

**Minutes of the BOXFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
BOXFORD TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM #1
February 24, 2014 7:00PM**

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

Absent: None

Others Present: Town Administrator Alan Benson, Minutes Secretary Judi Stickney, Kathryn O'Brien, Darren Klein, Brian Maser, Nick Anastasopoulos, Michael Maccaro, Michael Lehane,

7:00PM ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Burning Permits:** Selectman Davis announced 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.
- **Winter Message:** Selectman Perkins read winter tips for all residents, including information on house numbers, snow blower use, clearing vents, driving tips.
- **Soup & Chowder Fest:** Selectman Killam announced there will be a Soup & Chowder Fest at Lincoln Hall on Saturday, March 15.
- **Toy Collection:** Selectwoman Nay announced the Community Giving Tree will be collecting good used toys on March 1 and 8, from 9AM-Noon, at their facility on Washington Street.

7:06PM INTERVIEWS OF CANDIDATE FIRMS FOR NON-SCHOOL LABOR

COUNSEL: Chairman Davis advised the Board they would be interviewing three law firms tonight, who have applied to serve the town as non-school labor counsel. The attorney interviewed included the following:

- **Attorney Darren Klein, Kopelman & Paige, P.C.:** Attorney Darren Klein introduced himself and his colleague, Attorney Brian Maser, to the Board and Klein went over their experience as labor counsel for various communities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Klein answered questions from the Board members, assisted by Maser.
- **Attorney Nicholas Anastasopoulos, Mirick O'Connell, Attorneys at Law:** Attorney Nick Anastasopoulos introduced himself to the Board, reviewed his firm's qualifications and experience with public sector labor law, and answered questions from the Board members.
- **Attorney Michael Lehane, Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane, LLP:** Attorney Michael Maccaro, of Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane, LLP, introduced himself and Attorney Michael Lehane to the Board and provided background information

and their firm's qualifications and experience to the Board members. Maccaro answered the Board's questions, assisted by Lehane.

After the interviews, there ensued a lengthy discussion on the three firms, and the Board took the following action:

8:10PM On a **MOTION** made by **Costello**, second by **Nay**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously by roll call vote to authorize the Town Administrator to engage the firm of Mirick O'Connell as non-school labor counsel.

8:11PM REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Town Administrator Alan Benson reviewed the following items with the Board:

- **Update on Process to Consider Plan Changes to Employee Health Insurance:** The Town Administrator provided information and updates to the Board on the Municipal Health Insurance Reform Act, including a draft response to the Teachers union.
- **Disclosure of Appearance of Conflict of Interest:** The Town Administrator made the Board members aware of a disclosure form received from Zoning Board of Appeals member Paula Fitzsimmons.
- **Request for Reduction in Inspection Fee:** The Town Administrator made the Board aware of a reduction in inspection fee request from the Boxford Friendship Foundation for the required inspections of the buildings at Four Mile Village. After a brief discussion, where it was discovered that the town had not been inspecting the buildings, as required by the state, the Board took the following action:
8:37PM On a **MOTION** made by **Nay**, second by **Costello**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** 4-1 to reduce the inspection fee to \$450 as requested, one time only. **Perkins: NO**
- **Jim Breslin Retirement:** The Town Administrator advised the Board that AFSCME Agent, Jim Breslin, has retired.
- **Housing Partnership Meeting:** The Town Administrator advised the Board that they have been invited to the Housing Partnership Meeting on Thursday to follow-up on their proposal for housing.

8:43PM ROUTINES

- **Correspondence:** The Board reviewed correspondence as follows:
 - **Red Cross Thank You for Blood Drive:** The Board briefly reviewed a letter from the American Red Cross, thanking the Administrative Assistant for her assistance in coordinating the recent blood drive.
 - **Masconomet: Notice of Use of E&D Fund:** The Board briefly reviewed a letter from Masconomet Regional School District regarding their appropriation of \$30,000 from the Excess and Deficiency fund to pay for the superintendent search.
- **Minutes:** The Board briefly reviewed the minutes of February 3, 2014 and took the following action:

8:45PM On a **MOTION** made by **Killam**, second by **Costello**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously to accept the minutes of February 10, 2014 as submitted.

- **Treasury Bills:**

On a **MOTION** made by **Killam**, second by **Perkins**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously to approve Accounts Payable Warrant 14-35, in the amount of \$2,309,504.55.

On a **MOTION** made by **Killam**, second by **Perkins**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously to approve Payroll Warrant PY1418, for non-school payroll, in the amount of \$161,560.72.

After Selectman Costello removed himself from the discussion, on a **MOTION** made by **Killam**, second by **Perkins**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** to approve Payroll Warrant PY1418, for school payroll, in the amount of \$299,633.82. **Costello abstained.**

8:47PM OTHER BUSINESS:

- **Tribute to WWII Veterans:** Selectwoman Nay announced that the Tribute to WWII Veterans on Friday was a great success and she asked the Board members to help deliver the citations to the veterans that were unable to attend the event. The Board members took their shares of citations and will personally deliver them to the veterans.

8:52PM ADJOURN

On a **MOTION** made by **Costello**, second by **Nay**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously to adjourn at 8:52PM.

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: Winter Message
5. Announcement: Soup & Chowder Fest
6. Memo from Town Administrator to Board of Selectmen, Re: Municipal Health Insurance Reform Act, 2/20/14

7. Town of Boxford Proposal New Plan Design & Mitigation Plans Municipal Health Reform Law, 3/4/14
8. Draft Response Letter from Town Administrator to Boxford Teachers Association, Re: Notice of Vote: MGL c. 32B §§ 21 to 23 801 CMR 52-03 Implementation Notice, 2/25/14
9. Town of Boxford Active Employee and Retired (not Medicare Eligible) Employee Health Insurance Plan Rates FY 2015
10. GIC Tufts Navigator Versus Boxford Health Plans and Benchmark
11. Memo from Town Administrator to Board of Selectmen, Re: Interviews of Non-School Labor Attorneys, 2/20/14
12. Packet of Information from Kopelman and Paige, P.C., Re: Response to Labor and Employment Legal Representation, 12/10/13
13. Packet of Information from Mirick O'Connell Attorneys at Law, Re: Response to Town of Boxford's Request for Proposals for Non-School Labor Counsel Services, 12/11/13
14. Packet of Information from Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane, LLP, Attorneys At Law, Re: Non-School Labor Counsel Services, 12/11/13
15. Disclosure of Appearance of conflict of Interest: Paula Lia Fitzsimmons
16. Letter from Boxford Friendship Foundation to Board of Selectmen, Re: Building Inspection Fee, 2/14/14
17. Letter from American Red Cross to Administrative Assistant, Re: Thank You for Blood Drive Coordination, 1/31/14
18. Letter from Masconomet Regional School District to Board of Selectmen, Re: Excess and Deficiency Fund Use, 2/14/14
19. Memo from Town Administrator to Board of Selectmen, Re: Outstanding Appointments, 02/20/14
20. Meeting Minutes:
 - February 10, 2014