

Minutes: Selectmen's Meeting – Monday, August 23, 2010

Present: Kenneth J. Leva, Clerk and Walter F. Alterisio, Procurement Officer and Member; Kevin W. Welch, Chairman absent

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM with quorum present. Selectman Alterisio confirmed the board would be meeting on 9/7 – the Tuesday after Labor Day and will resume regular scheduling the following week.

Selectman Alterisio noted e-mail relative to the GDEF Octoberfest 5K and the board discussed and approved – Middlesex Deputy Sheriffs association will support. The board also approved use of the hay field for parking for the event.

Request from Boy Scouts for use of Blanchard Hill for campout on the 9/18 weekend was approved and Sunshine Girls request for use of town common for yard sale Sept 18th 7AM-3PM. Selectman Alterisio noted that if area stays dry, Chief Rich should be aware of the activity.

Selectman Alterisio referred to recent letter from Sue Lingeman requesting meeting on the subject of supplementing costs for maintenance of Larter Field. Selectman Alterisio indicated he thought it was a good idea to have Park Commissioners at the meeting. Secretary will respond back to her that will make time available for the 20th.

Never ending saga of the road – meeting on 17th with state level which approves projects – apparently an intermediary group made up of heads of highway regions (9 in MA) who come together and endorse projects to be included in TIP- vote on the 17th 5 of the urban districts voted against, 4 of the rural districts voted for it. Issue has now been raised with Luisa Paiewonsky, Administrator Highway Division for the state who will be pursuing additional information and the project may not necessarily be dead. Selectman Alterisio reported on the process and some of the activity in the interim toward reconsideration for the project.

Mail review: the board noted letter of appreciation from Chief Downes to BORO for highway's assistance correcting the drainage issue at police station and another to Woods Court resident for assistance provided in search for missing child.

The board supported Sue Psaledakis attendance at the Moving Together 2010: Moving Massachusetts Forward with GreenDOT and Healthy Transportation Green Forum sponsored by Bay State Roads as the subject is related. The board noted the contract has been signed with Trinity but not for 3 year contract as reported in the Sun – Tyngsboro's is but not ours.

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Minutes of 8/9 will be tabled until full board is present. The Treasurer's warrants were reviewed and signed. The board discussed the selection process with the recent police recruit – in past resumes were sent in, chief went thru those submitted and present those he felt reasonable to the Board for the interview process. Selectman Alterisio noted on this one here, Chief was looking for a particular kind of fit. Selectman Alterisio didn't have a good answer other than the urgency for filling the spot with a qualified individual. Selectman Alterisio indicated he can't say whether this process was any better or less efficient than those in the past. Selectman Leva noted that while the individual is on one year probationary status, the board has no idea of any other candidates.

Selectman Alterisio asked where we are with advisory board – do they have a chairman yet – need to get together with that group to see where we are – Kim has sent in free cash certification materials to DOR – but don't know with the school budget, where we stand. Would be a good idea to get together to get an update on just where we are. He indicated that what he's heard seems to be heading in the right direction but still don't know what's happening with the state, etc. Selectman Alterisio indicated he felt we should look to bring the groups together as close to September as we can. Suggestion was made to float the idea that summer's over, school is in, where are we – if there's any idea putting a special town meeting together to provide for shortfall in the school budget, don't want to be holding one at Thanksgiving time.

Selectman Alterisio asked if we have gotten any idea of when we might be able to get together with Town Engineer, Jeff Rider. He advised he'd always had a pretty good rapport with Jeff but Chairman Welch is right we haven't had any recent conversations or updates from Jeff. Selectman Leva noted that Chairman Welch's recent conversation with Jeff seemed to have gone relatively well.

Town Clerk noted the state primary in September and election in November suggesting they keep that in mind when they're looking toward scheduling a special town meeting.

With no further pressing items on the agenda, the Treasurer's warrants were reviewed and signed and the meeting adjourned at 7:45PM after appropriate motions and vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Danice N. Palumbo,
Board Secretary