

Memorial Town Hall, 1 Library Street, Georgetown, MA 01833
Ph. (978) 352-5755 * Fax (978) 352-5727
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
Memorial Town Hall
Third Floor Meeting Room
1/29/07
7:00 PM

Selectmen Present: Richard Clough, Chairman; Lonnie Brennan, Clerk; Matthew Vincent

Others Present: Stephen Delaney, Town Administrator; Fire Chief Michael Anderson; Jack Moultrie, Highway Surveyor; Janet Pantano, Administrative Assistant

Absent:

Call to Order

Mr. Clough opened the meeting at 7:04PM.

Correspondence

Mr. Brennan stated that they have received letters of resignation from John Fisher, CATV Manager; Elizabeth Pettis, CoA Director; and Alice Girrior, CoA Senior Aide.

Mr. Brennan stated that they have received a communication from Ms. Pettis regarding the CoA budget and formula grant.

Mr. Brennan stated that they have received a communication regarding the Bailey Lane Bridge closure from the Police Chief and Fire Chief. He stated that he had an email regarding a letter of correspondence on the Bailey Lane Bridge and had asked for a new letter from the Police and Fire Chiefs stating their opinion and concern on the closure of the bridge. Mr. Brennan read the letter from the Chiefs. He stated that he wanted it in writing on how they feel about the bridge closure with the budget season approaching. He stated that his concern is the numbers of homes in the area and the response time of Police and Fire and any delay from not knowing which end of Bailey Lane they would be responding to. He stated that he drove the distance to each side of the bridge and gave times to the board.

Old Business

Milton Way

Mr. Delaney stated that a resident has requested a copy of the counsel opinion regarding Milton Way. He stated that the decision is confidential. Mr. Clough asked if the resident is going to litigation. Mr. Delaney stated that he did not know. Mr. Brennan stated that they should look and see if a part of the decision can be released. He stated that it was his understanding that no resident can do work on a road. He stated that the Town has the right to pass and re-pass. Mr. Moultrie responded that he will address this Street and

other not accepted Streets in his budget. Mr. Delaney stated that he would look at the document.

Board Business

Recreational Path Update-Dick Paganelli

Mr. Paganelli wanted to update the board on the progress of the committee. He stated that they have met with the Border to Boston Committee and with Mass Highway and have a 100 page proposal. He stated that they are asking Mass Highway to form a Task Force for the project. He stated that there will be a meeting on February 21 to pull this together. He stated that this would be a huge milestone for the trail. He stated he feels the trail will be built. He shared the financial plan that would be used. He stated all this information is on the CPC website with the timetable for Phase 11. He asked if they proactively have to go to the Town before they go into negotiations with National Grid. Mr. Clough and Mr. Delaney stated that the BoS would have to be involved. Mr. Vincent stated that there may be attorneys in Town who may volunteer to look at the lease and that National Grid would be looking for indemnification. Discussion on resident concerns. Mr. Brennan asked for a copy of the Newburyport lease. Mr. Vincent stated that they should have local attorneys look at the first draft. Mr. Paganelli stated there are some areas that they will need easements. Mr. Clough asked about a pool built on rail bed land. Mr. Paganelli stated that anything built on a railroad bed has to go through the State. He asked about the purchase of land on Moulton Street. Mr. Brennan stated that he sent some of these areas to CPC to look at. He stated that they have to find out who owns the land and have them maintain this land. Mr. Clough stated that this land was offered to the Town for \$1. He stated was a superfund site. Mr. Moultrie stated that there are still monitoring wells on the site. Mr. Paganelli stated that he would like to put in a Warrant Article and have Town counsel can review. Mr. Vincent stated that when they have a State of the Town meeting he would like the Rec Path Committee be a part of this.

New Business

Licenses

Mr. Clough stated that Mr. Cammarata has requested 30 one-day liquor licenses for the Golf Course at the Georgetown Club. He stated that as Mr. Cammarata is not present he would request to continue until Mr. Cammarata can be present.

Request from Toula's Roast Beef & Pizza for a Common Victualler License.

Mr. Vincent moved to approve a Common Victualler License for Toula's Roast Beef & Pizza. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Vincent stated that three of the four Board of Fire Engineers are present. He asked if they would be available on February 12 for the Fire Department Review presentation. BoS and BoFE stated that they can attend a meeting on February 12, 2007.

Mr. Clough asked Mr. Moultrie if he would be able to have something on unaccepted streets that evening.

