

12/7/2009 - Select Board Regular Meeting Minutes

12/21/2009 – Accepted as presented.

**Minutes**  
**Select Board Regular Meeting**  
**Monday December 7, 2009**  
**7:00 pm**

Chair Person Robert Barkett called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Present:** Select Board Persons Paul Santaniello, Robert Barkett, Mark Gold, William Scibelli and Robert Aseltine

**Also Present (as signed in):** R. McCarthy; P. Greenberg; C. Macelhiary; M. Kirby; G. Nolet Planning Board; R. Wojcik Finance Committee; J. Occhiuti; I. Madden; C. Sturgis; C. Swanson SBC; G. Bruns SBC, School Committee; R. Joyal SBC; J. Hart Superintendent of Schools; Town Manager Robin Crosbie and Recording Secretary S. Wieners

**Acceptance of Minutes:**

- Mr. Santaniello made a motion to accept the November 23, 2009 Extra Meeting Minutes with corrections. Mr. Aseltine seconded the motion. Chair Mr. Barkett called a vote and the motion carried 5:0.
- Mr. Santaniello made a motion accept the November 30, 2009 Extra Meeting Minutes as presented. Mr. Gold seconded the motion. Chair Mr. Barkett called a vote and the motion carried 5:0.
- Mr. Santaniello made a motion accept the November 30, 2009 Tri Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Mr. Gold seconded the motion. Chair Mr. Barkett called a vote and the motion carried 5:0.

**Announcements-**

The Primary Election will be held at the Community House tomorrow from 7:00am -8:00pm.

**Visitor Comment/Question Period**

- Mr. McCarthy shared his thoughts with the Board regarding issuing budget instructions to the Town Manager and department heads.
- Mr. Nolet shared his concerns regarding a separate Special Town Meeting and Election for the New School Project. He also requested clarification regarding an article in which a MSBA representative stated that the new school project in Longmeadow had something to do with overcrowding.
- Mr. Occhiuti also shared his thoughts regarding the expense of a separate Special Town Meeting and Election for the school building project.
- Mr. Wojcik asked the Select Board to keep education alive in the Town of Longmeadow in a broad sense and not just within the schools, as all residents of Longmeadow, of all ages, are learning in the Library, at community events and in other areas of Town.

**7:15 pm – 2010 Liquor License Renewals Hearing-** Mr. Barkett opened the hearing at 7:15 pm. Town Manager Robin Crosbie stated that the Longmeadow Police will be making compliance checks at the businesses. The Select Board reviewed the documents provided including a letter from the Bottle Shop pertaining to the new requirements the Select Board adopted this year. After some discussion Mr. Gold made a motion to approve the Liquor Licenses for the following

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establishments: Four Seasons Wines/Liquors, Longmeadow Package Store, The Bottle Shop, Longmeadow Country Club, Bertucci's Restaurant, Li's Brothers Inn, Grapevine Pizzeria & Restaurant, Rinaldi's, HuKeLau Restaurant, Elegant Affairs-Franconia Golf Course, Iron Chef Asian Cuisine and Twin Hills country Club. Mr. Aseltine seconded the motion. Chair Mr. Barkett called a vote and the motion carried 5:0.

Attorney Scibelli made a motion to approve Common Victualer – Food Licenses to the following establishments: Bertucci's Restaurant, Li's Brothers Inn, Grapevine Pizzeria & Restaurant, Longmeadow Country Club, Rinaldi's, HuKeLau Restaurant, Elegant Affairs, Iron Chef Asian Cuisine and Twin Hills Country Club. Mr. Aseltine seconded the motion. Chair Mr. Barkett called a vote and the motion carried 5:0. Attorney Scibelli requested that the Board hold a discussion regarding the letter from the Bottle Shop at the December 21<sup>st</sup> meeting and invited Mr. Thomas to attend that meeting to address his concerns. Everyone agreed.

### **7:11 pm Select Board Comments**

- Mr Santaniello shared his concerns with a conference call that happened over the week, of which the Select Board was not informed. And that took time from several Town employees regular duties to answer what he thought was a resident request. He added that information requested by any committee or community member needs to be answered in a *timely manner* and that a policy ought to be created so that Department Heads and residents know what the protocol and guidelines are for such requests.
- Mr. Barkett stated that Longmeadow was not awarded the feasibility study due to overcrowding in the schools. This was a misprint.

