

Memorial Town Hall, 1 Library Street, Georgetown, MA 01833
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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
Memorial Town Hall
3rd Floor Meeting Room
8/11/08
7:00 PM

Selectmen Present: Matthew Vincent, Chairman; Philip Trapani; Evan J. O'Reilly, Clerk

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

Absent:

Call to Order

Mr. Vincent called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Mr. Vincent stated that Sandy Elkin a long time teacher in Georgetown passed away last week and the board sends condolences to her family.

Warrant & Minutes

Mr. Vincent stated that warrant is in the office to be signed.

Mr. O'Reilly moved to approve the Regular and Executive Session minutes of July 28, 2008. Mr. Trapani seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Board Business

CPC Land Purchase Map 16-lot 12 and transfer of Map 11-lot 38

Harry LaCortiglia and Elizabeth Wade were present

Mr. LaCortiglia explained that at Town Meeting two parcels were approved to be purchased with CPC funds. He stated that one the board already purchased and this one had a delay because the parcel had to go through probate and will not close until September. He stated he wanted to get the paperwork out of the way for this passing of Map 16-Lot 12. He gave originals deed documents to the Selectmen and stated that this paperwork was generated by Kopelman & Paige. Mr. Trapani stated that this land would contain some fields and he asked how these would be funded. Mr. LaCortiglia stated that there are some funds in this article for development of the fields. Mr. Trapani asked if subsequent funds could be requested from CPC to build the fields. Mr. LaCortiglia stated that the Town could request additional funds. Discussion on when fields would go in and the process.

Mr. Trapani moved to accept the deed for the *Map 16-Lot 12* parcel for Active Recreational purposes for the Town of Georgetown. Mr. O'Reilly seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Trapani moved to authorize the Town Administrator, Stephen L. Delaney to sign the closing documents on behalf of the Board of Selectmen at the closing for the *Map 16-Lot 12* parcel. Mr. O'Reilly seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Rosemarie Lane

Mr. LaCortiglia explained that a piece of land at the end of the Lane should have been turned over to the Town. He stated that the paper work was never done and the owner never paid the taxes so the land was taken under tax title by the Town. He showed a map of the land and explained that this land gives access to a large piece of Conservation Land already owned by the Town. He stated that he is asking for the Open Space Committee to declare the parcel is no longer needed for general purposes by the town and transferred to the Conservation Commission and then accepted by the Town at Town Meeting. He stated that this could be done in the fall. Mr. Vincent asked what the difference is from how the land is held now and if given to ConCom. Mr. LaCortiglia stated that it limits the use of the land to passive recreation. Mr. Vincent asked if as general municipal the town could do much more then if under ConCom. He asked if the RecPath could still cross this property if under ConCom as passive recreation. Mr. LaCortiglia stated that the RecPath could still be constructed. Mr. O'Reilly asked what the benefit is to putting on the restriction. Mr. LaCortiglia stated that it protects the property. Mr. O'Reilly stated that why restrict the use if they would like to do something else with the property at a later time. Mr. Vincent stated that he would like to review this for a few weeks and asked for the original conveyance. Mr. LaCortiglia stated that a previous Select board had intended this parcel to be ConCom but the paperwork had not gone through. Mr. LaCortiglia stated that he did not know how you would get approval for trails if held under general purpose. Mr. Trapani asked the Town Planner to review.

Correspondence

Memo from the Energy Committee

Mr. Vincent stated that the board received a memo from the Energy Committee stating that the town is facing a crisis in that they can not afford to implement energy saving measures because of the cost of the upgrades. They are requesting a consultant be hired to go forward. Mr. Delaney stated that this is as far as the measure has gone and that a new business manager has been hired by the Schools and will to be appointed to the committee to represent the Schools. Mr. Vincent asked Mr. O'Reilly would if he would represent the BoS on this committee. Mr. O'Reilly stated that he would represent the board on the Energy Committee.

