and the motion carried unanimously.
- Select Person Paul Santaniello made a motion to appoint Glenn Rosenberg to the Audit Committee for a term to end 6/30/08. Select Person Hal Haberman seconded the motion. Vice Chair Person William Scibelli called a vote and the motion carried unanimously.
- Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to appoint Gary Lacy to the Cultural Council for a term to end 6/30/08 and Nancy Marshall for a term to end 6/30/09. Select Person Kathleen

Grady seconded the motion. Vice Chair Person William Scibelli called a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

- Select Person Kathleen Grady made a motion to appoint Diane Nadeau to the Historic District Commission for a term to end 6/30/09. Select Person Hal Haberman seconded the motion. Vice Chair Person William Scibelli called a vote and the motion carried unanimously. Select Person Paul Santaniello wanted to remind the residents that there are still several openings on committees.

**5. Policy on Reserve Funds 8:42 pm** - Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to adopt the following policy: *Ambulance Retained Earnings, Water Retained Earnings and Sewer Retained Earnings are for the following purposes: For expenditure on or to offset the direct and indirect costs for operations, equipment, studies or capital projects that support the mission or purpose of these operations.* Select Person Paul Santaniello seconded the motion. Vice Chair Person William Scibelli called a vote and the motion carried unanimously. Town Manager Robin Crosbie mentioned that currently the Town is doing very well with reserves: Ambulance: \$209k, Water: \$705.5k and Sewer: \$928k.

**8:45 pm Consent Agenda- Letter to Eagle Scout-** Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Select Person Kathleen Grady seconded the motion. Vice Chair Person William Scibelli called a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **8:46 pm Correspondence-**

- Both Select Persons Kathleen Grady and Paul Santaniello wanted to mention a letter from Bay Path College. Because their request for a bylaw variance to improve the walkway and landscape in front of Hatch Library was approved by the Select Board and raised some questions in Town, and inadvertently emerged as a concern for some local residents, they are rescinding their request.
- Select Person Kathleen Grady brought to everyone's attention that the Reminder Publications would like to recognize one business person and one citizen from each of the communities we serve as a Hometown Hero for their outstanding contribution to the area. Nominations will be accepted until November 13, 2006. Nominees and winners will be announced in December 2006 and will be honored at a social hour held in February 2007. Winners will receive a plaque, a feature story in the publications and a donation in their name to the charity of their choice. Select Person Kathleen Grady thinks it would be great if a Longmeadow resident won the honor! More information can be found on their website:  
<http://www.thereReminder.com/features/hometownheroaward/>

**8:47 pm Select Board Reports** – Select Person Kathleen Grady and Town Manager Robin Crosbie attended the Audit Committee meeting and feel it was very successful. They discussed the role the Audit Committee will have and what is expected of them. Select Person Kathleen Grady has also been working on the election workers project. She is seeking new election workers and has discovered that the Select Board can appoint 1/3 of the election workers and up to two seven-teen year olds. Chair Person Brian Ashe asked Select Person Kathleen Grady to serve on the School Safety Committee; they will be meeting at the end of the month.

**8:39 pm Town Manager's Report**

- Town Manager Robin Crosbie stated that things have been busy with the sign enforcement.
- Gerald Nolet has agreed to serve as interim Town Clerk effective immediately.
- Town Manager Robin Crosbie has met with the School Committee and the Finance Committee and has been updated on Capital Projects. Some have been completed and she is please to report that funds can be turned back.
- The Draft Facilities Study RFP turned in by Bob Barkett of the School Committee has been passed along.
- On November 30<sup>th</sup>, the Select Board will again meet with the School Committee and Finance Committee. The location and time will be announced.
- We will be having guests from Japan visiting our Town on Friday, October 13, 2006.

**Executive Session- None scheduled this evening.**

Select Person Hal Haberman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Select Person Paul Santaniello seconded the motion. Vice Chair Person William Scibelli called a vote and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Wieners  
Recording Secretary