**7:26 pm- Old Business- *Stabilization Fund Policy***- Mr. Barowsky shared the opinion of the Finance Committee with the Select Board regarding the Stabilization Fund Policy provided for their review. The Select Board discussed the suggestions in great detail. Town Manager Robin Crosbie will prepare an updated policy with the proposed changes for review and adoption at the December 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

### **New Business:**

**1. State House Note – 8:00-** Mr. Pasterczyk reviewed the memo dated December 3, 2009 **RE: Debt Financing** with the Select Board. After some discussion Mr. Aseltine made a motion that the Select Board approve and sign the 1/15% six –month Bond Anticipation Note for \$1,631,200 in accordance with the recommendation of the Town Manager and the Director of Administration and Finance. Mr. Santaniello seconded the motion. Chair Mr. Barkett called a vote and the motion carried 5:0.

**2. Discussion for Budget Instructions- 8:28pm-** The Board members shared some suggestions regarding guidelines to be used as budget directives for the Town Manager. It was suggested to publish the work plans that department heads prepared last year so that State mandates and requirements are available for the public to view. The Board agreed to work with \$2.1 million deficient, based on the information they have TODAY. Mr. Barkett noted that there will be adjusting as time goes on. The budget calendar is available on longmeadow.org, residents are urged to make note of forum dates and check back for changes. After much discussion, Attorney Scibelli made a motion to prepare a Town budget that reduces projected FY2011 expenditures by \$2.1 million and as an initial step distribute the reduction across Town and School departments at a 70/30 split; School \$1.47 million and Town \$653k. Mr. Santaniello seconded the motion. The

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Select Board discussed the motion in more detail, changing nothing. Mr. Barkett called a vote and it carried unanimously. Mr. Aseltine requested that Ms. Crosbie prepare a framework in conjunction with Department Heads to give the Select Board at the January 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. He asked that it detail the department heads approach to cuts and the magnitude those cuts will have on services and departments overall. This will give the Select Board an opportunity to weigh in on prioritizations. Everyone agreed.

**3. Spring Special Town Meeting – School Building Project – 8:05pm-** Christine Swanson and Superintendent Hart were present to discuss the Special Town Meeting and election request. The School Building Committee (SBC) voted unanimously to request approval from the Select Board, for a Special Town Meeting and election. Several members of the SBC attended a Special Town Meeting held for Minnechaug's school project. They reported that it took over an hour to enter the meeting and the meeting itself took several hours more. The SBC wants to ensure that the public is given every opportunity to ask questions and listen to a detailed presentation so they may make an educated decision. The SBC feels that this holding this vote at the Spring Town Meeting in conjunction with the budget and other items that fall on the Warrant will simply be too much and take too long. Attorney Scibelli asked about holding a Special Meeting on a different date in order to hold the election with the one that is already scheduled. This will be discussed at the next SBC meeting this week and they will get back to the Select Board.

**Continuing Items** - None this evening.

**Consent Agenda-** None this evening.

### **8:30 pm –Town Manager Report**

- The Town Manager provided the Select Board with a binder titled: **Capital Budget for FY2011-2015 Capital Requests** for their review.

### **8:36 pm Select Board Reports**

- There will be a School Building Committee meeting this Thursday December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the Business Technology Center at Longmeadow High School. All residents are encouraged to attend.

### **Correspondence:**

- An email containing a list of question submitted to the School Committee by Mr. Pasterczyk.
- An email to School Committee Chair, Mary Vogel, addressing those questions from Thomas Mazza.
- A letter from Town Manager to the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) regarding four applications submitted.
- A letter from Town Manager supporting application submission to the CPC by Senior Services Director Karen Michelman to make home repairs for income qualified residents.
- A memo in response to the leaf program questions asked at the last meeting.
- A memo regarding memorial tree planting as a revenue generating idea.
- A letter to the Select Board from Town Manager publicly disclosing her appointing Dr. Kathleen Grady to the Council on Aging.
- A document from Kopelman and Paige, P.C. titled **Reasons for Convening Executive Session (M.G.L. Chapter 39, S. 23B)**.

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- An article from the Gazettenet.com titled **Consolidation efforts slow to take root in Massachusetts (with map)**.
- A letter and check from Comcast in the amount of \$39,718.98 due to PACT of Longmeadow for September and October.

Mr. Santaniello made a motion to adjourn the Special Meeting to enter into Executive Session for the purpose to discuss Collective Bargaining with the option to return to open session. Mr. Gold seconded the motion. Chair Mr. Barkett called a vote and the motion carried 5:0.

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Wieners  
Recording Secretary