

Minutes

**Select Board Meeting
Monday, October 18, 2004
Police Station Community Room
7:00 p.m.**

Chair Person Hal Haberman opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Select Board members Hal Haberman, John J. Papale, Kathleen Grady and William Scibelli.

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

Introduction of New Board Members and Election of Vice Chair Person and Clerk:

Select Board Chair Haberman welcomed new Select Board members Kathleen Grady and William Scibelli, who were elected as a result of the charter change. Select Board member John Papale was nominated, seconded and voted unanimously for the position of Vice-Chair Person. Brian Ashe was nominated, seconded and voted unanimously for the position of Clerk.

Acceptance of Minutes:

The minutes of the September 20, 2004 Regular Meeting were approved as read.

The minutes of the September 20, 2004 Executive Session were approved as read.

Award to William Mansfield: Chair Person Haberman presented an award to William Mansfield for saving his sister by using the Heimlich maneuver during a recent family trip.

Visitor Comment and Question Period: 1.) A group of Center School students approached the Board for the purpose of discussing the possibility of changing Halloween to Saturday night rather than Sunday night. The reason given was because Sunday evening is a school night and “too much sugar” would be detrimental to student performance the next day. The board discussed the issue with the students and urged the students to have the same dialog with other schools. The Board Chair also stated that changing the date for Halloween was not within the legal authority of the Select Board. 2.) Paul Santinello and Bary Brooks expressed their concerns about the recently completed school department audit and other issues concerning the leadership of the School Committee. The Select Board Chair acknowledged their input and commented that it would improper for the Select Board to tell another elected board how to conduct their business including how they choose their own leadership.

Town Manager Screening Committee Applicant Interviews: The Select Board chair introduced each of the applicants for the three open seats on the Town Manager Screening Committee. They are: Ms. Ann Cowen, Ms. Arlene Miller, Mr. Warren Goddard, Mr. Michael Peterson, Mr. James Ryan and Mr. Daniel O’Connell (did not attend). Chair Person Haberman asked each of the candidates to give a brief opening statement and to give a brief statement about their qualifications. Mr. Haberman stressed how important the work of the Screening Committee was for the town as it seeks it’s first Town Manager. After a series of questions from each of the Board members a paper ballot vote was conducted with the following results; Miller – four votes, Cowen – three votes, Ryan – three votes and Peterson and Goddard – one vote each. As a result of the

vote Miller, Cowen and Ryan were appointed to the Town Manager Search Committee. Chair Person Haberman thanked each of the candidates for volunteering and commented that the Select Board was faced with a difficult decision, as all of the candidates were eminently qualified.

Recycling Commission Chairman Irwin Pers: Mr. Pers briefed the Board on the progress of the Recycling Committee and noted that statistics showed that town wide recycling efforts are below previous levels. Mr. Pers requested that town residents redouble their recycling efforts. Mr. Pers also commented on the progress of the Leaf Collection sub-committee and distributed a copy of the sub-committees latest report. Chair Person Haberman thanked the Mr. Pers and his committee for their efforts on behalf of the town.

Old Business: (None)

Consent Agenda:

The Consent Agenda (1. Two street closings for Center School, 2. Approve and sign November 2nd Presidential Election Warrant, and 3. Approve sign request for Longmeadow High School Gridiron Club were unanimously approved as recommended.

Town Administrator Report:

The Interim Town Administrator updated the Select Board relative to the most recent meeting of the Charter Transition Team and the Bay Path Parking issue.

The Select Board adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Norman Thidemann, Int. Town Administrator