

**TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN – SPECIAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 13, 2008
OAKMONT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – AUDITORIUM**

PRESENT: Chris Gagnon, Chair, Jonathan Dennehy, Member and Maggie Whitney, Clerk. Kevin Paicos, Deb Phillips, Town Counsel and Sylvia Turcotte, Assistant to the Town Administrator.

The meeting convened at 6:13 p.m. with a discussion and final vote on articles for the Special Town Meeting warrant. (Copy attached.)

Article 5 was discussed and it was unanimously voted by the Board of Selectmen to pass over this article as they did not recommend.

Article 6 was discussed with Dennehy noting that the property would be surveyed before Thanksgiving and that the auctioneer was getting things ready. Paicos stated that he suggested to go forward with this anyway, even though it may not be feasible to use at this time. Dennehy motioned to support Article 6 and was seconded by Whitney. Motion carried.

Article 7 was discussed with Whitney stating that she was told the loader could be repaired, adding that \$60k is a lot of money. Gagnon noted that this would basically use up the remaining Chapter 90 funds. Don Ouellette stated that they are working on trying to fix the loader but that there was only a 50/50 chance that it could be repaired. Dennehy motioned to support Article 7 and was seconded by Gagnon. Whitney voted against.

Article 9 was discussed. Dennehy changed the wording on this article as follows: “To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Administrator to apply for any loans or grants associated with the repair and/or replacement of the water tank at the intersection of Lake/Lashua/Hastings Road and High Street, or act in relation thereto.” Town Counsel, Deb Phillips noted that there would be no need to borrow money and that they can wait until they get a grant with a match in funds. She added that they could let people know that they were applying for a grant but not spending any money unless they go back to the voters. Gagnon stated that he did not want to commit to any borrowing but they could go ahead and apply for any grants. He noted that they should go with the modified version of the article. The Board unanimously recommended this article as modified.

A short discussion followed on articles 17 and 18. It was unanimously voted by the Selectmen to pass over Article 17 due to an issue with the lot. It was determined that Article 18 involved a parcel of land that was not buildable but that may be used as an affordable housing lot and that it should be put on the town meeting floor to be decided.

Paicos noted that they would put the Cushing Trust Fund article on the December 3rd STM warrant budget article in order to use the interest from this trust. Gagnon stated that it was the consensus of the Board to do so.

Article 13 was discussed and Whitney motioned to support this article and was seconded by Gagnon. Dennehy voted against.

This meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sylvia Turcotte
Assistant to the Town Administrator