

**Minutes of the BOXFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
BOXFORD TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM #1
February 10, 2014 7:00PM**

Present: Steve Davis, Chuck Costello, Mary Anne Nay, Charlie Killam

Absent: Peter Perkins

Others Present: Town Administrator Alan Benson, Minutes Secretary Judi Stickney, Kathryn O'Brien, Peter Delaney, Bill Brown, Natasha Grigg, Howie Emmons, Lou Athanas, Marty Jessel, Dick Taylor, Beverly Ingalls

7:00PM Meeting Called to Order

Chairman Steve Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

7:00PM ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Burning Permits:** Selectwoman Nay advised residents that burning permits are available online and burning season is January 15-May 1.
- **Nomination Papers:** Selectman Costello announced that nomination papers are available at the Town Clerk's office and he read the list of open positions.
- **Opting Out of Mosquito Spraying:** Selectman Killam announced that the opt out for mosquito spraying has changed and he provided information on how to opt out of mosquito spraying this season.

7:04PM PUBLIC HEARING: PROPOSED RECREATION FIELDS, HAYNES LAND, ZONING CODE 196-18(B): Chairman Davis provided information on the public hearing for those in attendance, advising that the Board's responsibility is to provide comments on the project. Bill Brown of the Haynes Land Committee began the hearing by reviewing the project, referring to plans provided. There were questions/comments as follows:

- **Davis: How many trails will be left?** Brown advised that there is only one trail where part of it will need to be relocated around one of the fields.
- **Nay: Have you considered transplanting some of the existing trees, rather than buying new ones?** Brown advised that it's less expensive to buy them, rather than transplant them, and they stand a better chance of surviving.
- **Killam: I have very serious concerns about the retention ponds. I'm very concerned about the water on this whole site and I can't support it.** He continued with his opinions and comments on why this piece of land is not suitable for anything other than conservation land.

- **Costello:** I believe this land can be engineered and, while there may be better parcels of land in town for this project, we don't own them. Costello continued with his comments on the work that's been put into the project.
- **Davis: When the land was purchased (and it wasn't cheap), it was purchased for ball fields and housing.**
- **Nay: We purchased the land for open space, the ball fields, and community housing. I'm okay with the location.** She continued with why the project should move forward and why she supports the project.
- **Killam: I don't question that the site can be engineered. I don't think it makes sense to do so.**

Davis asked if there were any comments from the audience and there were none. The Board took the following action:

7:29PM On a **MOTION** made by **Davis**, second by **Nay**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED 3-1** to move the project forward through the appropriate regulatory process.
Killam: NO

7:30PM ROUTINES

- **Correspondence:** The Board reviewed correspondence as follows:
 - **CPC Funding for Cummings House:** The Board briefly reviewed a memo from the Town Administrator which provided information on the CPC meeting of January 14, which he attended. No further action was necessary.
 - **Power Outage, Lily Pond Road:** The Board briefly reviewed a memo from the Town Administrator which provided information on a complaint filed by the Town to National Grid regarding a power outage on Lily Pond Road last December. No further action was necessary.
- **Opting Out of Spraying for Davis Hayfield:** Chairman Davis advised the Board they needed to provide a vote on whether to opt out of mosquito spraying at the Davis Hayfield. Nay advised she felt that the spraying is working and she would like to continue the spraying. Members of the audience advised that it kills bees and kills everything. Marty Jessel, a local beekeeper, reported he had two hives at a location on the other side of town and the few times they sprayed in town, both hives died. He added that the effectiveness of the spraying for killing mosquitos has been called into question. Natasha Grigg, of BTA-BOLT and the Conservation Commission, advised the Board that the Conservation Commission did not specify the Davis Hayfield specifically, but did vote unanimously to not use the adulticide sprays. Dick Taylor of the Board of Health contributed to the discussion. After discussion, the Board took the following action:

7:42PM On a **MOTION** made by **Davis**, second by **Costello**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED 3-1** to send a Certified Letter, on behalf of the Board of Selectmen and the Conservation Commission, requesting that the Davis Hayfield be excluded from adulticides spraying.
Nay: NO

