

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday evening, August 10, 2010 at 7:40 p.m.

Present: Theresa E. McNulty, Chair; Robert M. Condon, Clerk Pro-Tem.  
George G. Samia, Town Administrator  
Christine M. White, Principal Clerk

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Appointment**

On the occasion of his retirement, Mr. Frederick D. Canducci was present to receive a citation from the Board in honor of more than 55 years of service to the Town as Plumbing and Gas Inspector. The Board commended Mr. Canducci for his hard work and diligence and wished him well in his much-deserved retirement.

### **Action Items**

M/Condon, s/McNulty, a unanimous vote, approve the minutes of the July 27, 2010 Board of Selectmen meeting.

M/Condon, s/McNulty, a unanimous vote, approve the request of Treasurer/Collector Marilyn Thompson to attend a dinner on August 17 while participating in Treasurer/Collector's training in Amherst Mass; The dinner, which includes an Economic Overview by Bartholemew Investments, may exceed \$50, and therefore, in order to comply with the state's Ethics Commission's gift rule, permission by the Selectmen is needed for Ms. Thompson to attend the dinner.

### **Appointment**

State Representative and East Bridgewater resident Allen McCarthy was present to give an end-of-fiscal year overview/update.

Some highlights of the overview: Rep. McCarthy began by stating that local aid, in its two forms on the governor's FY 2011 budget - the educational aid, which is Chapter 70, and UGGA (Unrestricted General Government Aid) - is his number one concern. Local aid was cut by nearly 4 percent; Stimulus money is exhausted; Rep. McCarthy is working toward re-appropriating Chapter 70 funds, which is a difficult task mid-year; Looking ahead, revenues are leveling off; "Rainy Day Fund" has not been utilized, in order to prepare for future fiscal woes; Massachusetts is fighting to keep businesses here; Rep. McCarthy looks to the possibility of gaming - which he supports -although it is too late for this fiscal year. He feels that Indian gaming is inevitable, and that the state and towns should be able to benefit from state-run gaming revenue before the opportunity passes.

Town Administrator George Samia commended Rep. McCarthy for being at the vanguard of passing legislation that eventually led to over-riding legislation that would compromise Proposition 2-1/2. Rep. McCarthy thanked Samia and Town Assessor Cheryl Pooler for bringing the issue to his attention: how overlay funds are used.

Rep. McCarthy also thanked Town Clerk Marcia Weidenfeller for alerting him on concerns she had on reimbursements to cities and towns for elections.

Mrs. McNulty commended Rep. McCarthy for his work toward resolving the Hanson Land issue, and the passing of the Home Rule Petition. Stating that the process is "incredibly unique," Rep. McCarthy commended Attorney Laura Brown for her diligent and thorough research into how to go about finally conveying the multiple small lots over to the Town, as it has only been done once

before in Massachusetts. The process will still take up to a year to complete, but Brown's writing of "clean legislation" will facilitate the process.

Mrs. McNulty gave a brief update on the Massachusetts School Building Authority's (MSBA) involvement with the planning and building of a new high school. She thanked Rep. McCarthy on his participation in several of the meetings pertaining to the project. McCarthy stated that, ultimately, it is the decision of the town through Town Meeting, whether or not the project will progress to fruition.

Mr. Samia concluded by thanking Rep. McCarthy for "calling it as it happens," referring to Rep. McCarthy's habit of calling Mr. Samia from the floor of the State House the moment he gets updates.

### **Town Administrator's Report**

Mr. Samia updated the Board on the Bond Issuance, stating that he is developing a capital plan based on real figures, and that he believes it will reflect 4 percent. Mr. Samia reminded the Board of the excellent bond rating that the Town recently received. Mrs. McNulty stated that before we know it, the Finance Committee will be meeting again and the budget process will start over again. Mrs. McNulty reminded residents who are interested in filling the vacant seats on the Finance Committee to submit their letters of interest to the Board of Selectmen's Office.

### **Reminders**

Principal Clerk Christine White reminded the public about the ongoing summer and autumn events on the Town Common including the Common Market. Mrs. McNulty commended Joseph Floeck and all the members of the Recreation Commission for their efforts to bring free recreation to the residents of East Bridgewater.

### **Open Forum**

No one present

M/Condon, s/McNulty, motion to adjourn.

VOTE: Yes – McNulty, Condon; a unanimous vote in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

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Board of Selectmen Clerk