

**Minutes of the BOXFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN HALL, MEETING ROOM #1
October 3, 2011 7:30PM**

Present: Chairman Perkins, Preston Galarneau, Chuck Costello, Stephen Davis, Mary Anne Nay

Absent:

Others Present: Alan Benson, Town Administrator; Robert Fanning, Finance Committee; Nancy Merrill; Jerry Johnston, Town Moderator; Kathryn O'Brien, Tri-Town Transcript

Meeting Called to Order:

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

Announcements:

- **Girls and Horses:** The library is sponsoring an event on Saturday, October 15. The first event, at 2PM called "Girls and Horses," where kids will discuss types of horses, care of horses, and breeding horses. Following "Girls and Horses" is a hootenanny, featuring a guitarist and food, Frisbees and fun for all ages. The event will take place in the pony field, next to the library. Bring your own chairs and blankets.
- **Large Metal Item Pick-Up:** Residents can dispose of large metal items on Monday, October 17 and Tuesday, October 18, same day as your regular trash pick-up day. Items should be out by 7AM. No appliances or other metal items with Freon or gas tanks will be accepted. The recycling center, open on Saturdays from 8AM-3:30PM, will accept refrigerators and air conditioners for a fee. Call the Board of Health for more information.
- **Special Town Meeting and Special Election:** Special Town Meeting will be held Saturday, October 22, 2011, at 9AM, at Masconomet High School Auditorium. A special election will be held Tuesday, December 13, 2011, from 7AM-8PM at the Spofford Pond School.

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Discussion on Debt Exclusion Ballot Questions:

- **Water Treatment Improvements / Spofford Pond School:** The Board discussed the debt exclusion ballot question for the school's water treatment improvements. Board members agreed the work needs to be completed, but expressed dismay at not having complete information on the project. Chuck Costello advised the Board that Steve Clifford, Director of Facilities, will have a breakdown on costs by the end of the week and that the total cost will probably be less than originally requested. Steve Clifford will also be meeting with the Building Committee October 18. There was a brief discussion on whether to postpone the warrant articles until the Annual Town Meeting in May, so the Board would have enough information to make an informed decision, but the Board decided the improvements are needed and should be on the Special Town Meeting warrant, as well as voted on at a the Special Election. They will make their recommendations at the Special Town Meeting.

- **MOTION by Davis**, seconded by **Costello**, to place the following Proposition 2 1/2 debt exclusion ballot question on the December 13, 2011 Town Ballot:
 - Question #1: Shall the Town of Boxford be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2 1/2, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to pay for the costs of repairs, renovations, additional water storage and expansion of the Spofford Pond School water treatment plant? Approved unanimously via roll call **VOTE**.

- **MOTION by Costello**, seconded by **Nay**, to place the following Proposition 2 1/2 debt exclusion ballot question on the December 13, 2011 Town Ballot:
 - Question #2: Shall the Town of Boxford be allowed to exempt from provisions of Proposition 2 1/2, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to pay for the costs of repairs, renovations, and replacement of ten classroom unit ventilators at Spofford Pond School? Approved unanimously via roll call **VOTE**.

94 • **Purchase of the Colby Property:**

- 96 ▪ **MOTION** by **Costello**, seconded by **Galarneau**, to place the following
98 Proposition 2 1/2 debt exclusion ballot question on the December 13,
2011 Town Ballot:

- 100 • Question #3: Shall the Town of Boxford be allowed to be
102 exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2 1/2, so called, the
104 amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to pay for
the costs of purchasing a certain improved parcel of land known
as the Colby property, located at 158 Washington Street,
consisting of 1.7 acres, more or less, with buildings. After a brief
discussion, the Board **VOTED** via roll call vote, as follows:

- 106 ▪ Yes: Galarneau, Perkins, Costello
108 ▪ Nay: Davis, Nay
110 ▪ The Motion failed (4 votes needed for 2/3)

112 **Discussion on Warrant Articles 10 & 11 (Changing Town Meeting back to Tuesday**
114 **& Changing Town Meeting to the first Saturday in May):**

- 114 • **Consultation with Town Moderator Jerry Johnston:** Jerry Johnston
116 discussed his preferences on how to proceed with discussions on both
Articles on Town Meeting floor. He would allow discussion on both Articles,
while voting on each Article separately. He will fully explain each Article to the
118 voters.

