

The weekly meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 7:33 p.m.

Present: Theresa E. McNulty, Chairman; Joseph L. Miksch, Clerk; Robert M. Condon
George Samia, Town Administrator, Christine White, Principal Clerk

Pledge of Allegiance

Action Items

M/Miksch, s/Condon, a unanimous vote, approve the minutes from the February 1 and February 7, 2011 meetings.

M/Miksch, s/Condon, a unanimous vote, approve the resignation of Lori Cogan from the Recreation Commission, effective immediately. Mrs. McNulty thanked Mrs. Cogan for her service and wished her luck in her new endeavors.

M/Miksch, s/Condon, a unanimous vote, approve the request of Dale Julius and the East Bridgewater Historical Commission for use Sachem Rock Farm during the period of Friday, April 22 through Sunday, April 24 for the Annual Frank Harlow Day/Civil War Encampment which will take place on Saturday, April 23 from 10 am – 4 pm.

Town Administrator Report

Town Administrator George Samia discussed the budget season. He has requested all Town Departments to submit their budgets by February 18. He has requested both a 1-1/2 percent and 3-1/2 percent decrease from all departments. The final determination will depend on state revenue and cuts to funding which may be as much as 10 percent. Mr. Samia predicts a very difficult season which may include layoffs, but he and the financial team will endeavor to produce the best balanced budget possible.

Board Discussion

Mrs. McNulty noted that despite the fact that the budget season is beginning, the Town will be embarking on two projects that were approved at the election on February 12: The new high school and the new senior center. She also noted continuing progress on the Eastern State Steel site, stating that she and Mr. Samia have been in discussions with the DEP and Mass Development.

Mrs. McNulty stated that the town will be “put to the test” in the next few years and urged fiscal responsibility. She noted that health care costs for town employees will be increasing but that the town is committed to negotiating the best possible rate and keep costs down.

Mrs. McNulty stressed the need for strong leadership. She announced her intent to seek re-election in April.

Mr. Condon requested that Mrs. McNulty give a brief overview of the High School Building Committee’s continued activities. Mrs. McNulty stated that the next step is moving forward with the design development, and that the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) will be consistently involved.

Mr. Miksch stated that “Its been a long battle” to get a senior center.

Open Forum

No one present.

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm

Board of Selectmen Clerk