

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
9/18/06
7:00 PM

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

Others Present: Stephen Delaney, Town Administrator; Police Chief James Mulligan; Janet Pantano, Administrative Assistant

Absent:

Call to Order

Mr. Clough opened the meeting at 7:15PM.

Minutes

Mr. Clough stated that they have minutes of August 7 and September 11, 2006. Mr. Vincent and Mr. Brennan both had changes for September 11, 2006 and asked to hold for the next meeting.

Mr. Vincent moved to approve the minutes of *August 7, 2006* as written. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Correspondence

Mr. Brennan read correspondence

- Letter from Assessors
- Letter from the Parker Water Association thanking the town for the use of West Street for the Turtle Picnic
- City of Haverhill request to attend a joint meeting regarding the Whittier budget on Thursday October 5, 2006 at 7:00PM.

Mr. Vincent asked if a copy of the request could be sent to Attorney Bob Rudolph and our Whittier Representative Joann Testaverde

- Invitation to Jeanne Geiger fundraiser

Mr. Brennan stated that they received minutes from the Library Building Committee and he was concerned about a discussion on parking in the minutes where it was stated that they would not change the parking. He stated that Mr. Anderson was very blunt about not making any changes to the parking. He stated that the BoS invited the public to a meeting with the LBC to discuss parking and concerns of the neighbors. Mr. Delaney stated that the LBC did not make the decision on parking. He stated that the decision was an exhaustive process with the Planning Board and Site Plan Approval. Mr. Brennan stated that at the Traffic Study meeting the residents were told to go to the Planning Board to express concerns. He stated that Mr. Stoetzel stated that he gave a letter to the Planning Board and that they did not read the letter and that the Planning Board did not take his concerns into consideration. Mr. Clough asked if Mr. Delaney could send a note

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to the neighbors and to the LBC regarding the parking decision. Mr. Vincent stated that the LBC should explain their position. He stated that the BoS have no jurisdiction over the Planning Board and he questioned how much they should stick their nose in. He stated that he does not want to assume that the minutes portray the tone of the meeting. Mr. Brennan asked that the LBC send a cover letter to the neighbors regarding the discussion at the meeting.

Mr. Brennan stated that he has received numerous emails from a member of the Government Study Committee that have him concerned.

Mr. Vincent stated that Mr. Moultrie has sent forms to the State for funds for paving and that a lot of people do not know the extent of funds he requests and receives from the State for the Town.

Old Business

Government Study Charter

Mr. Clough stated that it may take some time to go over this. Mr. Vincent stated he would like to rethink this committee. He stated that he would like to see Jim Lacey stay as chair and have this committee be appointed by FinCom, Highway Department, School Department and the BoS. Mr. Brennan stated that a member of this committee has stated that he will be filing a grievance with the State. He stated that the Schools have already gone through this and that the board has to get training for town committees. He stated that this group is doing some good work.

Mr. Vincent moved that the Board of Selectmen reform the Government Study Committee with the appointment of *Jim Lacey and appointments of 3 residents by the Board of Selectmen, 2 residents by the FinCom, 1 resident by the School Department, and 1 resident by the Highway Department.* Mr. Clough seconded the motion for discussion.

Mr. Vincent stated that one modification would be a joint appointment with BoS and Public Safety. Mr. Brennan stated that on August 7th Mr. Vincent had asked for three appointments of members from the FinCom. He stated that one person Mr. Vincent recommends is on video not following rules and there are allegations made against this person in emails. Mr. Vincent stated that he has made his decision with knowledge of the emails being sent. Mr. Brennan read parts of the emails. Mr. Brennan asked for an Executive Session with the Government Study Committee. Mr. Clough agreed to go into executive session with the committee and get the facts. He stated that he has not read the emails. Mr. Brennan stated that people do not understand he is not criticizing but just asking the questions. Mr. Vincent stated that he withdraws the motion as long as an executive session is made for the next meeting. Discussion to meet next Monday evening at 6:00PM. Mr. Vincent stated that he supports Jim Lacey to chair this committee.

Joint Meeting with the Board of Selectmen, FinCom, and School Committee

Mr. Vincent stated that he would like to add CIP to this meeting and meet next week if possible.

Training

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Mr. Brennan asked where we stand on training. Mr. Delaney stated that he talked with Kopelman & Paige and they will have the sessions set up within the next few weeks and he explained the process. Mr. Vincent stated that he would also like to ask the District Attorneys office to come in for a training meeting. Mr. Delaney stated that he would look into this and that they may be able to do a joint meeting with neighboring towns. Mr. Brennan stated that he wants all committee members to attend along with the Board of Selectmen.

