

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**Police Station Community Meeting Room**  
**34 Williams Street**  
**Monday – December 17, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.**

Chair Person Hal Haberman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Present:** Select Board Persons Hal Haberman, Paul Santaniello, Kathleen Grady, William Scibelli.  
Select Person Brian Ashe arrived at 7:03 p.m.

**Also Present (as signed in):** Town Manager Robin Crosbie, Recording Secretary Elayne Ayan, Recycling Committee Members Arlene Miller and Irwin Pers, Director of Public Works Mike Wrabel, Finance Director Paul Pasterczyk and Susan Altman.

**Announcements:**

1. Town Hall Holiday Hours: Town Hall will be open until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, December 21, but will be closed all day Monday, December 24 and Tuesday, December 25.
2. Town email was not working for over a week, but has been fixed.
3. 2008 Recycling Calendars will be delivered in the “Reminder” this week.

**Acceptance of Minutes:**

- Select Person Kathleen Grady made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 19, 2007 Executive Session as presented. Select Person Paul Santaniello seconded the motion. Chair Person Hal Haberman called a vote and the motion carried unanimously.
- Select Person Brian Ashe made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 3, 2007 Regular Meeting as presented. Select Person William Scibelli seconded the motion. Chair Person Hal Haberman called a vote and the motion carried unanimously.
- Select Person Brian Ashe made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 3, 2007 Executive Session as presented. Select Person Kathy Grady seconded the motion. Chair Person Hal Haberman called a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

**7:05 p.m. Visitor Comment/Question Period:**

- Susan Altman read a statement regarding the legality of the current water rates. Town Manager Robin Crosbie noted that Town Counsel David Martel has assured the Select Board of the legality of the Board’s rates. Select Person Hal Haberman stated that the Select Board would be discussing water and sewer rates tonight.

**7:15 p.m. Annual Liquor License Renewals:**

- Select Person William Scibelli noted that all applications received positive endorsements from Police Chief Robert Danio. Select Person William Scibelli said he would not be able to vote on the Twin Hills Country Club license renewal because he is a member of the their Board. Select Person Brian Ashe made a motion to approve all liquor license applications except Twin Hills Country Club. Select Person Paul Santaniello seconded the motion. Chair Person Hal Haberman called a vote and the motion carried unanimously. Select Person Brian Ashe made a motion to approve the Twin Hills Country Club liquor license. Select Person Kathy Grady seconded the motion. Chair Person Hal Haberman called a vote and the motion passed unanimously with Select Person William Scibelli abstaining.

**7:20 p.m. Recycling Committee Recommendations:**

- Recycling Committee Chair Person Irwin Pers gave the Committee's recommendations. These include an increase in recycling fees for bulk items (large furniture) from \$10 to \$20 per item and for construction debris from \$25 per truck load to a maximum of \$40 per truckload, allowing for flexibility in charges by the attendant. The Committee recommends that every effort be made to discourage contractors from using the Recycling Center for their construction debris as it is designed for residential recycling and not business. They recommend all other fees remain the same. In addition, the Committee recommends revising the Recycling Center's hours of operation to be Wednesday 10 to 5, Saturday 8 to 8 and Sunday 10 to 5, with a reduction of hours in winter. After some discussion of balancing the flexible bulk charges with equity to all, Select Person William Scibelli made a motion to accept the proposed new hours of operation and permit fees with an amendment to the memo that bulk items are \$25 per truck load, not \$15 as stated, up to a maximum of \$40 per truckload. Select Person Brian Ashe seconded the motion. Chair Person Hal Haberman called for a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