Warrant Annual Town Meeting

Mr. Delaney stated that budget sheets have gone out and are budgets are being compiled. He stated that they could open the warrant for Town Meeting tonight and close at the end of February.

Mr. Vincent moved to open the Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Brennan showed pictures of the condition of the Bailey Lane Bridge. He stated that Mr. Moultrie has tried to get this bridge repaired and has failed at Town Meeting twice. He asked what we are going to do. He stated safety is the issue and that they can not have open access to residents. Mr. Moultrie stated that he hopes he can get the support of the board for the repair. Mr. Vincent stated he would like to see this as a priority in the budget. Mr. Moultrie stated an override would not be the way to go as it would be a kiss of death. He stated that the funds should be taken out of free cash and he stated there are other areas of Town in the same condition. He stated that they need to set up a funding source for the future for infrastructure repairs. Mr. Vincent asked for a state of roads update. Mr. Moultrie stated he has a report in his budget and that these areas are also in his 5 year budget. Mr. Vincent stated the graphic approach is helpful. Mr. Moultrie stated that funding is the issue. Mr. Brennan stated that there are no other bridges that are closed in Town. He stated that he wants the bridge opened tomorrow. He stated that he would like to see the barriers removed and a gate put in and for the Police to monitor with cameras. He stated that he would have the lock replaced everyday if we have too. He stated that he wants something done now. Mr. Moultrie stated he let the board know of the need in June. He stated that he needs funding. Mr. Delaney stated that they would need a transfer from FinCom for funding. Mr. Vincent asked if it is not a structural issue can they allow one lane. Mr. Moultrie stated that it would be a liability issue. Mark Unger, Bailey Lane stated that this project was shot down at Town Meeting because of cost. He stated that he feels the bridge can be repaired for a smaller dollar amount and he asked which is more of a liability opening as a one-way or keeping closed. Mr. Moultrie stated that he feels you need the opinion of the Police Chief on the policing of the one-way. Mr. Vincent asked if Mr. Moultrie would be comfortable with the one-way. Mr. Moultrie stated that he would recommend counsel look at the liability of this. Mr. Brennan asked for a vote on Monday for either a gate or a one-way, and to seek a source of funding.

Mr. Brennan asked for a summary of the improvements on Longview on water capacity if there were two fires in the area. Mr. Brennan showed pictures of the areas that Fire trucks had to go over and the guard rail that had to be cut. Fire Chief Anderson stated that he can do up a list of changes that they would recommend making and are that they are working with Mr. Moultrie on these issues. Mr. Moultrie explained issues with Mass Highway regarding guard rail and curb cut at Longview. He stated that he will deal with

it without the State. Mr. Brennan stated that he would ask that no permits to rebuild are given without these issues being settled.

Warrant for Town Meeting

Mr. Clough asked if the Fire Department had any ideas on warrant articles. Chief Anderson stated that they are looking at an Article for communication equipment and maybe for fees. Mr. Unger stated that the Fire Department does a lot of maintenance to master boxes and that they should charge owners. Mr. Vincent asked if Chief Anderson has looked at what other Towns have charged. Chief Anderson stated that he has.

Bailey Lane Bridge

Mr. Unger asked about putting large metal plates on the bridge at least until spring. Mr. Brennan asked about speed bumps on road. Mr. Delaney stated that he would work with Mr. Moultrie for a report for Monday night. Mr. Moultrie stated that if you have someone else look at the bridge they should be a Traffic Engineer. Mr. Moultrie stated that if you put plates over the bridge and opened it to traffic who would monitor weight limits. Mr. Brennan stated that this would be done as a temporary measure and they would not be going over the head of the Traffic Committee. Mr. Moultrie recommended talking with the Town Planner. Mr. Brennan stated that Mr. Moultrie and Mr. Delaney can handle this.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Delaney stated that the budget process is under way and that recruitment is under way on the vacant positions. Mr. Clough asked if Mr. Delaney could talk with FinCom and that if there are budget cuts he would appreciate the Selectmen being allowed to make the cuts on their own. Mr. Vincent asked if FinCom would want a recommendation on cuts but he would like the Selectmen to have the final say on the Town budget. Mr. Vincent asked about the Governors budget. Mr. Delaney stated that his budget is usually out by mid March and that the budget he sends out would have a financial report. Mr. Vincent asked for break out on the funds that departments turn over and tax title.

Mr. Vincent moved to adjourn. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25PM.

Minutes transcribed by J. Pantano.

Minutes approved April 5, 2007.