

**Minutes of the BOXFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN HALL, MEETING ROOM #1
September 6, 2011 7:30PM**

Present: Chairman Perkins, Preston Galarneau, Chuck Costello, Mary Anne Nay, Stephen Davis (7:56PM)

Absent:

Others Present: Alan Benson, Town Administrator; John Dold, DPW Superintendent; Kathleen Benevento, Director of Finance; Kerry Stickney, Fire Chief; Peter Delaney, Land Committee.

Meeting Called to Order:

Selectmen Chairman Perkins called the meeting to order at 7:30PM.

Announcements:

- **Boxford Apple Festival:** The Boxford Apple Festival, sponsored by the Boxford Historical Society, will take place on Saturday, September 17, from 10AM-3:30PM. Raindate is Sunday, September 18.
- **Call to Honor Triathlon:** The third annual Call to Honor Triathlon will be held on Sunday, September 11. In memory of Captain Rick Cashin, the event will be held at Stiles Pond. Proceeds benefit Rick Cashin Memorial Scholarships.
- **DCR's Woodlands Designation:** Cleaveland Farm and Baldpate Pond State Park have been designated as "Woodlands" by the DCR, rather than as "Park Land", as preferred by the Town and abutters to both forests. Senator Bruce Tarr and Representative Brad Hill co-authored a letter to DCR, on behalf of the Town of Boxford, requesting that they reconsider the Woodlands designation, changing it to Park Land, to prevent forestry operations from taking place.
- **Large Metal Item Pick-Up:** Residents can dispose of large metal items on Monday, October 17 and Tuesday, October 18. No appliances or other metal items with Freon or gas tanks will be accepted.

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- **Barrier Spraying for Mosquitoes Authorized:** On Monday, August 22, the Board of Health voted to authorize the Northeast Mass. Mosquito Control and Wetlands Management District to conduct barrier spraying for mosquitoes, following the detection of West Nile Virus mosquitoes. Barrier spraying will take place on Johnson Field, and adjacent playground behind the police station, as well as the Cole and Spofford schools.
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54 **Appointments:**

55 There have been no new applicants for vacancies this week. Interested residents are encouraged to call the Board of Selectmen's office or go to the Town's Web site to review the open positions.

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60 **Treasury Warrants:**

- **MOTION** by Nay and seconded by Galarneau, to pay school payroll warrant #PY1209 for non-school payroll in the amount of \$70, 656.76. Approved unanimously.
 - **MOTION** by Nay and seconded by Galarneau, for payment of school payroll warrant in the amount of \$244,498.92. Approved, with Costello abstaining.
 - **MOTION** by Nay and seconded by Costello, for approval of payment for vendor warrant #12-10 in the amount of \$348,746.99. Approved unanimously.
 - **MOTION** by Nay and seconded by Costello, for approval of payment of accounts payable in the amount of \$1223.31. Approved unanimously.
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76 **Report of the Town Administrator:**

- **Update on Town's Website:** Alan Benson reported that the department heads had an opportunity to meet with the Web site service provider working on the Town's new Web site. Mr. Benson described various features of the new Web site, with a Beta version planned to be available in a month and the final version of the site going live in November.
 - **Director of Assessment Resigning:** Alan Benson reported that Lauren Woekel is resigning as Director of Assessment, taking a similar job closer to home. **MOTION** by Costello, seconded by Nay, to lift the hiring freeze to advertise for and hire a new Director of Assessment. Approved unanimously.
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- **Storm Water Management Filings:** The EPA requires the Town to adopt Storm Water Management regulations and to provide reports on how the regulations are being followed. Unfortunately, the Town was late in providing the annual reports for 2010 to the EPA. It was filed in January of 2011 and the report due for May 2011 has not yet been filed. The EPA has fined the Town \$3000 for failure to provide timely reports. Mr. Benson will prepare and conduct an appeal of the fine. The Board prefers that the Town not incur legal expenses to appeal the fine. If negotiations with the EPA are unsuccessful, the Town will pay the fine.

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102 **Meeting with DPW Superintendent:**