- 120 • **MOTION** by **Costello**, seconded by **Galarneau**, to move Article 11
to Article 10 and Article 10 to Article 11 on the Special Town
Meeting Warrant. Approved unanimously.

124 **Bond Counsel and Town Counsel Reviews:**

- 126 • **Debt Questions:** Alan Benson reported that the Bond Counsel reviewed the
debt questions and approved.
128 • **Excluded Debt Ballot Questions:** Alan Benson reported that the Bond
Counsel reviewed the excluded debt questions and approved.
130 • **Town Counsel Review:** Alan Benson reported that Town Counsel reviewed
the procedures, as proposed by the Town Moderator, for Articles 10 and 11,
and approved.

140 **Assignment of Warrant Articles:**

- 142 • **Article 1: Increase the Finance Committee Reserve Fund:** Finance Committee
- 144 • **Article 2: DPW Account Clerk 1 Position:** Board of Selectmen, Steve Davis
- 146 • **Article 3: Purchase of a Hydraulic Rescue Vehicle Extrication Tool:** Board of Selectmen, Peter Perkins
- 148 • **Article 4: Repairs to Floor and Parking Lot Main Street Station:** Board of Selectmen, Chuck Costello
- 150 • **Article 5: Water Treatment Filter System for Main Street Fire Station:** Board of Selectmen, Chuck Costello
- 152 • **Article 6: Funding for Phase 2 of Water Treatment Expansion at Spofford Pond School:** Elementary School Committee; Board of Selectmen will make a recommendation at Town Meeting
- 154 • **Article 7: HVAC Project for Spofford Pond School:** Elementary School Committee; Board of Selectmen will make a recommendation at Town Meeting
- 156 • **Article 8: Purchase of the Colby Property:** Board of Selectmen, Steve Davis
- 158 • **Article 9: Hiring a Salt Specialist:** Board of Selectmen, Mary Anne Nay
- 160 • **Article 10: Annual Town Meeting Date on Tuesday:** Board of Selectmen, Preston Galarneau
- 162 • **Article 11: Annual Town Meeting Date on First Saturday:** Board of Selectmen, Preston Galarneau
- 164 • **Article 12: Stormwater Management Bylaw:** Conservation Commission
- 166 • **Article 13: Community Preservation Hydrologic Assessment:** Lakes Ponds Streams Committee
- 168 • **Article 14: Creation of Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund:** Board of Selectmen, Mary Anne Nay

170 **Town Moderator's Forum:**

- 172 • The Moderator's Forum will be held on Wednesday, October 19.

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176 **BTA-BOLT Sign Request:** Steve Davis advised the Board that BTA-BOLT has requested permission to put up a 3'x2' sign on the Cargill property, announcing the BTA-BOLT Pumpkin Hunt to be held on the Cargill property on October 30.

- 178 • **MOTION** by **Costello**, seconded by **Galarneau**, to allow BTA-BOLT to put up a pumpkin sign for the specified time in the e-mail. Approved unanimously.

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184 **Boxford Library Trustees and Friends Sign Request:** Steve Davis advised the Board
186 that the Boxford Library Trustees and Friends of the Boxford Library have requested
188 permission to erect signs at several triangles in town announcing the Boxford Library
190 Rally on October 15, putting signs up October 10.

- Seconded by **Galarneau**. Approved unanimously. (there was no motion on the floor)

192 **Permission to Erect a Sign for Colby Property:** Nancy Merrill appeared before the
194 Board to request permission to erect one sign, beside Lincoln Hall, to encourage voters
196 to approve the Colby property Article.

