



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 called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. on May 23, 2011 in room 304.

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

\$892,748.07	PR46	\$432,371.95	PD1147	\$185,278.38	D1148
\$361,425.64	S1148	\$205,563.13	T1148		

Application of Country Club of New Bedford for a Change of Manager.

Katherine Cummings was present for the Change of Manager.

After a motion was made by Selectman Joseph Michaud and seconded by Selectman Shawn McDonald, it was voted unanimously to approve the Application of Country Club of New Bedford for a Change of Manager.

Application of Summit Grove Children's Holy Ghost for a One Day Beer & Wine License for 6/8/11, 7/15/11, 7/16/11, 7/17/11 and 9/10/11.

The Applicant did not show up.

After a motion was made by Selectman William Trimble and seconded by Vice-Chairwoman Lara Stone, it was voted unanimously to table until June 6th.

Appointment for Constable.

Ian Daley was present for his appointment.

After a motion was made by Selectman William Trimble and seconded by Selectman Shawn McDonald, it was voted unanimously to appoint Ian Daley as Constable.

New Business:

Appointment to the Dartmouth Bike Committee.

Gerald Koot was present for his appointment.

After a motion was made by Selectman Joseph Michaud and seconded by Selectman Shawn McDonald, it was voted unanimously to appoint Gerald Koot to the Dartmouth Bike Committee.

CPC Attendance.

The Executive Administrator supplied the Board with the CPC attendance which was requested. Selectman McDonald stated it appears the Elected Officials are the ones who are not showing up for the meeting. The Board requested Mr. Cressman to send out a letter to Mr. Lawton asking him to make a commitment.

FY11 Local Receipts.

Greg Barnes, Director of Budget and Finance, briefed the Board as of April 30 is encouraging as the Town is \$569,116.31 ahead as compared to the same time period last year and needs only a half million more dollars for actual receipts to match projected receipts for FY 2011. Of a particular positive note, the Town in the cumulative has already exceeded by a few thousand dollars its estimate for room and meals taxes (for room, the Town has collected \$276,387.90 but budgeted \$170,000.00 and for meals the Town has collected \$477,130.41 but budgeted \$587,895.00). This is in spite of the fact the Town has yet to receive March, April, and May tax receipts for this year which the Town is expecting as a payment from the State in June. (June collections are likely to be received in FY 2012). The Town has also done very well in terms of exceeding projections for building, electrical, and plumbing permits. On a negative note, the Medicaid reduction has been dramatic and, based on a change in the reimbursement formula by the federal government, would appear to largely be a permanent condition. Additionally, given continued erosion in interest rate returns, the Town will not meet its FY 2011 budget for investment income. Another area of concern is the reduction in revenue for Chapter 89 & 90 fines, which appear to be the result of internal factors. Finally, while small in the cumulative number, passport revenue has taken a precipitous

drop. This duty is now performed by the Library instead of the Town Clerk, but the number of passports processed by the Library – which is reflected in the dollar number for the Town Clerk – has so far been at a notably reduced rate from what it was when performed by the Town Clerk.

With two months still not reflected in the receipt info, I am cautiously optimistic that the Town will exceed its FY 2011 budget of \$6,618,040.00 for local receipts, already having collected \$6,108,694.02 as of April 30, as opposed to FY 2010 when the Town had a \$131,950.00 deficit based on an FY 2010 budget of \$6,918,642.05 as of June 30, 2010. I also think the Town has a reasonable chance of exceeding last year's total for local receipt collection of \$6,786,686.55.

Attorney Howard Greenspan re: Agreement for Legal Services.

Agreement for Legal Services for Howard Greenspan from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

After a motion was made by Selectman Joseph Michaud and seconded by Selectman William Trimble, it was voted unanimously to authorize this document.

Letter from Steven Melo, Harbormaster re: Parking Violations.

The Executive Administrator mentioned that the Harbormaster and Assistant Harbormaster Staff have traditionally enforced waterways by-laws and regulations relative to parking permits and waterways access.

After a motion was made by Selectman Shawn McDonald and seconded by Selectman William Trimble, it was voted unanimously to designate the Harbormaster and Assistant Harbormasters as "personnel necessary to carry out the provisions" of M.G.L Ch. 90, s 20A or M.G.L Ch. 90, s 20A ½.

Independent Audit.

Mary Sahady, Hague & Sahady & Company P.C., stated to the Board during our audit we became aware of several matters that are opportunities for strengthening internal controls and operating efficiently. Ms. Sahady state that our comments and recommendations concerning these matters are summarized in the memorandum.

Ms. Sahady answered questions from the Board.

Dartmouth Estuaries.

The Executive Administrator updated the Board on the Estuaries work in Dartmouth which includes Apponagansett Bay Land, Westport River Land, and Nonquitt Marsh Restoration.

The Executive Administrator stated that the Board needs to resign the posting of the warrant. Mr. Cressman mentioned that Article 26 had three columns; we deleted column three which stated the reasons for the deletions. Mr. Cressman stated he did not want any confusion with the Attorney General's Office.

Vice-Chairwoman Lara Stone noted that the Board never voted on the summary document for Town Meeting.

After a motion was made by Selectman Shawn McDonald and seconded by Selectman William Trimble, it was voted unanimously to approve the summary document for Town Meeting.

Old Business:

Cemetery Commission

No update information at this time, however, the commission has another meeting this week.

Minutes:

May 9, 2011.

Change article 9STM motion to read forward it to Town Meeting without recommendation.

After a motion was made by Selectman William Trimble and seconded by Selectman Shawn McDonald, it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of May 9, 2011 as amended.

Announcements:

Anyone wishing to carry the American Flag in the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 30, 2011 please contact the Town Clerk's Office at 508-910-1800 for further information. We need approximately 15 people in order to participate in the Memorial Day Parade.

Anyone wishing to become a Town Meeting Member in the following precincts please submit a written request to the Town Clerk's office and the Town Meeting Members of the appropriate precinct will vote to fill the available openings.

Precinct #2-5 openings
Precinct #3-23 openings
Precinct # 4-1 opening
Precinct # 6-4 openings

With no further business to be discussed the Chairman declared the regular meeting adjourned.

Attest:

David G. Cressman, Executive Administrator

Transcribed by: Linda Torres