Union Cemetery

Mr. Brennan stated that Mr. Knapp of the Union Cemetery came to last weeks meeting looking for a sign off on the Cemetery. He stated that they told Mr. Knapp that they would put the Cemetery on the agenda for October 16, 2006.

Milton Way

Mr. Brennan stated that they have received a response from Kopelman & Paige and that the response is confidential. He stated that in the last paragraph K & P did not answer correctly or the question was not presented correctly. Mr. Delaney asked if he could rephrase the question then he would present it to counsel. Mr. Brennan stated that the town does access the Park via Milton Way. He stated that we may have rights and but do not have to exercise them.

New Business

Request from Police Chief Mulligan for the appointment of Joanne Ballard as a Reserve Police Officer.

Chief Mulligan stated that the Police and Fire Departments had a Softball game on Sunday and that the Fire Department squeaked by the Police but a good time was had by all.

Chief Mulligan introduced Ms. Joanne Ballard and gave her qualifications and the training that she has undertaken. He explained the training that the department would expect of Ms. Ballard. Mr. Greenberg asked what her score was at the academy. Ms. Ballard stated a 91 and a 96.

Mr. Vincent moved to approve the appointment of *Joanne Ballard as a Reserve Police Officer* for a term to expire June 30, 2007. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Chief Mulligan introduced Mr. Robert Bruno and gave his qualifications and the training that he has undertaken. He explained the training that the department would expect of Mr. Bruno. Mr. Greenberg asked what his score was at the academy. Mr. Bruno stated an 86 and an 84.

Mr. Vincent moved to approve the appointment of *Robert Bruno as a Reserve Police Officer* for a term to expire June 30, 2007. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Brennan stated that the Police Department and Fire Department recently responded to a call for his neighbor. He stated that they responded quickly and that an officer was there in one minute and in three minutes the street was flooded with emergency

personnel. Mr. Vincent stated that the Fire Department has 700 calls a year and most are medical. Chief Mulligan stated that he has been impressed on the response time and professionalism of the Fire and Police and that he is proud of them and is proud to work with these men and women. Chief Mulligan also thanked the dispatchers as they also do a great job.

Town Administrators Report

Mr. Delaney stated that he had his quarterly report for the Selectmen. He stated that he attended the ICMA Conference in San Antonio, Texas last week. He stated that he did a workshop on tips on keeping the clutter down that was attended by 250 people. He updated the board on the meeting.

- He stated that the auditors were in last week and the audit is under way. He stated that he would schedule a meeting for the auditors come in and report their findings. Mr. Clough asked for a timeline. Mr. Delaney stated that they do the Schedule A for the town.
- He stated that he has been working with Mary McMenemy, Town Accountant and Jackie Cuomo, Treasurer on new forms for FY08 budget. Mr. Vincent asked if someone from FinCom could also review the forms. Mr. Delaney stated that he will be attending a meeting with FinCom on Wednesday and that they could go over what the FinCom is looking for. Mr. Brennan asked that all forms be electronic and when they are returned they include the rationale for any requests. Mr. Clough asked if Steve Fortado could be advised also on the process. Mr. Salvaggio asked when the forms would be ready. Mr. Delaney stated that the forms go out in November. He stated that the process starts in December. He stated that he must have a budget to the FinCom by March 1st. He stated that he sees a couple of issues with Revenue for 2008. He stated that new growth, lottery, free cash are not strong. He stated that the town does have funds in stabilization and the ability to maintain these funds is important. He stated that we have bridges that are falling down and a ladder truck that is in disrepair. He stated that we have mutual aid from other towns to help with the ladder truck. He stated that press reports are showing a 10% increase on insurance. He stated that he hopes to have a revenue report for the board in the first part of October.
- He stated that he also plans to put together a Capital Plan which will highlight issues.
- He stated that departments have been attending training on homeland security. He stated that with a Homeland Security Grant he purchased two tough book computers for the fire trucks and that these were purchased from a local company. He stated that the pumps we received last year from the Homeland Security Grants were invaluable in the spring floods. Mr. Vincent stated that the Fire Department has been having some issues with some radios. He asked if the State with the billion dollars of funds surplus will help the towns. Mr. Delaney stated that the MMA is working on this for the Towns.

Mr. Greenberg asked about the towns bonding and stated that he would like to see the reports. He stated that he could help with homeland security.

Mr. Brennan asked about a potential Fall Town Meeting. Discussion and Mr. Delaney stated that he would get answers for Monday.

