

**Date: March 2, 2015**

*Date Minutes Approved: April 27, 2015*

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES**

**Present:** Shawn Dahlen, Chair; David J. Madigan, Vice Chair; and Theodore J. Flynn, Clerk

**Absent:** None

**Staff:** René J. Read, Town Manager; John Madden, Finance Director; Friend Weiler, Moderator; Art Kreiger, Esq., Town Counsel; and Nancy O'Connor, Executive Assistant

### **CONVENED IN OPEN SESSION –**

- I. CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM in the Mural Room.
- II. OPEN FORUM** Nothing brought forward.
- III. NEW BUSINESS**

#### ***Pre-Town Meeting walk through of March 2015 Annual Town Meeting Warrant and Special Town Meeting Warrant – Article Review and Discussion***

Mr. Dahlen turned the meeting over to Town Manager René Read to discuss the pre-town meeting walk through. Mr. Read stated that this is a new initiative, which was discussed with the Board of Selectmen. The purpose of this forum is not to debate the merits of articles, but rather to review the warrants so that everyone is comfortable with the articles and to give clarity where needed before the actual Town Meeting scheduled for Saturday, March 14, 2015. He further stated that he would read each article along with the explanation and take questions. He mentioned that the Special Town Meeting Warrant, the Annual Town Meeting Warrant, and the School Budget were available for everyone.

Mr. Read started with the Special Town Meeting Warrant and read through all articles and explanations.

Mr. Read continued with the Annual Town Meeting Warrant, informed the audience of the elections on March 28, 2015 at the Chandler School, and then read through all articles and explanations. A question was raised regarding Article 16 – purchase of Merry properties and how the land was going to be used. Mr. Joe Grady, Conservation Administrator, stated that 60 acres of cranberry vines would be farmed and the remainder would be open space. Another question was asked if the Town will be making money off of the cranberry bogs. Mr. Grady stated that that was not the intent, but rather to conserve the bogs as farmland. Mr. Dahlen stated that CPC funds and state matching funds were being used to fund this purchase and that this will not impact tax rates. There was also a question whether a map of the land was available, and Mr. Grady replied that there is one on record with the Town Clerk's office. A question was raised regarding Article 29 – restoration of iron fencing at Cemetery – why did the Finance Committee vote 2-5 against this article. Ms. Sullivan, Finance Committee Chairwoman, stated that they decided that this should be included in the cemetery's maintenance budget or other associated monies with the cemetery. Questions were raised about Citizens' Petition Articles 39 and 40 and if there are plans on record. Plans should be on file with the Town Clerk. Mr. Dahlen stated that the current plan for Article 40 does not show the wetlands district line or proposed movement. It was further stated that the Planning Board would review any amendment at their next meeting is scheduled for March 9.

A resident asked to go back to Article 28 regarding a conditions assessment on the Alden House. He asked why the Finance Committee voted 0-7 to not recommend this assessment. Ms. Sullivan replied that the Finance Committee did not feel that an exact estimate of the proposed work to be done was provided. Mr. Matt Vigneau, Director of the Alden House, spoke in response. He stated that this is not an unusual request and similar projects have been funded throughout the state. He further stated that they have hired a new fundraising

staff member to raise monies for the Alden house, and that they are currently looking for help to find out what is wrong in order to make needed repairs to this historic landmark.

Mr. Read stated that the warrants were posted online and if anyone had any questions or wanted to meet with him and Mr. Madden, to please call his office.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS** Nothing presented.

**V. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT** (Pre-town meeting walk through)

**VI. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT/RE-APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATION** None presented.

**VII. ONE-DAY LIQUOR LICENSE REQUESTS** None presented.

**VIII. EVENT PERMITS** None presented.

**IX. MINUTES**

Executive Session Minutes: None were presented

Open Session Minutes: 02/23/15 Selectmen's Minutes

Mr. Flynn moved that the Board of Selectmen approved the 2/23/15 Selectman's Minutes as presented. Seconded by Mr. Madigan. Vote: 2:0:1 (Mr. Madigan abstained as he was not in attendance)

**X. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**XI. BONUS SHELLFISH SEASON** (for March, 2015)

Mr. Flynn moved that the Board of Selectmen approve the bonus shellfish for quahogs in March, 2015 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Madigan. Vote: 3:0:0

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

At approximately 8:15pm Mr. Flynn moved that the Board of Selectmen adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Madigan. Vote: 3:0:0

*LIST OF DOCUMENTS (documents are kept in the Board of Selectmen files)*

- 1) Agenda
- 2) STM Warrant
- 3) ATM Warrant
- 4) School Budget
- 5) Minutes
- 6) Bonus Shellfish