- **MOTION** by **Davis**, seconded by **Galarneau**, to approve the request.
Approved 4-1, with **Costello** dissenting.

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200 **Report of the Town Administrator**

- **Fire Department Vehicle Donations:** Alan Benson reported to the Board
202 that the Fire Department has received donations of five vehicles to be used
204 for extrication training. The Board of Selectmen need to formally accept the
206 donations for donors to receive tax deductions for their donations.

- **MOTION** by **Costello**, seconded by **Nay**, to accept the donation of five
208 vehicles for the use of the Fire Department for training purposes.
Approved unanimously.

- **Community Giving Tree Sign Request:** Peter Perkins advised the Board of
210 a request from the Community Giving Tree to erect three signs in town
212 announcing the organization's largest fundraiser, the Toy Fair.

- **MOTION** by **Nay**, seconded by **Costello**, to approve the Community
214 Giving Tree's request to erect signs as they've used in the past.
Approved unanimously.

- **Request to Lift Hiring Freeze:** Alan Benson requested that the Board
216 consider lifting the hiring freeze to hire a replacement Assistant
218 Treasurer/Assistant Collector.

- **MOTION** by **Galarneau**, seconded by **Davis**, to lift the hiring freeze to
220 allow the hiring of an Assistant Treasurer. Approved unanimously.

- **Meeting with Watershed Association:** Alan Benson advised the Board that
222 they will be meeting with the Watershed Association, at their request, at the
224 next meeting of the Board of Selectmen, on October 17.

- **Masconomet Recertification:** Alan Benson advised the Board that
226 Masconomet took advantage of State Aid and reverted their fees back to their
228 prior year's level and returned the remainder of the excess State Aid to the
town.

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- **MassDOT Notification of Work:** Alan Benson advised the Board that MassDOT sent a notice of their planned work along I-95 in the coming season.
- **US Post Office Notification:** The US Post Office is reporting that there may be a reduction in service as well as a reduction in post offices coming up.

Appointments: There were no appointments or recommendations this week. Mary Anne Nay provided an update on boards and committees that need volunteers:

- Agricultural Commission: Looking for a commercial farmer, need 1 person
- Border to Boston Trail, need 1 person
- Council on Aging
- Cultural Counsel
- Cable Television Advisory Committee
- Computer Management Committee
- Friends of Ackerman Playground, need 5 people
- Haynes Land Committee, need 1 person
- Historic District Committee, need 1 alternate
- Lakes Ponds Streams Committee
- Recreation Committee
- Recycling Committee
- Zoning Board of Appeals, need 1 alternate

Treasury Warrants:

- **MOTION** by **Nay** and seconded by **Costello**, for approval of payment of accounts payable warrant #12-14S, in the amount of \$161,086.73. Approved unanimously.
- **MOTION** by **Nay** and seconded by **Costello**, for approval of payment for accounts payable warrant #12-14 in the amount of \$406,102.28. Approved unanimously.
- **MOTION** by **Nay** and seconded by **Costello**, to pay school payroll warrant #PY1213 for non-school payroll in the amount of \$70,102.87. Approved unanimously.
- **MOTION** by **Nay** and seconded by **Galarneau**, to pay school payroll warrant #PY1213 for school payroll in the amount of \$294,429.65. Approved 4-1, with **Costello** abstaining.

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Executive Session: Upon a **MOTION** duly made by **Costello**, and seconded by **Nay**,
278 the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously, via roll call vote, to go into Executive
Session for the purpose of discussing overall strategy with litigation, Officer Brian
280 Williams vs. The Town of Boxford, Design Tech vs. The Town of Boxford, and declare
that an Executive Session is necessary since an open public discussion may have a
282 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
284 and immediately adjourn without conducting any further business.

286 The Board of Selectmen went into Executive Session at 9:07PM in Meeting Room #1.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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Judith A. Stickney

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Minutes Secretary

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