

**Minutes of the BOXFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
BOXFORD TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM #1
September 8, 2015 7:30PM**

Present: Peter Perkins, Mary Anne Nay, Bill Cargill, Al Vaz, Chuck Costello

Absent: None

Others Present: Town Administrator Alan Benson, Minutes Sec'y Judi Stickney, John Ross Povenmire, Richard Shaw, Peter Delaney, Jim Gikas, Gerard Papin, Natasha Grigg, John Callahan, Bill Brown, Jon Schwartz, Ellen Guerin, John Dold, Virginia Havey, Richard Taylor, Kathy Benevento, Bill Shickolovich, Christopher Wakeman, Hans Jeppeson, Gerry Johnston, Margaret Chow-Menzer, Bob Hazelwood, Heather Forand, Peter Bernardin, Marty Jessel, Richard Fahrner, Mike White, Joyce Ricklefs, Kayla Aikins, Lana Spillman, Michael Enes, Howie Emmons, and others

7:30 PM PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

7:32 PM ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **2015 Apple Festival:** Selectman Cargill announced that Boxford 2015 Apple Festival will take place on Saturday, September 19, with a rain date of Sunday, September 20.
- **Town Hall Office Hours 9/9:** Selectman Costello announced that the Town Hall offices will be closed on the morning of Wednesday, September 9, for staff training and will open at 1PM.
- **Residential Assessments:** Selectwoman Nay announced that the residential assessments have all been updated and new values will be reflected in the third quarter tax bills.
- **Multiple Athletic Events Scheduled:** Selectman Vaz announced that there will be multiple athletic events utilizing the town public ways on Sunday, September 13th and to be cautious of increased numbers of bicyclists and runners on the roads.

7:36 PM CONTINUED: CONSIDERATION OF HAYNES RECREATION PROJECT

JOINT with Community Preservation Committee: Chairman Perkins provided a summary of what would be discussed and how the meeting would be conducted. Various boards and committees were invited to the meeting, to provide updates to the Board of Selectmen and the Community Preservation Committee. As each board and committee made their reports, there were questions and comments from the Board of Selectmen. The reports included:

- **Report of the Board of Health:** Hans Jeppeson, vice-chair of the Board of Health, provided information on their studies of the synthetic turf. Jeppeson advised that the Board of Health's initial determination is that the synthetic turf provides slightly more benefits than grass, but overall, the two are equal. Richard Taylor, a member of the Board of Health, advised that they have requested a

complete analysis on the composition of the turf that has been recommended. Heather Forand, a member of the Board of Health, advised they were only made aware of specifications for two types of synthetic turf. Bill Brown, of the Haynes Land Committee, provided more information on the synthetic turf and advised that we can specify the type of crumb rubber we want to use on the fields and include in the specs, after the Board of Health determines which would be most beneficial for the town to use.