- **Late Arising Issue: Opt-Out Deadline Approaching:** Chairman Davis advised he would allow discussion and voting on this, as it was a late arising issue and one that the Board needed to vote on before the next meeting.
 - 7:46PM On a **MOTION** made by **Davis**, second by **Killam**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** 3-1 to send a Certified Letter, on behalf of the Board of Selectmen and the Conservation Commission, expressing their opinion that spraying should be avoided on all land under the ConsCom management jurisdiction that are wet.
 - Nay: NO**
- **Request for Proposals for Agricultural Purposes:** The Board reviewed the RFP and draft license for agricultural use of conservation land and approved the license.
- **Open Slot on ConsCom:** Davis advised the Board that Peter Delaney has offered to fill the vacancy on the Conservation Commission until the term ends later this year. The Board took the following action:
 - 7:49PM On a **MOTION** made by **Costello**, second by **Killam**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously by roll call vote to appoint Peter Delaney to the Conservation Commission until a new member is elected.
- **61-A Hills Property:** Davis advised the Board that they have received an offer from the attorney handling the Hills property, offering the town first refusal for purchase. The Board discussed briefly and took the following action:
 - 7:51PM On a **MOTION** made by **Killam**, second by **Costello**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously not to pursue purchase of the property.
- **Building Permits Report:** The Board briefly reviewed the monthly status report from the Building Inspector.
- **Minutes:** The Board briefly reviewed the minutes of February 3, 2014 and took the following action:
 - 7:53PM On a **MOTION** made by **Davis**, second by **Costello**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously to accept the minutes of February 3, 2014 as submitted.
- **Treasury Bills:**
 - On a **MOTION** made by **Killam**, second by **Nay**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously to approve Accounts Payable Warrant 14-33, in the amount of \$21,393,94.

On a **MOTION** made by **Killam**, second by **Davis**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously to approve Payroll Warrant PY1433, for non-school payroll, in the amount of \$163,662.31.

After Selectman Costello removed himself from the discussion, on a **MOTION** made by **Killam**, second by **Davis**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** to approve Payroll Warrant PY1433, for school payroll, in the amount of \$301,667.19. **Costello abstained.**

On a **MOTION** made by **Killam**, second by **Davis**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously to approve Accounts Payable Warrant 14-33, in the amount of \$163,200.51.

- **Request to Reopen Minutes of February 3, 2014:** Selectmen Costello asked the Board to reconsider the minutes of February 4, 2014 and offered an amendment. The Board took the following action:

7:57PM On a **MOTION** made by **Costello**, second by **Nay**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously to add to line 89 of the minutes of February 3, 2014 "Costello mentioned that the applicant had come before us with an application for raising chickens on that property." and to approve the minutes of February 3, 2014, as amended.

7:58PM ADJOURN

On a **MOTION** made by **Killam**, second by **Nay**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously to adjourn at 7:58PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Stickney
Minutes Secretary

Documents either distributed to the Board of Selectmen before the meeting in a packet or at the meeting:

1. Agenda
2. Announcement: Burning Permits
3. Announcement: Nomination Papers
4. Announcement: No Spray
5. Application: Haynes Land Recreation Area
6. Permit Documents: Haynes Land Recreation Area
7. Letter of Complaint/Haynes Land Project, 12/13/13
8. Memo from Town Administrator to Board of Selectmen, Re: CPA Funding for Cummings House Exterior and Interior Renovations, 2/5/14
9. Memo from Town Administrator to Board of Selectmen, Re: Power Outage Lily Pond Road, 2/5/14
10. Northeast Massachusetts Mosquito Control and Wetlands Management District, Fiscal Year 2014 (FY15) – Budget and Spending Plan
11. Town of Boxford Board of Health Property Exclusion from Pesticides Notification, 2/10/14
12. Packet of Documents for License of Town-Owned Land for Agricultural Purposes:
 - RFP
 - Draft License for Agricultural Use of Conservation Land

13. Letter from William S. Faraci, Attorney at Law, to Boxford Board of Assessors, Re: G.L. c. 61A, Notice of Intent to Sell Land (Hills Property, Washington Street), 1/29/14
14. Memo from Inspector of Buildings to Board of Selectmen, Re: January 2014 Report of Permits Issued, 2/3/14
15. Memo from Town Administrator to Board of Selectmen, Re: Outstanding Appointments, 02/06/14
16. Meeting Minutes:
 - February 3, 2014
 - February 3, 2014 Executive Session