

TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM
JOINT MEETING W/ ADVISORY BOARD AND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES
APRIL 30, 2009
FAIRBANKS MEMORIAL TOWN HALL – UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM

This meeting was aired live on local cable television.

PRESENT: Ed Vitone, Jonathan Dennehy, Maggie Whitney, Norm Thidemann, Interim Town Administrator and Sylvia Turcotte, Assistant to the Town Administrator. Also present: Deb Phillips, Town Counsel, Nancy Haines, Town Accountant, Linda Ramsdell, Town Clerk, Jeff Lawrence, Town Moderator, and Advisory Board members: Bill Johnson, Dottie Munroe, Leo Janssens, Jaime Piedrafite.

At 6:35 p.m. Ed Vitone called the meeting to order and noted that the meeting was held to review the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. He stated that he had two points to make and they were first, never use the wording “customary article” and second, stay at the microphone once the motion is read.

It was noted by Whitney that they should vote for the Selectmen Chair at this meeting. Thidemann stated that they should also plan on a short Executive Session to discuss the Town Administrator negotiations.

Those present then went through each article beginning with the Special Town Meeting Warrant. There was some discussion on Article 2 of the Annual Town Meeting which was the FY10 Budget and what amount should be used for the school. It was noted by Janssens that they should use the additional \$156,849 amount and Dennehy agreed. It was noted by Vitone that they should allow the School Committee to amend the amount when the motion was made. Vitone also stated that they should change the number in Article 25 of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant to \$156,849. After some discussion the motion was made by Dennehy to recommend amending the amount to \$156,849 on Article 25 and Whitney seconded. Motion carried.

There was some discussion on the ConCom budget line and it was noted by Thidemann that the Advisory Board version of the budget was what was moved on at Town Meeting.

It was also noted that at the planned fall Town Meeting they would have an article for a Hazardous Waste Day.

At Article 29, the SAFER Grant for the Fire Department, Vitone made the motion to add the amount of \$214k and was seconded by Whitney. Motion carried.

At this time, Whitney stated that they should reorganize the Board of Selectmen. Dennehy nominated Vitone as Chair and was seconded by Whitney. Vitone nominated Whitney as Clerk and was seconded by Dennehy. Both motions were unanimous.

It was noted that a meeting of the Advisory Board would be posted for 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 2, 2009.

At 9:36 p.m. Dennehy motioned to enter into Executive Session to deliberate upon matters which, if done in open meeting could detrimentally affect the position of the Town regarding contract negotiations with non-union personnel and to not reconvene into open session. Whitney seconded and the motion carried.

At 9:36 p.m., Dennehy motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Whitney. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Turcotte, Assistant to the Town Administrator