Appointments

Mr. Vincent stated that Christopher Rich has asked for appointment to the BoH and that his only concern was any conflict regarding the Georgetown Club. Mr. Rich stated that he would not vote on anything relating to the Georgetown Club. Mr. Greenberg asked for Mr. Rich's qualifications. Mr. Brennan stated that they have asked that residents who request appointment come before the board to introduce themselves. Mr. Rich stated that he sent a letter to the board requesting appointment. He stated that he was recently a president of a Hospital, has been a ski patrol member, has emergency training, and is a member of this community. He stated that because of his construction background he had been asked fill a term on the Planning Board. He stated that he has an interest in public health. He stated that he is proud of his decisions and that that he has made some decisions he may regret. Mr. Brennan stated he saw some of his Planning Board meetings and thanked him for filling a term. Mr. Greenberg stated that he saw him with Ms. Leal and that he gets the paper from Webster and he asked if Mr. Rich is well enough to serve. Mr. Rich stated that he only has to satisfy this board. He stated that if he was not healthy he would not volunteer. Mr. Lewis stated that Mr. Rich volunteers for the K of C and gives a lot of time to the Town.

Mr. Vincent moved to appoint *Christopher Rich* to the *Board of Health* for a term to expire **June 30, 2009. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

CATV

Mr. Clough asked if Mr. Swain attended meetings and if they have received a letter of request for reappointment. Mr. Brennan asked for a recommendation from the School Department. Mr. Vincent asked if they could expand this committee to a media committee. Mr. Brennan stated that they may be able to appoint a committee in addition to the CATV committee. John Salvaggio, 343 North Street stated that he has been asked to become a member of the CATV committee. He stated that his son had worked for the CATV. Mr. Vincent asked if he had hopes or expectations for the CATV. Mr. Salvaggio stated his background is in investments but as this is an advisory board he would look to increase programming and would make time for meetings. Mr. Vincent asked him to talk with Stu Egenberg, chairman of the CATV. Board stated that they would take the appointment under consideration until their next meeting.

Capital Improvement Committee

Mr. Vincent stated that Dan Tollman was interested in the FinCom opening but as that position was filled he was interested in the CIP opening. Mr. Clough asked that they invite Mr. Tollman to the next meeting to meet him before he is appointed as they have been doing this with other appointments.

Mr. Clough asked if we could get something on the web site and cable TV about open positions.

Mr. Greenberg, 123 Pond Street asked to address the board regarding old business. He stated that they were lucky enough to get Mr. Borin, School Superintendent. He stated that he is the finest to come out of the City of Revere and has proven himself over the years. He stated that as a taxpayer with no children in the school system does he have the right to ridicule a committee. He asked the BoS to go to town council to figure out what

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happened with the School Committee. He does not understand what happened. He stated that Mr. Borin only bought computers for staff. He stated that he wants this board to go to Kopelman & Paige and see if there is anyway to get rid of the School Committee. He stated that the BoS were elected to run town along with Steve Delaney, Town Administrator. He stated that the town will never get a superintendent of his caliber to fill his shoes. He stated that he is putting the BoS on the line.

Mr. Clough stated that the School Committee is elected as is the BoS and the BoS does not have any control over the School Committee actions. Mr. Greenberg stated to the citizens to do a check on committees they elect. Mr. Brennan stated that he agrees with a lot Mr. Greenberg stated and he explained his discussions with the Schools. He stated that his focus was on finances. Mr. Greenberg stated that the children know about this situation and that is unfortunate. Mr. Vincent stated that the School Committee could reverse their decision. Mr. Brennan stated that they have to move forward.

ZBA

Mr. Brennan asked if he could vote on this appointment as Mr. Lewis is a neighbor. Mr. Delaney stated that he could vote that there is no conflict. Mr. Vincent asked if Mr. Lewis could attend a ZBA meeting and introduce himself and then he would request the ZBA to give the BoS a recommendation.

Historical Commission

Mr. Clough stated that they have a request from the Historical Commission for the appointment of Frederic Detwiller. Mr. Brennan asked that they invite Mr. Detwiller to attend their next meeting so that they could meet him also.

Board Business

Mr. Brennan thanked Lt. Ripley and Officer Jones for their response to his neighbor.

Mr. Brennan stated that make he would like a recommendation that a Chairmen serve for only one year on a board. Mr. Clough stated that this has worked for the BoS and other boards.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:25PM.

Minutes transcribed by J. Pantano.

Minutes approved October 2, 2006.