

Minutes: Selectmen's Meeting: Monday, April 30, 2012

Present: Chairman Walter F. Alterisio, Daniel F. Devlin, Clerk and Procurement Officer and Member Kenneth J. Leva

The Meeting was called to order at 7:08pm with quorum present. Chairman Alterisio noted he'd be reporting on the decision on the health insurance coverage for the town; Chairman Alterisio reported he'd met with the union representatives relative to accepting health care plan - accepted option with 11% increase - no changes to plan. It has been submitted to MIIA Health Benefits Trust.

He then addressed roof repair for the fire house - issue with shingles and roofing - advising he'd asked Chief Rich to take a look at some proposals & quotes - has submitted quotes of \$6500 high, another @\$6000 and quotes for patching only @\$1500, another for \$1786, and another for \$1036; and another for replacing removing & disposing of the damaged section @\$2400. Talked to advisory board last week and they felt doing a decent job - until can come up with a long range plan for the building - need to address the repairs.

Selectman Leva joined the meeting at 7:15PM. Rather than going over the damaged area, Chairman Alterisio's druthers would be as long as requirements can be met, within the \$2400 price, which talks about removing layer and putting down new material. With respect to what was decided at the advisory meeting last week, the \$2400 is in the ballpark - pass on to the Chief to take a look at quote and insure that what it says is what we're getting.

Chairman Alterisio reported on meeting of Greater Lowell today - advising they began to roll out renovation plan for GLTHS - long and short - is that facility is 38 years old - most of the present codes weren't in place when it was built - architect's analysis reflected on how well the building has survived but have received around a 75% reimbursement from MSBA - for the project; somewhat higher than GD received for high & middle school. \$65M project shared by member communities - come up with scheme for payouts - bonding starting in 2014, construction into 2017 - 20 year note starting in 2018 - expect to receive final number from MSBA in October. Focus is on the critical areas of the building, bringing up to code and ADA requirements; looking at somewhat modest addition and improvements...cafeteria area will probably undertake the most dramatic change. Blocks in corridor are creosote soaked blocks - no longer acceptable - that's the smell that you get when you go thru the building. Expect more specifics once information becomes available.

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Chairman Alterisio also noted board has received an application for banner for the Pages for Peace Foundation – the program being run by GDRSD – banner from May 21st to June 2nd.

Ted Gaudette being present mentioned the Memorial Day banner which would need to be up during the same time frame – goes up like the 21st and comes down the 1st week in June. Issue is whether can hang two at the same time.... Selectman Devlin suggested putting the Pages for Peace banner in the same location as the preschool banner over at the school. Selectman Devlin will follow-up on the school's banner request. Chairman Alterisio noted that coming thru town a few weeks ago, it looked pretty busy; prefer not to compete with numerous signs & banners at the same time. Would also like to make sure to stay out of the island – lot of people have put a lot of effort into maintaining that area. Selectman Devlin will be in touch with Berta.

Chairman Alterisio noted the annual renewal for the liability insurance – rate increase of 8.5%. Motion to accept & approve MIIA proposal for FY13 property & liability by Selectman Devlin, 2nd and voted with all in favor – Chairman Alterisio signed accordingly.

Chairman Alterisio noted the board has also received the annual appointment request from Chief Downes for full time officers and reserve officers. Board tabled for a later meeting and will be asking Chief to come in at some point.

Next week will go through warrants for ATM & STM; primarily to understand who's doing what. The 14th is the ATM & STM, following is elections and normally don't hold meeting on the night of elections – meeting on the Tuesday, the 22nd probably in line – Memorial Day is the following Monday. Chairman Alterisio suggested the 22nd for the board's meeting.

Ted asked if there were any real controversial items on the STM or ATM warrants; board briefly reviewed the STM warrant – Chairman Alterisio asked where the amount came from in the health insurance account and secretary explained that Town Treasurer budgets enough for one additional family policy just in case an employee opts into the program at the annual signup or it's necessary due to an unplanned event. The board discussed the possibilities for the veteran's account being proposed noting the veteran's agent is the individual who can accurately answer the questions raised. The board anticipated some level of discussion on the subject.

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Anticipating questions on the article relative to the PEG Grant's – secretary was asked to research (Public, Educational & Governmental Access).

Chairman Alterisio and the board briefly discussed annual town meeting warrant: – article 11 relative to the stabilization account for the GDRSD – noting need to establish the groundwork on how it will be administered – and how it works in relationship to the district agreement. Article 15 is the one that Chairman Alterisio wasn't anticipating would be there but no problem with it being there, as none of the principals have a problem. This actually starts the process and doesn't happen until the legislature comes back with the provision – just insures the system of checks & balances for the town (the 1st of the items in the governance review).

It was also noted there are no general or zoning bylaw issues included in this year's annual town meeting.

At this point, Chairman Alterisio indicated there are things that have to be put in place before moving forward. Bill Ahern inquired on the notification process for town meetings and it was explained.

Alan Chaney reported will be looking for a special town meeting for the purchase of the triangle piece owned by the Best Family – must be within the 1st half of the year – whole thing is dependent on the CPA sequence which didn't permit time for inclusion within the annual town meeting warrant. CPA funding is necessary for the purchase to move forward. Field would have a conservation restriction on it – would remain open – held by land trust, surveys since 1974 have indicated residents want that parcel kept open...could be used for community gardens in the future (3½-4 acres) with provisions that remainder could be used for senior or affordable housing, warrant article would be specific. Alan advised on the funding that he believes is available – and uncertainty of determining what state allows for use from the CPA funds. Alan reported on the numbers projected from CPA, Land Trust, etc. Alan advised he didn't think they'd be touching affordable housing out of CPA – just unreserved and open space. Open Space isn't part of recreation – recreation doesn't have a specific amount – unreserved can be used for recreation. Need to determine what's available from free cash for this purpose – still working on the numbers and how best to address. Total price for parcel is \$699K (approx. \$140K per lot) – ½ million cheaper than a few years ago. Alan indicated he didn't

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believe you'd ever get this land cheaper – included in the town's master plan; will get back to the board once he knows more.

Treasurer's warrants were reviewed and signed and the meeting adjourned at 8:05PM after appropriate motion and vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Danice N. Palumbo,
Board Secretary



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