



Town of Dartmouth
400 Slocum Road
Dartmouth, MA 02747

Board of Selectmen

Select Board Members Present:

Michael P. Watson-Chairman
Lara H. Stone-Vice-Chairwoman
William J. Trimble

Joseph Michaud
Shawn McDonald

The Chairman opened the public meeting at 5:45 p.m.

The Chairman polled the Board for a roll call vote to convene into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 30A, Sec 21: Selectman Michaud, yes; Selectman McDonald, yes; Selectman Trimble, yes; Vice-Chairwoman Stone, yes; Chairman Watson, yes.

The Chairman called the public meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on March 12, 2012 in room 304.

Board members signed the **warrant(s)** for the following bills from various departments in the amounts of:

Date	Warrant #	Warrant Description	Amount
2/18/2012	PR36V1	Payroll Expense	\$-269.35
2/25/2012	PR35	Payroll Expense	\$890,873.97
3/1/2012	PD1235	Payroll Deduction	\$1,392,063.97
3/3/2012	PR36	Payroll Expense	\$861,883.05
3/5/2012	D1236	DPW Expense	\$149,824.35
3/5/2012	T1236	Town Expense	\$574,843.95
3/8/2012	PD1236	Payroll Deduction	\$601,454.71
3/12/2012	D1237	DPW Expense	\$97,985.41
3/12/2012	S1237	School Expense	\$269,491.76
3/12/2012	T1237	Town Expense	\$191,880.80

I. Appointments:

7:00 p.m. Hearing-Petition of NStar Electric for 1 Proposed Pole Location on Jordan Road.

After a motion was made by Selectman Joseph Michaud and seconded by Selectman William Trimble it was voted unanimously to approve the proposed pole location on Jordan Road.

II. New Business:

A. Application of TGI Fridays for Change of Officer/Director.

After a motion was made by Selectman Shawn McDonald and seconded by Selectman Joseph Michaud it was voted unanimously to approve the application for Change of Director for T.G.I. Friday's.

B. Newsletter.

- The Town newsletter will be distributed on March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1. It will be available on-line on the Town's website and hard copies can be picked up at the Southworth Library and Town Clerk's Office.

C. Regional 911 Dispatch.

- Phase II Report and Feasibility Study Completed.
- Approach regionalization on a small scale (incremental approach).
- Fund a project manager to drive the project.
- Dispatchers will be trained uniformly at the local level.
- New software will be streamlined between municipalities.
- Possibility of new radios for the Town.
- No cost to the Town to participate in this initiative.

D. Solar Farms.

- Mrs. Noseworthy contacted local communities in regards to moratoriums and green communities. Executive Administrator David Cressman contacted the same communities to get details related to their solar farm activity: (See Chart Below)

	Holliston	Ashland	Lunenburg	Harvard
Moratorium	No	No	No	No
Green Community	No	No	No	Yes
Zoning limiting solar farms to non-residential areas	No	Yes	No	Proposed
Proposals	One project where applicant contends State law allows it by right	One proposal	Two projects proposed in residential areas	One agricultural type project in existence and one proposal for non-agricultural

- Staff met with residents on 3/6/2012 to discuss revisions to the by-law. Based on the meeting David Cressman, Executive Administrator proposed a revised zoning by-law that will place more controls on the development of solar farms. Some of the changes are outlined below:
 1. A site plan review authority will now be reviewing large scale solar companies.
 2. All landscape plans need to be certified by a licensed architect going forward.
 3. Section 37.305- maintenance to landscape added.
 4. Increase of the initial setback to 100 ft.
 5. Reduction of the setback for industrial areas, now 25 ft. unless it abuts land zoned for residential use then it would be 100 ft.
 6. The minimum height of vegetation can be no less than the height of the installed panels at their highest point.
 7. Section 37.407-transformers need to be placed far away from residential areas (noise reduction).
 8. Neutral coloring for fencing and framing.
 9. Ballast system installation for residential areas.
 10. Surety language will be more detailed going forward.
 11. Anything with a building permit is grandfathered in.
- Proposed Town Meeting Article-4/9/2012
- E. Special Municipal Employee Request.
 - Matthew Thomas (Tax Title Attorney) came before the Board requesting to be appointed a Special Municipal Employee. Town Counsel recommended that we give the Title/Position the Special Municipal Employee label and not the individual.

After a motion was made by Selectman Joseph Michaud and seconded by Selectman Shawn McDonald it was voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Special Municipal Employee to the Tax Title Attorney position and to revisit the appointment on 6/30/2012.

F. ICMA Performance Measurement Project.

- The ICMA survey questions are posted on–line on the Town website.
- 70 municipalities are participating in this project, 9 of the participating municipalities are from Massachusetts.

G. April 3rd Election Warrant.

After a motion was made by Selectman Joseph Michaud and seconded by Selectman William Trimble it was voted unanimously to approve the signing of the Election Warrant for April 3, 2012.

H. Petition from Mrs. Bancroft.

- Mrs. Gloria Bancroft (precinct 1 Town Meeting Member)-presented the Select Board with a petition to revise the Town's by-law. She also presented a petition with 350 signatures for a Special Town Meeting on 3/9/2012 to review and amend the solar farm by-law. Mrs. Bancroft submitted an Article for the Town Warrant and asked the Board to vote on approving the residents request for a Special Town Meeting.

After a motion was made by Selectman William Trimble and seconded by Selectman Shawn McDonald it was voted unanimously to approve the request for a Special Town Meeting on 4/24/2012 with the Town Clerk's certification of all signatures on the petition.

III. Minutes:

Minutes of February 27, 2012

After a motion was made by Selectman William Trimble and seconded by Selectman Joseph Michaud it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of February 27, 2012.

V. **Announcements:**

- Multiple Sclerosis Walk will take place on April 1, 2012; anyone who wishes to participate can register today by calling 1-800-344-4867.
- Community Clean-up will take place on 4/21/2012; the DPW will provide trash bags to all participants. (Rain date: 4/22/2012)
- The Dartmouth High School AP Art class had their art gallery opening at the Town Hall on 3/13/2012. The art will be displayed at the gallery in the Town Hall for all interested in viewing it.
- Selectman Shawn McDonald requested a letter be sent to the Mass. Highway Dept. to cut vegetation along Rte. 6 between Slocum & Hathaway Rds.

After a motion was made by Vice-Chairwoman Lara Stone and seconded by Selectman Shawn McDonald it was voted unanimously to adjourn.

Attest:

David G. Cressman, Executive Administrator

Transcribed by: Stephaney L. Santiago