

**Minutes**  
**Select Board Regular Meeting**  
**Monday December 21, 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):** I. Madden Storrs Library Board; Representative Brian Ashe; Town Manager Robin Crosbie and Recording Secretary Stacy Wieners.

**Acceptance of Minutes:**

Mr. Aseltine made a motion to accept the December 7, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Mr. Santaniello seconded the motion. Chair Mr. Barkett called a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Santaniello made a motion to accept the December 7, 2009 Executive Meeting Minutes as presented. Mr. Gold seconded the motion. Chair Mr. Barkett called a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

**Announcements**

- Retired street signs make good gift options! Call 567-3400 or email [rharaty@longmeadow.org](mailto:rharaty@longmeadow.org) for more information about purchasing the signs for just \$10 each.
- During the weeks of December 28 2009- January 8, 2010 the Town will allow each resident to put out 2 barrels or 2 bags of refuse up to 40 pounds. Questions about the refuse or recycling collection days during the holidays can be directed to the DPW at 567-3400.
- Christmas Tree Pick up will be the weeks of January 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. Precinct A will be Monday, B Tuesday and so on. Questions can be directed to the DPW at 567-3400.
- Town Meeting will be held on May 11, 2010. All articles from departments or boards as well as citizen petitions, are due in the Select Board's office no later than 4:00 pm on February 11, 2010. Forms and instructions can be found on [www.longmedow.org](http://www.longmedow.org).
- The Select Board extends congratulations to Police Officer William Albano who has been awarded the most prestigious George Van Cleve Military Leadership Award. This award is only given to one soldier in each of the five branches of the military.

**Visitor Comment/Question Period**

- Irene Madden addressed the Select Board as a member of the Board of Trustees for Storrs Library and shared with the Board the regionalization programs they have in place at this time.
- Mr. Wojcik shared information with the Select Board about the Town Meeting held in Wilbraham regarding their new school building project that is very similar to Longmeadow's.
- Mr. Occhiuti shared the name and phone number of who he believes the moderator was for the Wilbraham Town Meeting, should any members of the Select Board wish to contact him for information.

**7:11 pm Select Board Comments**

1/4/2010 – Accepted as presented.

- Mr. Aseltine responded to the comments made by Ms. Madden.
- Mr. Santaniello extended condolences to the Rinaldi family.

**7:20 pm- State Representative Brian Ashe update to the Select Board** – Representative Ashe updated the Select Board on some items that have been worked on over the last year at the State House and shared some topics that will be up for debate after the new year. He stated that there is a \$3 billion deficit for Massachusetts and tough decisions will be made. He shared his contact information with the Board and stated that anyone can email him with any comments. Mr. Barkett asked about unfunded mandates by the State, such as MCAS Tests, the Quinn Bill and SPED costs, and inquired if these could be frozen to save the municipalities money. He also invited Mr. Ashe to attend the Regional Select Board meeting to be held in January. (State Representative Brian Ashe; State House Room 540 Boston, MA 02133; 617-722-2090 Fax- 617-722-2848; [Rep.BrianAshe@hou.state.ma.us](mailto:Rep.BrianAshe@hou.state.ma.us) )

### Old Business

1. ***Liquor License Holder Training – Bottle Shop Request – 7:45 pm-*** Mr. Thomas, owner of the Bottle Shop, was present at the meeting. He shared his concerns regarding the new policy and the hardship it would be on his business as well as his concern that programs such as TIPPS are not geared for retail establishments but more so for on premise sale. After much discussion the Select Board agreed to send a letter to all Liquor License holders stating that the Select Board will be reviewing the policy in more detail and invite them to come to the meeting (tentatively January 19) for the discussion.
  2. ***Stabilization Fund Policy – Revised Draft – 8:07 pm-*** The Select Board reviewed the revised policy and suggested edits. After a lengthy debate Attorney Scibelli made a motion to adopt the Stabilization Fund Policy as presented with the exception of the following amendments. To read under ***Allowed Uses of Funds: Upon appropriate vote at Town Meeting, the monies from the stabilization Fund may be appropriated to finance the following:***
    1. ***Emergency, urgent or unforeseen expenses for which there are no feasible or alternative funding sources; or***
    2. ***To stabilize the municipal budget when variances are due to adverse economic conditions that are expected to be of short term duration.*** And to read under ***Minimum Balance: The minimum balance shall not be reduced below \$1,000,000, unless a concurrent plan has been developed for replenishing the fund to this minimum balance.*** Mr. Aseltine seconded the motion. Mr. Barkett called a vote and it carried unanimously.
- ***Town Manager’s Budget Instructions – 8:35 pm-*** The Select Board reviewed the 2011 Budget Instructions directive sent to all Department Heads by the Town Manager. Mr. Barkett requested that a spread sheet providing the total cost of running an entire department be included in the information provided to them. (Including the costs of benefits) Mr. Gold requested that a report be provided consisting of the costs of the items that will be “kept” and not cut in case the Select Board has different priorities than what is proposed. Mr. Aseltine stressed that the Town needs to fundamentally change the way business is done. He hopes the budget proposal will include consolidation and reorganization suggestions and not only drastic cuts in services or increases in fees [taxes] to the residents. An update will be provided at the next meeting January 4, 2010.
    - Mr. Barowsky, Finance Committee chair asked to address the board. He ask for a formal vote of the Select Board requesting that Mr. Pasterczyk provide the Finance Committee with information detailing revenues per department. The Select Board

