

**Minutes of the BOXFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM #1**

November 19, 2012 7:00PM

Present: Chuck Costello, Charlie Killam, Steve Davis, Peter Perkins

Absent: Mary Anne Nay

Others Present: Minutes Secretary Judi Stickney, Director of Finance Kathy Benevento, Kathy O'Brien, Representative Brad Hill, Representative Lenny Mirra, David Benson, Kristin Hanlon, Jan Silva, Joe Hill, Thomas Williams, Ryan Burbank, Eric Loehle, Kevin Boucher, Christian Fiore, John Williams, and others

7:01PM Meeting Called to Order

Chairman Perkins called the meeting to order at 7:01PM.

7:01PM ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Winter Festival:** Selectman Davis announced there will be a Winter Festival on December 1, 9am-3pm in the West Village.

7:03PM TAX CLASSIFICATION HEARING: Kristin Hanlon, Assessor, and David Benson, representing the Board of Assessors, met with the Board of Selectmen to discuss the reclassification of the town. Hanlon advised that values have decreased this year, as expected. New growth was about \$8,000,000, down from the \$13,000,000 of last year. Hanlon noted that Boxford is a 96% residential town. The Board of Assessors recommends that the Selectmen vote to set one tax rate for the Town of Boxford. With no further discussion, the Board took the following action.

7:08PM On a **MOTION** made by **Costello**, seconded by **Killam**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously by roll call vote to set one tax rate for the Town of Boxford and for each class of property to maintain 100% of its full values tax share.

7:11PM MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVE LENNY MIRRA AND

REPRESENTATIVE BRAD HILL: Representative Brad Hill met with the Board to discuss the following:

- **Representative Elect Lenny Mirra:** Representative Hill introduced Representative Elect Lenny Mirra to the Board, who will represent Precincts 2 and 3 in Boxford. Representative Elect Mirra gave a brief introduction of himself to the Board and a brief discussion ensued:

- 46 • **Thank You:** Chairman Perkins read a prepared statement, thanking Representative Hill for his outstanding service to the Town over the years.
- 48 • **Boxford's Recent Initiatives:** Chairman Perkins asked that Representative Hill make sure that Representative Mirra be made aware of issues that Boxford has been working on. Discussion turned to recent initiatives the Town has been
50 involved with, including a lengthy discussion on the library issues of late.
- 52 • **Possible Budget Cuts:** Representative Hill notified the Board that a red flag has been raised regarding the "fiscal cliff", advising that there will be trillions of dollars in cuts that will impact Massachusetts. In addition, the State's revenues came up
54 short of the revenue projection. At the same time, expenditures have increased. Representative Hill reviewed some of the areas where cuts may be made. He
56 noted that there will probably be no increase in aid this year and that the Towns should plan on level-funding.
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60 **7:30PM APPOINTMENTS:** The Chairman notified the Board that they have had two people interested in joining the Sustainability Committee, Joe Hill and Marc Aronson. Because the Board has seven members, they will not be appointing them tonight. Joe Hill was in attendance and asked to speak with the Board to discuss the following:

- 64 • **Charge and Purpose:** Hill asked for more information on the Committee's charge and purpose. The Board discussed whether there is a charge and
66 decided they needed to discuss the charge with DPW Superintendent John Dold, who proposed the committee.
- 68 • **Change in Number of Committee Members:** Hill asked if the Board had considered reducing the size of the committee. The Board had not considered
70 that, but will do so at a later meeting, after talking with Dold.
- 72 • **Background:** Hill provided some information on his background for the Board's information.

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76 **7:40PM EXECUTE RELEASE DEED FOR PARCEL ON KING EDWARD COURT:** Chairman Perkins briefly explained that the Board will execute the Release Deed for a small parcel of land on King Edward Court to John J. and Ellen M. Marks, as voted at
78 the October 23, 2012 Special Town Meeting. Selectman Killam provided a brief history of the parcel.

80 **7:43PM** On a **MOTION** made by **Costello**, seconded by **Davis**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously to execute the Release Deed, as voted at
82 Special Town Meeting of October 23, 2012.

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86 **7:43PM ROUTINES:**

- **Committee Vacancies:** Selectman Davis read the list of the current committee vacancies.

- 88 • **Email from Gordon Price Re: Reappointment of Laura Grabski to the**
90 **Agricultural Commission:** The Board acknowledged the e-mail and will discuss
92 further at a later meeting.
- 92 • **Request to Hang Banners for the Winter Festival:** The Chair made the Board
94 aware of a request from the West Village Improvement Society to hang banners
94 promoting the Winter Festival.
- 94 **7:46PM** On a **MOTION** made by **Costello**, seconded by **Davis**, the Board
96 **VOTED** unanimously to approve the hanging of the banners, as requested.
- 96 • **Letter to the Editor from the West Boxford Improvement Society:** Chairman
98 Perkins notified the Board that they were given a copy of a letter sent to the Tri-
100 Town Transcript regarding the success of the West Village Haunted Tour and
100 thanking their tour host, Alan Benson.

102 **7:50PM EAGLE SCOUT PRESENTATIONS:** Thomas Williams, Eagle Scout Mentor,
104 Troop 51, met with the Board to introduce the Eagle Scouts. Each Scout provided a
104 brief description of their Eagle Scout projects.

