

Memorial Town Hall, 1 Library Street, Georgetown, MA 01833
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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
Memorial Town Hall
Third Floor Meeting Room
10/24/05
7:00 PM

Selectmen Present: Peter Sarno; Chairman; Lonnie Brennan

Others Present: Stephen Delaney, Town Administrator; Janet Pantano,
Administrative Assistant; Beverly Enos, Town Moderator

Absent: Richard Clough, Clerk;

Call to Order

Mr. Sarno called the meeting to order at 7:00P.M.

Mr. Sarno updated the audience on Mr. Clough's status and stated that he is expected to return in a few weeks.

Minutes

Mr. Brennan moved to approve the minutes of August 22, September 26, October 3, and October 17, 2005 as written. Mr. Sarno seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Public Hearing

Tax Classification

Mr. Sarno read the Public Hearing notice and opened the hearing. Cynthia Bateman and Dave Bogdan, Assessors were present. Ms. Bateman went over the material presented to the Board of Selectmen.

Open Space Discount

Ms. Bateman stated that the Town does not have land that would fall under this discount. **Mr. Sarno moved to not allow a discount on Open Space. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

Residential Exemption

Ms. Bateman stated that the Assessors do not recommend this exemption **Mr. Sarno moved to not allow a Residential Exemption. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

Small Commercial Exemption

Ms. Bateman stated that the assessors do not recommend this exemption. **Mr. Sarno moved to not allow a Small Commercial Exemption. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

Classification

Ms. Bateman read rates to the board. She stated that the Assessors recommend a factor of 1 (single tax rate).

Mr. Sarno moved to keep the residential rate a factor of 1 (single tax rate). Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Appointments

Police Chief Mulligan introduced Dean A. Julien and stated that he is recommending him as a Reserve Police Officer. Chief Mulligan explained Mr. Julien's work history and training. Mr. Brennan asked Mr. Julien for some background information. Mr. Julien stated he is a firefighter and enjoys public service work. Chief Mulligan explained the training that his office would provide.

Mr. Sarno moved to appoint *Dean A. Julien as a Reserve Police Officer* appointment to expire **June 30, 2006. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

Board Business

Water Department Update

Mr. Sarno explained that the board has had questions from the public on the town's water quality and time frame on new well loop. Mr. Brennan stated that they receive the questions but ask that the Commissioners as elected officials to share with the public what they are doing. Mr. Sarno asked what can be done about water and Rate of Development. Water Commissioners introduced themselves for viewers, Ray Bateman, Jim Viera, William Ricker, and Glenn Smith Water Superintendent. Ray Bateman explained that they do not produce water but are just pumping from wells. Mr. Bateman explained wells and water quality. He stated that the water tests well and meets all State standards. He stated residue in lines is from previous water and chemical content. He stated that the Parker River is at the same level as 30 years ago. Mr. Sarno asked if they are close to capacity. Mr. Bateman stated that the State gives them an amount of water they can pump per day. He stated that this is 850,000 gals. a day but that they could pump 2 million gals. per day but that the state would not increase the amount. Mr. Brennan asked about the Golf Club water usage. Mr. Bateman stated that the Golf Club has a well and that the State does not regulate unless they are over 100,000 gals a day. Mr. Smith explained that most town buildings have a low flow and the town's per capita is not bad. He stated that in their annual report they try to address all these issues. He stated that the town's water has high magnesium, iron, and sulfur and that they are trying to reduce these amounts. He explained that they flush the lines twice a year to reduce build up in the pipes. Mr. Sarno stated that there are three major projects before the Planning Board and what happens if the State rejects an increase for water. Mr. Bateman stated that he does not have an answer. He stated that if they do pump over the limit then the State may increase the amount. He stated that if they go over 950,000 gals per day then they can be fined or cited. Mr. Brennan stated that 6 years ago the water was wonderful what happened. Mr. Bateman stated that about 10 years ago the State had them add a phosphate to the water because of the lead, copper, and magnesium. Mr. Smith stated that they are also adding lime to the system and are trying to use a different

chemical, calcium hydroxide but they have to get an okay from DEP for a study before they can change chemicals. Mr. Sarno asked about the loop. Mr. Bateman stated that the well loop has to be done in the winter because of the turtles. Mr. Smith stated that the loop should be done by June if all goes well and everyone should have the same complaints. Mr. Delaney asked the commission about future capital projects. Mr. Bateman and Mr. Smith stated that they see a future water tower on Longhill. Mr. Smith stated that the water tower would be 147ft. Mr. Delaney asked about any new pipes. Mr. Bateman stated that the pipes are from 1935 and all pipes were lined in the seventies and are in good condition. Mr. Brennan asked about lead in water. Mr. Bateman stated that the lead is from the homes not from the water. Mr. Smith explained what they do with the water to keep the water from taking lead out of the pipes.

Correspondence

Mr. Sarno read information on the Hazardous Waste Day Saturday, November 12, 2005 9AM-1PM at Pennbrook School.

Mr. Sarno stated that they have a letter from the Park & Recreation Commission asking for a paid Park & Recreation Director. Mr. Sarno stated that when they have a town reorganization committee they can look into this suggestion and that this should also be a part of the budget process. Mr. Brennan stated that there are great details in the letter and a lot of programs that they had in the past that could be reinstated.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Delaney stated that they have names for the Government Study Committee and that he can bring the names before the board at a future meeting. He stated that the Special Town Meeting went well. He stated that at a future meeting he would have a consultant in to talk about Health Insurance and that they could invite the Unions, and School Committee, etc.

Correspondence

Mr. Brennan read a letter from the Building Inspector regarding the closing of the temporary Library until structural problems are resolved.

Mr. Delaney read a letter from Beverly Knapp resigning from her position as COA Director. Mr. Brennan stated that there has been a lot of discussion on senior programs and that this would be an opportunity to look at the office and maybe better use of time and energy.

Mr. Brennan stated that they had an update from Mr. Moultrie on the downtown project. He stated that Mr. Moultrie is very frustrated with the contractor and explained that updates can be accessed on the Highway web site. He stated that residents could contact Mr. Moultrie if they have concerns. He stated that Mr. Moultrie expects an early November opening of Library Street and finishing of the project in the spring of 2006.

Mr. Brennan stated that there have been some problems with accessing the Georgetown Channel for residents with digital cable. He explained that if you have a digital cable box

BoS Minutes
October 24, 2005

then you can access the Georgetown Channel on channel 909. He stated that they are still looking for volunteers for the Cable Advisory Committee.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:00PM.

Minutes transcribed by J. Pantano.

Minutes approved December 5, 2005.