

TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM
JOINT MEETING - BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND ADVISORY BOARD
SATURDAY – MAY 5, 2012 – 9:00 a.m.
OAKMONT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL - AUDITORIUM

PRESENT: - BOARD OF SELECTMEN - Ed Vitone, Chair; Leo Janssens, new Member; Greg Fagan, Clerk. ADVISORY BOARD – Bill Johnson, Chair; Duncan Phyfe, James Piedrafite, Joseph Oliveira, and Gail Dumont, Secretary. Also present: Doug Briggs, Town Administrator, Debbie Phillips, Town Counsel, Jeff Lawrence, Town Moderator, Linda Ramsdell, Town Clerk, and Sylvia Turcotte, Assistant to the Town Administrator.

Vitone called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. and stated that the purpose of this meeting was to review final wording to the motions on a few articles.

He stated that Article 10 is the money to the school for the two elementary school teachers. He explained the process that brought them to this new motion. He stated that the amount was now \$44,697 due to cuts they have made and the use of some of their Excess and Deficiency fund. With the potential increase in funding to the schools from the State, he noted that they were asking the school to reimburse the town for the \$44,697 if the town funds this request. He stated that this would be option A and option B would be the override.

He asked which option the Board of Selectmen would recommend and Leo Janssens made the motion to go with Option A and was seconded by Greg Fagan. Motion carried. He then asked the Advisory Board for their vote and Joe Oliveira motioned to go with Option A and was seconded by Duncan Phyfe. All in favor. Doug Briggs noted that this would be contingent with the Town of Westminster's approval.

Vitone stated that the next item for discussion was Article 22 which was the purchase of land for the DPW relocation. He stated that we would purchase this under "friendly" eminent domain and that the funds would come out of the Capital Fund. He also noted that the Capital Planning Committee would be voting on the approval of this article at their meeting at 9:30 this morning. There was some discussion as to how the Capital Fund would be replenished and it was noted that there were many opportunities to do so.

Greg Fagan made the motion to support Article 22 as presented and was seconded by Leo Janssens. Motion carried.

For the Advisory Board, Gail Dumont made the motion to support Article 22 as presented and was seconded by Duncan Phyfe. All were in favor.

Bill Johnson inquired about the Regional School Agreement amendments. Vitone stated that Westminster was not happy because of the funding method and they would move to pass over the article at their Town Meeting.

At this time Vitone asked if the other members would be willing to recess this meeting until after Town Meeting so that if the Pilot article passed they could sign the agreements today. *Fagan made the motion to recess their meeting to after the Town Meeting and was seconded by Janssens. Motion carried.*

It was noted that the Advisory Board members would continue their meeting separately to take care of some additional business.

Bill Johnson asked for approval of minutes for the March 26, 2012 Meeting. Duncan Phyfe motioned to approve the minutes of March 26, 2012 and was seconded by Joe Oliveira. It was unanimous.

Johnson asked for approval of minutes for the April 17, 2012 Meeting. Duncan Phyfe motioned to approve the minutes of April 17, 2012 and was seconded by Jaime Piedrafite. Four members approved with Joe Oliveira abstained.

Johnson asked for approval of minutes for the April 23, 2012 Meeting. Jaime Piedrafite motioned to approve the minutes of April 23, 2012 and was seconded by Duncan Phyfe. Four members approved with Joe Oliveira abstained.

The Advisory Board adjourned their meeting at 9:50 a.m.

At 11:45 a.m. Vitone reconvened the meeting.

Vitone stated that their first order of business was to reorganize the Board of Selectmen. He welcomed Leo Janssens to the Board. ***Leo Janssens made the motion to appoint Ed Vitone as Chairman and was seconded by Greg Fagan. Motion carried. Ed Vitone motioned to appoint Greg Fagan as Clerk and was seconded by Leo Janssens. Motion carried.*** It was noted that Leo Janssens would be Member.

Vitone then noted that the Pilot agreements were passed and that they needed to sign three copies of each. He stated that the agreements would be mailed to Investar on Monday.

Greg Fagan noted that he had learned a lot in his first year on the Board of Selectmen and that he felt passionate about the Town. He noted that they should consider how information is getting out to the residents and that they should look at better communication. Vitone agreed with this and it was noted that the offset revenues for FY13 should be put on the Town's website. It was also noted by Vitone that we should look at the website and make it a better informational tool.

A short discussion followed on the Regional Dispatch proposal with Ashby.

At 12:20 p.m. Fagan motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Janssens. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Sylvia Turcotte
Assistant to the Town Administrator