

**Date: September 19, 2011**

*Date Minutes Approved: September 26, 2011*

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES**

**Present: Shawn Dahlen, Chair; Christopher Donato, Vice-Chair; and Theodore Flynn, Clerk.**

**Absent: No members were absent.**

**Staff: Richard MacDonald, Town Manager; John Madden, Finance Director; and Barbara Mello, Executive Assistant.**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Many members of the Duxbury Police and Fire Departments were present.

### **COMMENDATION FOR ARIANNA PARKER**

Chief Matthew Clancy said that on July 12, 2011, a resident of Duxbury, Scott Parker, fell seriously ill at his home. His seven year-old daughter, Arianna, had the presence of mind to call E-911, and give clear directions to the dispatcher. As a result of her clear-headedness and concern for her father, Mr. Parker had a positive outcome. The Board of Selectmen presented Miss Parker with a commendation for handling a very adult situation with distinction. A representative from the Massachusetts State E911 program, Ms. Monna Wallace, presented Miss Parker with a certificate and several commemorative gifts. Officer Tsougas, who was the dispatcher on duty at the time, presented Miss Parker with flowers and thanks for her clear instructions to him. Mr. Parker thanked his daughter and had high praise for the care provided to him by Duxbury's first responders.

### **PROMOTION OF ROBERT TRIPP TO FIRE CAPTAIN**

Mr. MacDonald explained that he is delighted to promote Firefighter Robert Tripp to the position of Captain in the Duxbury Fire Department. Chief Kevin Nord explained that Mr. Tripp is a twelve-year veteran of the department. He heads up the Special Hazards Unit which includes Dive, Technical Rescue and Hazardous Materials. He is a certified EMT, Fire Officer 2, Fire Instructor 2 and Fire Inspector 1. He studied fire science at Colorado Mountain College. Mrs. Tripp pinned the Captain badge on her husband.

Chief Nord said that he would ask the Town Clerk to administer the oath of office to Captain Tripp after the appointment of new firefighters in the department.

### **APPOINTMENT OF NEW FIREFIGHTERS**

Mr. MacDonald announced that he is appointing two new firefighters, due to retirements. Chief Nord thanked the retirees, Captain Peter Goggin and Firefighter Dennis Reddy, for their service to the Town.

Chief Nord explained that John Ahern was a member of the call force for two years. He is a Paramedic and served with Boston EMS. He served in the Army as a medic and has an education in Chemistry Biology from Texas A&M. He is married with children. Mr. Ahern's father, a retired Boston firefighter, pinned the career firefighter badge on his son.

Next, Chief Nord explained that Michael Gillis was a member of the call force for seven years. He is a Paramedic and was a painter by trade and worked per diem in New Bedford EMS. He has a Bachelors degree in political science. He is married with children. Mrs. Gillis pinned the career firefighter badge on her husband.

Ms. Nancy Oates, Duxbury Town Clerk, administered the oath of office to Captain Tripp, and Firefighters Ahern and Gillis.

#### **PRESENTATION TO CHIEF KEVIN NORD**

Mr. MacDonald announced that Fire Chief Kevin Nord has completed the four-year U.S. Fire Administrations' National Fire Academy, "Executive Fire Officer Program." The program involved extensive coursework and research. Mr. MacDonald presented Chief Nord with a framed certificate of graduation.

#### **WATER & SEWER COMMISSIONERS: DISCUSSION OF BAY ROAD SEPTIC SYSTEM**

Mr. Flynn moved that the Board adjourn as Selectmen and re-convene as Water and Sewer Commissioners. Second by Mr. Donato. Vote: 3:0:0.

Mr. MacDonald explained that Mr. Harry Scott, of Landing Road, has obtained a Special Permit for renovations to his home. As a participant of the shared Bay Road Septic System, his property is deed-restricted to two bedrooms. Mr. Scott would like to have three bedrooms. This must be approved by the Water and Sewer Commissioners.

Mr. Dahlen explained that there is excess capacity in the system, so this request can be accommodated. The Health Agent and DPW Office Manager confirmed this, and the Town Manager recommended that the request be allowed.

Mr. Flynn moved that the Board approve a change to allow Mr. Scott's two-bedroom home to be converted to a three-bedroom home. Second by Mr. Donato. Vote: 3:0:0.

Mr. Flynn moved that the Board adjourn as Water and Sewer Commissioners, and re-convene as Selectmen. Second by Mr. Donato. Vote: 3:0:0.

#### **CLOSE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

Mr. Dahlen reminded everyone that there will be a Special Town Meeting on October 29. The main purpose of the meeting will be to consider a proposal to build a co-located middle and high school in Duxbury. The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) is expected to approve partial funding for this project on September 28. Mr. Dahlen explained that the Town only has 90 days to approve the project after MSBA approval, in order to receive the funding. Therefore, the project cannot wait for the Annual Town Meeting in March. Nine other articles will also be considered. It has been deemed advisable to handle these articles now, rather than wait until March.

Mr. Flynn moved that the Board close the October 29 Special Town Meeting warrant, consisting of ten articles. Second by Mr. Donato. Vote: 3:0:0.

#### **TOWN MANAGER BRIEF**

- 1) The State has found mosquitoes on the Duxbury/Kingston Line which tested positive for the EEE virus. Therefore, Duxbury will follow the State recommendation

to restrict outdoor activities on Town fields after 6:00 PM. The Recreation Director has notified all youth sports coordinators. In addition, a Reverse 9-1-1 call will be made to residents on September 20.

- 2) The Town Manager and Selectmen reminded residents to go on the Town's website, and register their cell phones for emergency notification. This is very important for emergencies where the Town loses power.
- 3) We are expecting a large dredging project in Duxbury harbor next year. The Harbormaster is hard at work with coordination of this project. Mr. Dahlen added that there is some fear that the State may not be able to fund the project after all. Therefore, the Duxbury Bay Management Commission is investigating alternative funding possibilities.
- 4) The Town closed on the purchase of the "Koplovsky" property last week, off Summer Street. The Town made this purchase with Community Preservation Funds, as approved by the 2011 Annual Town Meeting.

## MINUTES

Mr. Flynn moved that the Board approve the minutes of September 12, 2011 as written. Second by Mr. Donato. Vote: 3:0:0.

## OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Dahlen announced that Duxbury staff, Board and Committee members, and elected officials participated in an all-day Strategic Planning session on Monday, September 12. The Town's strengths and weaknesses, expected trends, and ideas for the future were discussed. The session was facilitated by Ms. Judi Barrett. Ms. Barrett is the Chairman of Duxbury's Zoning Board of Appeals. Part of her professional career involves facilitating strategic plans for other communities. Mr. MacDonald pointed out that Duxbury was extremely fortunate to have Ms. Barrett's excellent services free of charge. Mr. Donato commended the committee members who took a day off from work to attend the session.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Flynn moved that the Board adjourn the meeting at 7:44 PM. Second by Mr. Donato. Vote: 3:0:0.

## LIST OF DOCUMENTS

- 1) Memorandum from Chief Kevin Nord, dated 9-19-11: Information on Fire Dept Appointments
- 2) E-Mail from Harry Scott to B. Mello, dated 9-14-11, explaining his request to add a bedroom to his home at 36 Landing Road. Attachment: Zoning Board of Appeals Decision dated 3-17-06, pertaining to 36 Landing Road.
- 3) DRAFT Special Town Meeting Warrant, draft dated 9-16-11
- 4) DRAFT Minutes of 9-12-11