Wednesday, February 23, 2011

James M. Fay, Chairman	X	Carolyn McCreary, Member (Selectman McCreary)	X
Frank F. Maxant, Clerk	X	Gary J. Luca, Member- (Selectman Luca)	A
Janet S. Lewis, Secretary	X	Robert Pontbriand, Town Administrator	X

11:00a.m.Chairman Fay called the meeting to order.

Announcements: Chairman Fay read into the record the Agenda items to be taken up.
- Veterans Agent-Reserve Funds Transfer
- Patrolman's Grant Application-Police Helmets
- Brief discussion re Fin-com Appointment
- Next steps Train Station issue

Agenda Item #1. Veterans Agent-Reserve Fund Transfer- The Board met with Mike Detillion-Veterans Agent. Mr. Pontbriand advising to Mr. Detillion appraising Board to running in deficit in Veterans Services Account at past Selectmen's meeting due to Devens underfunding and current economic conditions-greater need than anticipated.   Mr. Detillion presented back-up re Reserve Fund Transfer in the amount of $42,367.00. Selectman Maxant moved the Board vote to approve the Reserve Fund Transfer in the amount not to exceed $42,367.00 as recommended by Mr. Pontbriand, 2nd by Selectman Mccreary VOTE: unanimous, so moved. Mr. Pontbriand recommending Board to consider an amendment to the Consulting Services Contract Ayer currently has with MADeV. The Amendment to provide the funding for the remainder of the contract. Mr. Pontbriand updating the Board to the prior contract underfunded and required additional funding from MADeV for services for those Veterans residing on Devens in host community. MADev. Apologizing for bureaucratic Problem taking so long which requires approval from Boston to balance out,   as of today $30,500.00 in arrears. Selectman McCreary moved to approve Amendment #1 to Agreement for Consulting Services between MADeV and the Town of Ayer to state specific dollar amount of $30,500.00 to cover cost from June 2010 to June 2011, 2nd by Selectman Maxant, VOTE: unanimous, so moved. Selectman Maxant moved to approve signature by Chairman, 2nd by Selectman McCreary, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

Agenda Item #2. **Police Department-Patrolman's Grant Application –Helmets** The Board authorized Police Chief William Murray as signatory on Grant and authorize the Chairman's signature on the Grant Application, Selectman Maxant moved to authorize the Chairman's signature on the application authorizing the Police Chief as signatory of the Patrolmen's Grant, 2nd by Selectman McCreary, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

Agenda Item #3. MADeV Letter supporting Town of Harvard's request for audio equipment to record JBoS and DEC meeting for distribution to the neighboring host communities: Towns of Ayer, Harvard, Shirley and Lancaster approved at the Board's 3-1-11 Meeting. Mr. Pontbriand presented letter for Board's signatures.
- **Devens Collaboration for Regional Services-**Mr. Pontbriand presented the Board a letter to be submitted to Senator Jamie Eldridge and Representative Sheila Harrington seeking their assistance to get support of the Governor's Office through the Board of Directors re all contracts for municipal services provided within the Devens Regional Enterprise Zone (DREZ) be opened

for public bidding to the four host communities adjacent to the DREZ in accordance with Chapter 498, Section 12, paragraph a-d of the Acts of 1993.

Selectman Maxant moved the Board vote to approve the letter to the Town's Representatives as presented by the Town Administrator, 2nd by Selectman McCreary, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

Agenda Item #4. Fin-Com Appointment- -Chairman Fay opened the discussion by addressing Ms. Conley's appointment request to serve on the Fin-Com and the process re serving on Fin-Com and running for Board of Selectmen in April. Chairman Fay questioning if she was still interested in Fin-Com position and advised by Selectman Maxant to another member on the Fin-Com presently also seeking Selectman's seat and seeing no down side to both serving. Mr. Pontbriand reminding Board to Selectmen's Office being very thorough advertising vacant position on the Web, Cable and newspapers to fill vacancy.

Agenda Item #5. Downtown Parking-Chairman Fay opened the discussion by requesting to get principals together to conduct a Public Forum with key officials. Contact MART re necessary technical information…need to gather all information for Public Forum to see how we will proceed.. Chairman Fay stating the $3.2 Federal earmark is still there confirmed by Sen. Tsongas Office as well as sunset clause, highly vulnerable situation. State Match of $800K not authorized by DOT to access Federal money. Commuter parking best option to bring right investment to Ayer. Public statement will be given on 3-1-11. Selectman Maxant questioning for Town to come up with $800K- is another option, (UDAG funds) Federal Government doesn't care where $800K comes from. The Board looking at reducing 50 Spaces in half for rail trail and address handicap platform issues also. Selectman McCreary agreeing with Selectman Maxant State doesn't understand location of Ayer nexus need direct discussion with officials to keep train station in Ayer 1000 residents/businesses support platform in downtown Ayer. Have next steps on Agenda for 3-1-11. Selectman Maxant stating DOT looking for another reason to say no. Mr. Pontbriand stating he's been here six months and there's been a new reason to say no leading up to the revised plan in October, always ready to say no. Selectman McCreary stating Secretary Mullan made final decision. Calvin Moore present for discussion stated Shirley didn't help issue. The Board discussed with Mr. Moore his property on Mill St/Sculley Rd. Mary Arata questioned Board if Mr. Moore's property would be on Annual Town Meeting Warrant with Selectman McCreary stating no property will not fit into model to far away for commuters to park.

12:15p.m. Selectman McCreary moved to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Selectman Maxant, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

_____Date:_____
Selectman Frank F. Maxant, Clerk