**7:59 p.m. Water and Sewer Rates Discussion:**

- Town Manager Robin Crosbie presented the Select Board with several water and sewer rate options. These were discussed at length with input from Town Manager Robin Crosbie and Director of Public Works Mike Wrabel. It was agreed that the impact of the new rates is not what the Select Board had anticipated when it voted to implement the new rates last July. Town Manager Robin Crosbie stated that the main objective is to meet FY 2008 operating budget. The Town has run short in past years and has depleted reserves. There was much discussion of ways to restructure the rates, including capping the sewer charges at various usage levels and the impact that would have on both small and large consumers. Also discussed were the pros and cons of the current tiered system of charges versus a flat rate. Town Manager Robin Crosbie reminded the Board that the Massachusetts D.E.P. strongly encourages water conservation and will require more conservation in the future. The present state water usage goal is 80 gallons per day per capita whereas Longmeadow residents currently average 100 gallons. A tiered rate structure promotes conservation. After lengthy discussion, Chair Person Hal Haberman asked Mike Wrabel to present the Select Board with a chart for fiscal years 2006, 2007, and 2008 comparing rates and charges for small, medium and large water consumers. The Select Board will resume discussion of water and sewer rates at its January 7, 2008 meeting.

**7:35 p.m. Old Business:**

- After some discussion of the Capital Improvement Budget Policy, Chair Person Hal Haberman suggested the policy be sent back to committee for revision.

**New Business:**

1. ***Eagle Scout Ceremony – 7:43 p.m.*** -If available, members of the Select Board will attend the Eagle Scout Ceremony, but at least a letter and certificates will be sent.
2. ***Holiday Waste – 7:33 p.m.*** - Select Person Kathy Grady made a motion to allow one extra trash bag or barrel per week from December 24, 2007 through January 5, 2008. Select Person Brian Ashe seconded the motion. Chair Person Hal Haberman called a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

**7:45 p.m. Consent Agenda:**

1. **Police Contract Ratification**
2. **Tree City Proclamation**

Select Person Brian Ashe made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Select Person William Scibelli seconded the motion. Chair Person Hal Haberman called a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

**7:47 p.m. Correspondence:**

- Select Person Paul Santaniello asked Town Manager Robin Crosbie whether the Town had received any bids on a cell tower. She replied there have not been any bids yet.
- Select Person Kathy Grady said the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is looking to lease 6800 square feet of office space in the Longmeadow area. If anyone would like to submit a proposal for this, they should submit one by January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008 to [www.comm-pass.com](http://www.comm-pass.com).
- Select Person Kathy Grady said the Massachusetts School Building Authority has chosen Longmeadow High School to be one of 49 schools for a feasibility study. Longmeadow will send a delegation which will include Select Person Paul Santaniello and Town Manager Robin Crosbie to meet with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.
- Select Person Kathy Grady pointed out the instructions for Annual Town Meeting articles are out. Planning and zoning articles must be received in the Select Board's office no later than February 5, 2008 and petition articles must be submitted by February 28, 2008. Also, Town Manager Robin Crosbie has prepared FY2009 budget instructions and departments are now working on next year's budget.
- Select Person William Scibelli said he had received a phone call from Representative Mary Rogeness asking him to remind Longmeadow citizens who prepay their property taxes that they should include a little extra in anticipation of the property tax increase recently approved by the voters.
- Town Manager Robin Crosbie informed the Select Board that the lawsuit involving the Kanes has been withdrawn. In addition the Kanes have approached the Town about purchasing their property.
- Select Person Paul Santaniello said the School Finance Committee is seeking a two week extension on their budget deadline of January 25<sup>th</sup>. Town Manager Robin did not think a two week extension would provide any problems. Select Person Paul Santaniello will relay the information to the School Finance Committee.

**Select Board Reports:** None at this time.

**Town Manager's Report:**

1. As stated before, budget instructions have been distributed to all departments.
2. Last Friday, Town Manager Robin Crosbie and Fire Chief Eric Madison completed Incident Command System Training so the Town is certified to receive emergency funds.

**Executive Session:** None scheduled.

**Adjournment:**

Select Person Paul Santaniello made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Select Person Brian Ashe seconded the motion. Chair Person Hal Haberman called a vote and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elayne Ayan  
Recording Secretary