

Bellingham Planning Board
Town Hall Annex
Bellingham, Mass.

Regular Meeting - February 10, 1983
Members Present - Carl Rosenlund, Chairman
Sergio Rotatori, Vice Chairman, Clerk
Joan King
Bert Boiteau
John P. Murray

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M. by Chairman Rosenlund.

With reference to the proposed bylaw amendments scheduled for public hearing on Feb. 24th, the Board discussed the responsibility of advertising cost for the proposed bylaw amendment on political signs by petition, also scheduled on that hearing.

On a King/Rotatori motion the Board voted 5-0 to waive the cost of the advertising in this particular instance because it is by petition and it is a part of the public hearing articles.

In a further discussion of hearing costs, Mr. Rosenlund inquired of the Board members whether they have experienced a previous situation where somebody, coming through the selectmen, sent down a request for a change such as this one by petition. Mr. Rotatori referred to the petitioners regarding the roller skating rink who had chipped in. Mr. Rosenlund said that was a special interest and in comparison, this one is a petition to change an existing bylaw. Mr. Rosenlund initiated a search of the Procedural Rules in an effort to determine who pays fees in this case. It was noted in the Procedural Rules adopted October 1981 Page 9, 5.2 Miscellaneous Fees. However, it was not clearly determined whether the fee includes cost of postage.

However, Mrs. King said, since that article is two short lines she would recommend that motion stand. Mr. Rosenlund agreed.

Mr. Rosenlund read the letter from the Board of Selectmen regarding the petition (copy enclosed) on political signs submitted by Bruce Lord.

Also a letter from Mr. Ambler dated Feb. 7, 1983 regarding an article in the Milford Daily News on the Kaplan case vs. Town of Bellingham and its impact upon a Lawrence Cade's application. Mr. Ambler, in effect, denies having made any statements relative to this case to the reporter, the Board, or to Mr. Kaplan or Mr. Cade. Mr. Ambler refers to an article published Feb. 5, 1983.

Mr. Rosenlund requests the secretary send a letter to Mr. Ambler requesting clarification regarding the status of the case of Kaplan vs. the Town of Bellingham, including a copy of the case, for his reference.

The Board received from Norfolk County Registry of Deeds the recorded copy of Flood Plain Subdivision Regulation and of Subdivision Access.

Mr. Rosenlund said he attended the Finance Committee meeting and the Board's budget was approved on a 5-2 vote. Mr. Murray asked if there was an increase in the budget. Mr. Rosenlund said there was and they approved it on the 5-2 vote. He stated that there was an increase of \$125.00 on the Board's expenses not including salaries. Mr. Rosenlund said the Finance Committee asked if the Board could drop the post office box and to cut meetings and travel.

Mr. Rosenlund said the Finance Committee also asked if the Board responded to the Selectmen's request for a 5% decrease. He said the Board did not respond as it felt there was no room in the budget to cut. He also said his interpretation of the Selectmen's request had to do with Boards under their control and did not feel that it was the responsibility of an elected body to respond to their request; however, would do so out of courtesy. He said the Finance Committee did ask if the Board would respond.

Mr. Rosenlund read the letter from the Finance Committee dated January 24, 1983 with reference to a response requested by the Selectmen.

Mr. Rosenlund said in looking over the budget again he did not see any areas that could be cut, unless the Board considers advertising fees or public hearing fees, which is an estimate in itself. However, he pointed out that should funding be required at a later date for a hearing, it becomes a problem. Mr. Rosenlund pointed out that the only basic increase was in postage and office. Also the increase cost of advertising.

Mr. Rosenlund suggested that with the Board's approval a response be made to the Selectmen. The secretary to send a letter to the Selectmen regarding the budget, and a copy to be sent to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Rosenlund requested the secretary to send copies of the articles scheduled for the public hearing to the president of Business Mens' Association.

Regarding the budget, Mr. Rotatori asked whether the Board has a list of monies that it gives back to the Town. Mr. Rosenlund said it was broken down.

Referring to the Finance Committee's inquiries regarding the areas of increase, Mr. Rosenlund asked the secretary to prepare an updated breakdown of the budget as of July 1 to present, in preparation for Town Meeting April 27, 1983, and for Mr. Rosenlund's review prior to Town Meeting.

Mr. Rosenlund requested the secretary to check with Town Accountant and clarify for the Board whether the Board's expense accounts are paid under specific categories or as general expense.

Also, Mr. Rosenlund requested the secretary to prepare another list showing how the Board arrived at the \$250.00 figure for advertising and how did it arrive at \$250.00 for public hearing. On public hearings again break down as to how many hearings as well as mailings.


Also, the cost per unit on the zoning maps, books, and any material we buy, and what we sell them for (the Town Clerk sells them).

It was noted by the Board that although the cost of this comes out of the Board's budget, the money collected by the Town Clerk from sale of these items goes into the general fund.

Mr. Rosenlund asked the secretary to find out what the Town Clerk charges for the books and maps.

Mr. Boiteau entertained the proposal that, depending on the purchaser, it may be advisable to increase the selling price of the zoning books.

On a Boiteau/Murray motion the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn.

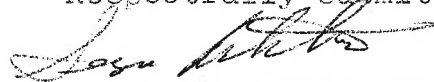


Regular Meeting - February 10, 1983

Page 3

Adjournment at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Sergio Rotatori", written in a cursive style.

Sergio Rotatori, Clerk