- **Report of the Conservation Commission:** Lana Spillman, vice-chair of the Conservation Commission, advised that there were no conditions related to artificial turf in the Order of Conditions that was issued. A lengthy discussion ensued on whether the Conservation Commission was aware of the use of artificial turf. Joe Callahan, Haynes Land Committee, clarified that their Notice of Intent clearly specified that artificial turf would be used and it was discussed during their meetings.
- **Report of the DPW:** John Dold, DPW Superintendent/Town Engineer, provided information on how the fields would be maintained by his department, as well as the cost of the maintenance, which would be approximately \$67,100 for two natural turf fields, and \$53,460 for one natural turf field and one synthetic field. There were questions and comments from the Board of Selectmen, regarding the costs of maintaining and replacing the fields. Bill Brown, Haynes Committee, added that the fields will last from 12-16 years, before they need to be replaced. He added that the replacement cost of the artificial turf is approximately \$300,000, which will be funded privately. Jon Schwartz, Haynes Committee, added that the expectation is, and they are fully committed to raising money privately to pay for the replacement of the artificial turf field.
- **Report of the Permanent Building Committee:** Margaret Chow-Menzer, chair of the Permanent Building Committee, advised they met two weeks ago with members of the Haynes Committee, to review the budget, and they have made an adjustment to the line item for option 1, for the synthetic field. They are reducing the contingency from 6% to 5 ½%. All the other figures in the proposed budget remain the same. Chow-Menzer provided a copy of the figures they worked up for Budget Option 1 and Budget Option 3. They recommended that the Board of Selectmen adopt it. Chow-Menzer added that Budget Option 2 was for the baseball field and that is no longer being considered for the project at this time. There was a lengthy discussion on the need for clarity on whether the project was put out for bids on three fields or two fields. It was clarified that the current proposal is for two multi-use fields.
- **Report by Haynes Committee:** Jon Schwartz provided an update on private fundraising, adding that they have rolled out their premier donor campaign, noting that \$200,000 is in hand at this time, and \$100,000 is in reserves, as well as another \$100,000 pledged. They are ready for the fall fundraising campaign with banners, buttons, and more information. Town Treasurer/Tax Collector advised that they need all donations in hand by September 22. Joe Callahan and Bill Brown of the Haynes Committee provided a brief summary and advised they are ready to go with Option 1, at a total budget of \$4,557,904. There was a lengthy discussion on how using the Community Preservation Undesignated

Fund would affect future funding. Ellen Guerin, Town Treasurer, added that, by the end of 2020, there will be roughly \$1,000,000 in the Community Preservation Undesignated Fund. Callahan continued with additional information on Option 3, but reiterated they are supporting Option 1.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Board of Selectmen took the following action: **MOTION made by Nay, second by Costello:** To accept Article XX: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$4,557,904 to fund the construction of two multi use fields, one grass and one synthetic turf, proposed as part of the Boxford Common, a community project also known as the Haynes Land Project, and that to meet this appropriation: 1) to appropriate \$2,471,853 from the Community Preservation Committee Undesignated Fund; 2) to transfer the unexpended balance from Warrant Article #13 approved at a Special Town Meeting, October 23, 2007 for the purchase of the Haynes Land the amount of \$28,750; 3) to transfer from the Community Preservation Budgeted Reserve the amount of \$249,397; 4) that the Treasurer with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to issue debt in the amount of \$1,307,000 pursuant to the Community Preservation Act for open space and recreation projects, Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44B, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore; 5) conditioned upon a prohibition on expending any funds originating from the Community Preservation Committee Funds or pursuant to any authority under the Community Preservation Act, Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44B, on the acquisition of artificial turf for athletic fields; 6) and that in order to aid the funding of said project, that the Haynes Land Committee be permitted to seek, receive and accept grants, donations or reimbursements of \$557,904 for this purpose and to authorize the Haynes Land Committee and the Permanent Building committee to enter into any and all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary on behalf of the Town of Boxford to affect the construction of said project; the appropriated funds to be expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee and the Permanent Building Committee; or take any other action thereon.

DISCUSSION: A lengthy discussion ensued on whether they would be voting on requesting Community Preservation Funds.

AMENDED MOTION: At the conclusion of the discussion, the motion was amended by **Nay**, seconded by **Costello**, to "Request the use of Community Preservation funds, as outlined in warrant Article XX, as follows:"

PASSED: 4-1 (Cargill: NO)

8:57 PM ACTION BY COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE: Chairman Peter Delaney advised there is more in the Unbudgeted Reserve and they can take an additional \$57,000, changing the draft warrant article, as follows:
Article XX: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$4,557,904 to fund the construction of two multi use fields, one grass and one synthetic turf, proposed as part of the Boxford Common, a community project also known as the Haynes Land Project, and that to meet this appropriation: 1) to appropriate \$2,471,853 from the Community Preservation Committee Undesignated Fund; 2) to transfer the unexpended balance from Warrant Article #13 approved at Special Town Meeting, October 23, 2007 for the purchase of the Haynes Land the amount of \$28,750; 3) to transfer from the Community Preservation Committee Budgeted Reserve the amount of **\$306,397**; 4) that the

Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to issue debt in the amount of \$1,250,000 pursuant to the Community Preservation Act for open space and recreation projects, Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44B, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore; 5) conditioned upon a prohibition on expending any funds originating from the Community Preservation Committee Funds or pursuant to any authority under the Community Preservation Act, Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44B, on the acquisition of artificial turf for athletic fields; 6) and that in order to aid the funding of said project, that the Haynes Land Committee be permitted to seek, receive and accept grants, donations or reimbursements of \$507,904 for this purpose and to authorize the Haynes Land Committee and the Permanent Building committee to enter into any and all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary on behalf of the Town of Boxford to affect the construction of said project; the appropriated funds to be expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee and the Permanent Building Committee; or take any other action thereon.

Delaney read statements from CPC members Barbara Jessel and Steve Merriam, who were unable to attend the meeting. At the conclusion of the brief discussion, the Community Preservation Committee took the following action:

On a **MOTION** made by **Grigg** second by **Havey**, the Community Preservation Committee **VOTED 5-1 (Papin: NO)** to accept the language as proposed by the Board of Selectmen and the Community Preservation Committee for one synthetic and one grass field, as recommended by the Haynes Land Committee.

After the vote, there was a brief discussion on whether Article XX would be the only article on the Special Town Meeting warrant. After discussion, it was determined that the Haynes Land Committee was recommending that the Board of Selectmen support only Article XX, but, it was noted that other options may be presented at Town Meeting, with an amendment proposed.

9:05PM CONTINUED: CONSIDERATION OF HAYNES RECREATION PROJECT

Selectman Chair Perkins advised that the Board of Selectmen would now consider whether to vote to sponsor the article.

MOTION made by **Costello**, second by **Nay**: that on the recommendation of the Haynes Land Committee, to sponsor and support this article.

DISCUSSION: A lengthy discussion ensued on the difference between sponsoring and supporting the article and the motion was amended and the Board will wait to support the article:

MOTION AMENDED by Costello, second by Nay: On the recommendation of the Haynes Land Committee, to sponsor the Article.

PASSED: 4-1 (Cargill: NO)

9:30PM COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE ADJOURNED: The Community Preservation Committee adjourned their joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen and reconvened upstairs to finish their business.

9:30 PM ROUTINES

• **Treasury Bills:**

After Selectman Chair Perkins removed himself from the meeting: On a **MOTION** made by **Vaz**, second by **Cargill**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously to approve Payroll Warrant #16-5, for non-school payroll in the amount of \$155,783.63 and school payroll in the amount of \$278,020.81, for a total payroll of \$433,804.44. **Perkins abstained.**

On a **MOTION** made by **Vaz**, second by **Nay**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #16-10, in the amount of \$81,060.01.

9:32 PM ADJOURN

On a **MOTION** made by **Cargill**, second by **Nay**, the Board of Selectmen **VOTED** unanimously by roll call vote to return to open session and adjourn at 9:32PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Minutes Secretary

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

1. Agenda: September 8, 2015
2. Announcement: Apple Festival
3. Announcement: Residential Assessments
4. Announcement: Multiple Athletic Events on 9/13/15
5. Memo from Town Administrator to Board of Selectmen, Re: Meeting September 8th, 9/4/15
6. E-Mail from Boxford Commons Abutter to Board of Selectmen, Re: Proposed Haynes Fields, 8/15/15
7. Memo from DPW Superintendent/Town Engineer to Director of Conservation, Re: O&M for Haynes Field Project, 9/26/15
8. Town of Boxford Community Preservation Committee Summary Worksheet DRAFT
9. Town of Boxford Financing Options – Haynes Recreational Fields
10. Haynes Recreational Field Project Budget Options
11. DRAFT Potential Haynes Funding Articles
12. DRAFT Potential Haynes Funding Articles (Revised)