- 106 • **Ryan Burbank:** Ryan's project was refurbishing the interior court yard of the
108 Proctor Elementary School in Topsfield, including rebuilding the picnic tables.
- 108 • **Eric Loehle:** Eric's project was the construction of a new patio and prayer
110 garden at St. Mary's Church in Georgetown.
- 110 • **Kevin Boucher:** Kevin's project was to design and build a raised garden bed,
112 using an automatic solar powered self-sensing watering mechanism at Proctor
112 School in Topsfield.
- 112 • **Christian Fiore:** Christian's project was to install shelving in a shed used by the
114 BAA to store their equipment at Johnson Field.
- 114 • **John Williams:** John's project was to design and build two large picnic tables
116 that would meet ADA access requirements. He also built a serving table and
116 repaired six existing tables.
- 118 • **Brian Forte:** Tom Williams advised the Board that Brian Forte could not attend
118 because he is currently away at college. Forte orchestrated a memorial on the
120 grounds of Camp Curtis Guild, placing a boulder on "Round Top," inscribed with
120 the camp name and important dates. An information kiosk describing the camp
122 was also erected.

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124 Chairman Perkins advised the Scouts that the Board has prepared proclamations for
124 each Eagle Scout and they will be presented to them at their Eagle Court of Honor on
126 November 24, 2012.

128 **8:20PM OTHER BUSINESS**

- 130 • **Thank You from Betty Wright:** Selectman Costello acknowledged the Thank
132 You note the Board received, thanking John Dold for bringing the two ladies from
132 Pakistan to the Council on Aging.

134 **8:21PM MINUTES APPROVAL:**

- 134 • On a **MOTION** made by **Killam**, seconded by **Costello**, the Board **VOTED** to
accept the minutes of October 30, 2012, as submitted. Davis abstained.
- 136 • On a **MOTION** made by **Killam**, seconded by **Costello**, the Board **VOTED** to
accept the minutes of October 30, 2012 Executive Session, as presented. Davis
138 abstained.
- 140 • On a **MOTION** made by **Killam**, seconded by **Costello**, the Board **VOTED** to
accept the minutes of November 5 2012, as submitted. Davis abstained.
- 142 • On a **MOTION** made by **Killam**, seconded by **Costello**, the Board **VOTED** to
accept the minutes of November 5, 2012 Executive Session, as presented. Davis
144 abstained.

146 **8:25PM TREASURY BILLS:**

- 148 ○ On a **MOTION** made by **Davis**, seconded by **Costello**, the Board of
Selectmen **VOTED** to approve accounts warrant #13-21, in the amount of
\$124,445.66.
- 150 ○ On a **MOTION** made by **Costello**, seconded by **Davis**, the Board of
Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously to approve accounts payable warrant
152 #13-21S, in the amount of \$140,578.67.
- 154 ○ On a **MOTION** made by **Davis**, seconded by **Killam**, the Board of
Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously to approve accounts payable warrant
#13-334, in the amount of \$66,314.46.
- 156 ○ On a **MOTION** made by **Davis**, seconded by **Killam**, the Board of
Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously to approve payroll warrant #PY13-20, for
158 non-school payroll, in the amount of \$77,337.25.
- 160 ○ After Selectman Costello removed himself from the discussion, the Board
took the following action: On a **MOTION** made by **Davis**, seconded by
162 **Killam**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** to approve payroll warrant
#PY13-20, for school payroll, in the amount of \$288,716.65. **Costello**
164 abstained.

166 **8:29PM Adjourn**

168 On a **MOTION** made by **Costello** and seconded by **Killam**, the Board of
Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously to adjourn at 8:29PM.

170 Respectfully submitted,

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174 *Judith A. Stickney*
Minutes Secretary

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Per the New Open Meeting Law, the list of the documents that were either distributed to the Board of Selectmen before the meeting in a packet, or at the meeting:

1. Agenda
2. Announcement: Winter Festival
3. Department of Revenue Classification Tax Allocation for Boxford
4. Motion to set the tax rate
5. E-Mail from Marc Aronson to Susan Inman Re: Interest in serving on the Renewable Energy Committee, 7/19/12
6. E-Mail from Joe Hill to Alan Benson Re: Interest in serving on the Renewable Energy Committee, 10/16/12
7. Release Deed: King Edward Court parcel
8. E-Mail from Alan Benson to the Board of Selectmen Re: Outstanding Appointments, 11/15/12
9. E-Mail from Gordon Price to Alan Benson Re: Agricultural Commission, 11/11/12
10. E-Mail from Jan Silva to Susan Inman Re: Permission to Hang Banners for 12/1/12 Winter Festival, 11/13/12
11. Letter from West Boxford Improvement Society to Tri-Town Transcript Re: West Village Haunted Tour, 11/8/12
12. Letter from Betty Wright to John Dold Re: Visit from Pakistani Ladies, 10/23/12
13. Letter from Thomas Williams, Eagle Scout Mentor, Troop 51, to Alan Benson Re: Announcement of Boxford Eagle Scouts
14. Summary of Eagle Scout Projects
15. Proclamations for Eagle Scouts
16. Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
 - a. October 30, 2012
 - b. October 30, 2012 Executive Session
 - c. November 5, 2012
 - d. November 5, 2012 Executive Session
17. State Fiscal Update from Representative Brad Hill, Representative-Elect Lenny Mirra, November 2012