1/4/2010 – Accepted as presented.

unanimously agreed that such a report should be created and provided for both the Finance Committee and them. He asked if projected OPEB numbers could be included per department. It was decided that it would confuse the budget process too much at this point in time. Mr. Barowsky had a question regarding salary negotiations and the effect they have on the budget if they are turned down on Town meeting Floor. The Select Board will get an answer to his question. Mr. Santaniello requested that a water and sewer discussion be placed on an agenda to discuss capital items that will have an effect on the budget.

**New Business:**

**1. Recycling Center – Fee for wood and construction Debris – A. Miller / M. Wrabel – 9:12 pm** – Arlene Miller explained the suggested change to add “wood” to the list of bulk items. After little discussion Mr. Gold made a motion to adopt the 2010 Recycling and Yard Waste Center Fees as presented. Mr. Santaniello seconded the motion. Mr. Barkett called a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

**2. Water Supply Agreement with Springfield Water and Sewer Commission – M. Wrabel / T. Martens- 9:16pm-** Mr. Wrabel and Mr. Martens reviewed the proposed water supply agreement with the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission. After much discussion Mr. Gold made a motion to approve the water supply agreement between Longmeadow and the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission as recommended by the Town Manager and the Director of Public Works. Mr. Aseltine seconded the motion. Mr. Barkett called a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

**Continuing Items** - None this evening.

**Consent Agenda-** None this evening.

**The Town Manager reported the following to the Board:**

- Tax bills are being sent out.
- Mr. Wrabel wanted to thank Bay Path for sanding and salting the center of Town after the snowfall on Saturday.
- The Town received a letter about technical grant opportunities from the PVPC for energy and sharing services. It has been forwarded and Department Heads will be applying for them.
- She is continually meeting with Department Heads to have budget discussions.
- There has been an increase in accidents in Town. The Town has submitted a bill to the insurance company for the clean up costs for the recent accident on Converse Street, the bill was denied. She is referring to Town Counsel on the matter.
- The sewer televising is going well; several obstructions have been removed as a result of the process.
- The Town has received \$20,000 in back taxes.
- The DPW has replaced 34 hydrants, exercised more and found that there are several more that need to be replaced.

**8:36 pm Select Board Reports**

- Mr. Aseltine attended his first Counsel on Aging meeting. He brought a request to hold interviews to fill a vacant position on the Counsel that is causing some challenges in voting and making decisions at this time. Citing special circumstances the Board will request Select Board Secretary Cindy French to post and schedule interviews as required by law.

1/4/2010 – Accepted as presented.

- Mr. Gold has attended several meetings over the last few weeks for different committees.
  - He is on the Trash Team working on the new contract, and shared that a new RFP should be before the Select Board in January for their review and approval.
  - He has attended two PVTAs meetings.
  - He reported that a resident inquired about holding Select Board meetings during the day and shared comments from another resident about the frustration when LCTV cuts the televised portion of meetings before they are over.
- Mr. Barkett attended Winterfest and was amazed! Great event!
- Mr. Barkett will provide a SBC update at the January meeting.

**Correspondence:**

- A copy of the card from the Poinsettia from Attorney Dave Martel that was in the meeting room.
- An invitation for Mr. Barkett to attend a ceremony on January 10<sup>th</sup> where Matthew Scott MacKenzie will be awarded the coveted Eagle Scout Award.
- A letter from the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commission informing the Board that Peter Bouvier successfully completed MACC's Fundamentals for conservation Commissioners training and received a Certificate of Achievement.

Mr. Aseltine made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Mr. Santaniello seconded the motion. Chair Mr. Barkett called a vote and the motion carried 5:0.

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 9:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Wieners  
Recording Secretary