

Date: December 14, 2009

Date Minutes Approved: December 21, 2009, to remain sealed until the need for confidentiality has passed

Date Minutes Released: 04-30-12 (upon approval of 02-27-12 Exec. Session Minutes)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES (EXECUTIVE SESSION-A)

Present: Elizabeth H. Sullivan, Chair; Christopher Donato, Vice-Chair; and Jon Witten, Clerk.

Absent: No members were absent.

Staff: Richard MacDonald, Town Manager; and John Madden, Finance Director; and C. Anne Murray, Adm. Assistant to the Town Manager/Board of Selectmen.

The meeting was called to order in Open Session at 6:32 PM, and Ms. Sullivan moved that the Board go into Executive Session to consider the purchase, exchange, taking, lease, or value of real property as such discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the governmental body; and to reconvene in Open Session in accordance with Mass. General laws chapter 39, section 23b. Second by Mr. Witten. ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. Witten---aye; Mr. Donato---aye; and Ms. Sullivan---aye.

There were 2 Items of Business to be considered and the Minutes will be prepared separately:

Executive Session –A: Crowell Property
Executive Session –B: 69 Kingstown Way

Others present included:

Mr. Joe Grady, Conservation Agent for the Town of Duxbury
Mr. Tom Broadrick, Planning Director for the Town of Duxbury
Ms. Holly Morris, Chair of Community Preservation Committee (CPC)
Ms. Diane Bartlett, Chair of Local Housing Partnership (LHP)

Executive Session –A: Crowell Property

Mr. Grady told the Board that the Conservation Commission is interested in purchasing three (3) parcels of land totaling 60 acres from the Crowell Family. The land is along Congress Street and has been a working cranberry bog.

The Crowell family is selling the farming rights to the federal government as part of a wetlands restoration program. Under the terms of that program the last crop to be harvested will be next year's. Unfortunately, there was no local input allowed as the Conservation Commission would have preferred that it be maintained as a working bog.

The Conservation Commission has been interested in purchasing the parcels for some time, and while they would have preferred to keep it as a working bog, they still believe it has value. Mr. Grady noted it fulfills the following criteria from the 2008 Open Space and Recreation Plan:

- It links open space for wildlife corridors and/or trail connections.
- It encompasses surface waterways and riparian areas along the Green Harbor Watershed.
- It is within the Aquifer Protection Overlay District, which fed the Town's drinking water supply.
- It contains a possible new well site.
- It is within the Eastern Greenbelt, and is mapped as part of a Natural Heritage Exemplary Community, which guides land conservation for biodiversity in Massachusetts.

Ms. Morris indicated that the CPC voted in favor of a purchase of these parcels. She noted that it could be used for possible passive recreation.

Mr. Witten moved that the Selectmen authorize Mr. Joe Grady and the Conservation Commission to move into negotiations with the Crowell Family for the purchase of the property. Second by Ms. Sullivan. ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. Witten---aye; Mr. Donato---aye; and Ms. Sullivan---aye.

Mr. Witten indicated that he would be willing to participate in the discussions with the Crowell Family.

Executive Session –B: 69 Kingstown Way

The Selectmen then moved to discussion of the second item of Executive Session business. Minutes regarding that matter have been prepared as Executive Session –B. Once that item was completed the motion for adjournment was made.

ADJOURNMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Witten moved for adjournment of the Executive Session at approximately 7:15 PM to reconvene in Open Session. Second by Mr. Donato. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Witten---aye; Mr. Donato---aye; and Ms. Sullivan---aye.