Recreational Path Committee request for support

Mr. Vincent stated that the RecPath is asking the BoS to send a letter to the Federal Government to support the Borders to Boston Trail. Mr. Vincent stated that he would like to draft a letter as he has been working on this issue. Mr. Vincent stated he would send the draft to Jeff Wade.

Letter from Fire Chief Anderson on a grant

Mr. Vincent stated that these grants do come with the stipulation of the Town matching some funds. Mr. Delaney stated that on a past grant the town side was 10%.

Mr. Vincent asked about the Fire Department radios, if they were working as they went down over the weekend. Mr. Delaney stated that we are checking with our insurance to see if the damage is covered and if not they would have to do a FinCom advisory.

Selectmen's Report

Mr. Trapani gave a handout on a Preliminary Goals/Public Works Feasibility Study. He asked that this be added to the website for public review. Mr. Trapani stated that a proposal has gone out for ballpark estimates on a consultant so they can go to Town Meeting to request funds. He stated that a feasibility committee will have to be put together and he hoped to have this done by mid October and then to have a warrant article ready for town meeting. Mr. Vincent stated that in some towns a DPW also takes care of the Schools and he has discussed this with Carol Jacobs.

Economic Development Committee Update

Mr. Trapani stated that he has an ad in the paper looking for members and he gave out a handout with Preliminary Goals & Objectives & Milestone Dates. He stated that he has only received one request to be on the committee and hopes to have more by mid September. He hopes to have a strategic plan implemented by December 31.

Media Advisory Committee

Mr. O'Reilly gave a handout on a Media Advisory Committee. He stated that a memo should go out to all boards and committees that they should have their meetings televised. He stated that there also should be a memo with the fax information for local newspapers. He stated that he would do a press release requesting members. Mr. Vincent asked for a recommendation on who would appoint members and if appointees would come from other committees such as Cable Advisory, Schools, etc.

MVPC

Mr. Vincent stated that he had received a letter from Dennis DiZoglio, MVPC to serve a two year term as a member of the Merrimack Valley metropolitan Planning Organization representing the Region 1. Mr. Vincent asked Mr. Trapani if he would be the designee for Georgetown. Mr. Trapani stated that he would serve on this committee.

TA Report

Fire Chief Search Committee

Mr. Delaney stated that the group met and in September the first round of candidates would be interviewed. He stated that nine candidates would be interviewed. Mr. Trapani asked for clarification from the board on the interview process for town residents. He asked if a town candidate does not meet the minimum criteria do they have to be interviewed by the Selectmen. He stated that the search committee will interview all town residents. Discussion on Georgetown residents and interview policy. Mr. Trapani stated all residents will be interviewed by the search committee and then the finalist will be sent to the Selectmen. Mr. O'Reilly stated that he has been asked if they should have

a Fire Chief come in and review what is being done and what is needed. Discussion if there is time to do this analysis and that there are already two members of the Fire Department on the committee. Mr. Trapani stated that the process that the candidates will go through can be public and he asked for this to be on the web site and sent to the applicants.

“Special Employee” listings

Mr. Delaney stated that this is an internal issue and explained the conflict of interest issue. He stated that this should be done yearly and that he would come back to the Selectmen with a list for appointment.

Police Budget Update

Mr. Delaney stated that he has met with the Chief and that they can delay the police academy for the officer and hold off on any layoff action. He stated that he is working on a comprehensive assessment of the Police Budget and will have this ready well before TM. Mr. Vincent stated that there is a movement happening to raise funds for the Police Department. He stated that there is about \$10,000 raised and he would have more information in the next week. He discussed the high moral in the Georgetown department and what has been built over the last few years. Mr. O’Reilly asked if they have to give an answer to the Chief on the layoff and asked about a deferment of a new vehicle. Mr. Delaney stated that he had sent the request to the Selectmen and that they do not have to respond and the new vehicle has been deferred.

Next meeting September 5, 2008 at 7:30AM.

Mr. Trapani moved to adjourn. Mr. O’Reilly seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40PM.

Minutes transcribed by J. Pantano.

Minutes approved September 15, 2008.