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- **Paving Update:** Started paving Ipswich Road last week and expect to finish by Thursday and they will move on to other areas in town, expecting to finish all paving in a week and a half, pending weather conditions.
 - **Culverts Update:** Work has been completed on three culverts. Work on the Glendale Road culvert will begin at the end of September.
 - **Culvert Study:** The culvert study, approved at Town Meeting, is half done. The engineers doing the study are working on a grid and, when completed, the Town will have a map of all culverts and catch basins in the Town, as well as their condition.
 - **Pye Brook Lane Trees/Brush Issue:** A Hunter's Road resident sent an e-mail to the DPW about the trees and brush blocking the view for drivers exiting Pye Brook Lane onto Route 97. The brush cutter was sent out to trim the brush. Within a day or two, another e-mail was received specifying that they missed several trees that still need to be cut down to solve the problem. Mr. Dold went to the site with Ross Povenmire and they identified and marked two trees that are dead or dying that will be removed, noting that others are on private property. He is working with the residents to resolve the line of sight issues.
 - **Update on Lincoln Hall:** The contractor will begin working on the stairs at Lincoln Hall tomorrow, depending on the weather. We're in the ordering process for the kitchen.
 - **Update on Tropical Storm Irene Damage:** Damage was minimal. The storm was not as bad as predicted and the DPW was ready. It was noted there were power outages affecting the west end of town. Mr. Benson reminded all residents to call National Grid when the power is out, as their response is based on number of calls received for an area. Mr. Dold noted that the generator for the DPW garage failed during the outage and that it needs to be fixed. A temporary generator was used during the storm to open the garage doors and get the gas depot working.

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Review of Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles:

138 **MOTION** by Davis, seconded by Galarneau, to open the Warrant and call for Special
140 Town Meeting, to be held on Saturday, October 22, 2011, at Masconomet High School
Auditorium, 20 Endicott Road, at 9AM. The Motion passed unanimously.

142 • **Report of the Director of Finance:**

144 • **Estimated Revenues and Expenses:** Estimated revenues and
146 expenses for FY12 look good. The Town received more State aid than
148 was anticipated in the spring. Trash sticker revenue is not meeting
expectations. Overall, revenues are \$22,000 more than anticipated.
Snow and Ice deficit was \$75,000 less than anticipated, as FEMA
reimbursed the Town for the Jan. 11 and Jan. 12 snow storms.

150 • **Report from the Capital Budgeting Committee:** There is a small
152 change due to fundraising for land acquisition, making the total less
than \$300,000.

154 • **Finance Committee Reserve Article:** There is a \$19,000 deficit in the
156 Finance Committee Reserve Account, which they would like to
158 replenish. **MOTION** by Galarneau, seconded by Davis, to sponsor and
160 support a Warrant article to replenish the Finance Committee Reserve
Account with \$19,000.00, bringing the account to full funding. The
Motion passed unanimously.

162 • **Gas and Diesel Account Article:** Request to supplement the gas and
164 diesel account by \$20,000.00. The Board of Selectmen, at the
recommendation of the Town Administrator, decided to postpone
voting on sponsoring that Article until the May Town Meeting.

166 • **Report of the Fire Chief:**

168 • **Jaws of Life Article:** Chief Stickney reported that the Fire Department
170 is requesting to replace their Jaws of Life, as it is a 1990 unit and does
172 not cut the metal on newer cars, causing damage to the unit when it is
used. **MOTION** by Costello, seconded by Davis, to sponsor and
support a Warrant article for the purchase of a new Jaws of Life for the
Fire Department. The Motion passed unanimously.

174 • **Paving of West Station Lot and Aprons Article:** There is severe
176 cracking of the concrete aprons in two bays. Mice are getting in and
178 eating the wires on the trucks. The parking lot has areas that are
broken up and severe warping of the pavement. \$33,627. **MOTION** by
180 Davis, seconded by Costello, to sponsor and support a Warrant article
for \$33,627 for repairs to the interior floor and parking lot of West
station. The Motion passed unanimously.

182 • **Water Treatment System for West Station Article:** The water has
184 been tested at West Station and it should not be consumed. There is
186 lead in it and rust makes the water discolored. The fire stations are
188 used as shelters in emergencies and drinkable water is needed.
 MOTION by Davis, seconded by Costello, to sponsor and support a
 Warrant article for a water treatment system for the West station. The
 Motion passed 4-1, with Galarneau abstaining.

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 • **Article to Change the Day of Town Meeting:** Alan Benson explained there
192 are two Articles for the Board of Selectmen to consider. The first is to change
194 the date of the Town Meeting to the first Saturday of May. The second Article
196 is to change the day of the Town Meeting back to the second Tuesday
198 evening in May. On a **MOTION** made by Costello, and seconded by Davis,
 the Board of Selectmen voted 4-1 to sponsor both Articles on the Town
 Meeting Warrant, with Nay dissenting.

200 Upon a **MOTION** duly made by Selectman Chairman Perkins, and seconded by
202 Galarneau, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously, via roll call vote, to go into
204 Executive Session for the purpose of discussing overall strategy with the Land
206 Committee regarding the Colby property and Spofford Road property, and to discuss
208 the Boxford vs. MassDOT case, and declare that an Executive Session is necessary
 since an open public discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating,
 bargaining or litigating position of the Board of Selectmen, and upon completion of the
 Executive Session to return to open session and immediately adjourn without
 conducting any further business.

210 The Board of Selectmen went into Executive Session at 9:15PM in Meeting Room #1.
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214 Respectfully Submitted,

216 *Judith A. Stickney*
218 Minutes Secretary

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