

**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**  
**8/24/09**  
**7:00 PM**

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**Selectmen Present:** Philip Trapani, Chairman; Evan O'Reilly; Stephen Smith, Clerk

**Others Present:** Michael Farrell, Interim Town Administrator; Janet Pantano, Administrative Assistant; Robin O'Malley, Jim Lacey, Reggie Tardif, John Bonazoli, and Andrew Belliveau, FinCom; Carol Jacobs, and Terry Wiggin, School Department; Wayne Snow, and Peter Dion, Light Department; Beverly Enos, Town Moderator; Police Chief James Mulligan, Lt. Cudmore, and Lt. Thomson

**Absent:** Gary Fowler; C. David Surface

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**Call to Order**

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

**Correspondence**

Mr. Trapani stated that they have received two requests for Constable Appointments by Marc Picardi and Ronald Bertheim. Chief Mulligan stated that he met with our Constable Arthur Murphy and he stated that there is not enough work in Georgetown for one never mind three Constables. He stated that the new applicants do not have police experience as Mr. Murphy does, and he gave him background information on Mr. Murphy. He stated Mr. Murphy has worked with clients so that he does not have to make arrests. He stated that he does not have any control over constables. He stated that he does not recommend the appointments and that anything Mr. Murphy can not handle the Sheriff's office will process. Mr. Trapani stated they discussed this last year and did not add a constable then and it is the same now. Mr. O'Reilly asked what they are paid. Chief Mulligan stated that fees vary.

Mr. Trapani asked for a motion. No motion made.

**Board Business**

*Police Budget*

Chief Mulligan, Lt. Cudmore, and Lt. Thomson were present.

Mr. Trapani asked the Police for information on what it would take to fill the position of School Resource Officer, Crossing Guard, and Animal Control Officer. Chief Mulligan read a prepared letter to the board of options to fill the positions.

*Animal Control Officer*

Mr. Trapani asked Lt. Cudmore that it costs \$75 per animal control call what would the dollar amount be for the year. Lt. Cudmore stated that they get 25-30 animal control calls

per month but not all calls would be a call to the Animal Control Officer. Mr. Trapani asked for a dollar amount to fund the position. Lt. Cudmore stated that \$7500 would fund the Animal Control Officer for a year.

*School Crossing Guards*

Lt. Cudmore stated that they have three options for the School Crossing Guards. He stated that they have donated funds to keep the program going to April and this is because of a volunteer crossing guard. Mr. Trapani stated that for this year they need funding for May and June under Option B. Lt. Cudmore stated under Option C they would transfer the program to the School Department. He stated that it is very hard to fill the positions.

*School Resource Officer*

Chief Mulligan stated it was difficult to fund and fill this position. He stated that to reinstitute the program now would take 4 and ½ months to fill the position with posting with the Union and training. Chief Mulligan stated that they are very thin in the morning and if an officer is at the School in the AM directing traffic and a call comes in they would have to leave. He stated that they would need \$21,000 for an officer to be available to the School in the before school and after school times. He stated that this position would not be a SRO it would be a reserve officer on a revolving basis.

*Repeater at Baldpate Hill*

Lt. Cudmore stated that they did not get the grant funds for the repeater. He stated that this is an important tool for the Police and Fire departments and has to be replaced. He discussed age of the present repeater. He stated that there is still a possibility that they may get the grant funds.

*Police Officer Training Funds*

Chief Mulligan stated that \$4,000 in funding for training was cut and he stated that some of this training is required.

*Marijuana Bylaw Wording*

Chief Mulligan stated that they had draft wording for a Marijuana bylaw. Mr. Trapani stated that the wording on the marijuana wording would be discussed later if time. Lt. Cudmore stated that the wording was from the Attorney Generals office.

*School Superintendent Budget Discussion*

Carol Jacobs, Superintendent, Terry Wiggin, School Business Manager and FinCom were present

Mr. Trapani stated that the School and Police Dept met last week and there was discussion on these issues, he asked the outcome. Ms. Jacobs stated it made her nervous about the School Crossing Guards being cut. She stated that the SRO would be at the Perley School in the AM and at the Pennbrook School in the PM to direct traffic and she stated that this has been a godsend. She stated that she can not say for the School Committee that they would take over the School Crossing Guards but they can discuss the option during budget season. Chief Mulligan stated that past Selectman Vincent donated funds to the Town for Crossing Guards and that is how it will be used for this year. Lt. Cudmore stated that they have a few Senior Citizens that fill these positions and they do a great job. Ms. Jacobs stated that they can help to fill the positions. She stated that either the Police Dept or School Dept should fund \$10,000 for Crossing Guards each year. Chief Mulligan stated that the community policing grant that they use to have helped fill holes but this was cut by the State and they do not have the option this year.

Lt. Cudmore stated that he wanted to clarify that Crossing Guards do not direct traffic only cross students.

Mr. Trapani stated that the SRO is another position and that this has to be a Union position and can not be a Reserve Officer. Mr. Trapani asked Ms. O'Malley if the FinCom could help to find funds for this position. Mr. Lacey stated that the funds would have to come from another department/area. Lt. Cudmore explained how last year they used the backfill of the ACO and SRO to fund the position. Mr. Trapani stated that they are asking for \$21,000 to fill the SRO position. Ms. Jacobs explained what the SRO did in the Schools in the classrooms, and the ability to troubleshoot issues with students and families as the issues arise. She stated that the SRO also helped with parking issues. She stated that first year there was an officer and he would get called out occasionally. Chief Mulligan stated that stated the position has been funded 75% Police and 25% Schools. Ms. Jacobs stated that the School fully funded last year but this year they hoped to go back to the 75% 25%. She stated that the Stimulus funds can not be used for an employee of another department. Mr. O'Reilly asked if the Reserve Officer could be used as a Crossing Guard using some of the donated funds. Chief Mulligan stated that this would cost too much and it would be too hard to find a reserve to fill the short hours. Ms. Jacobs stated that they hope to have an officer for opening of school and closing for traffic and in an emergency. She stated that it is not what they had before but it would help. Mr. Trapani stated that this is reactive and they need to be proactive. He asked that when they start the FY11 budget they look to find the funds. Discussion on finding the right person to fill the SRO position.

*Repeater at Baldpate*

Lt. Cudmore stated that he will make a call tomorrow on the grant for the repeater and if they do not get the funds then they will have to replace at \$4700 to \$5000.

*Street Light Assessment*

Wayne Snow, Light Department Manager was present

Mr. Snow stated that he had a few calls from residents requesting to have their Street light shut off. He stated that he has ordered 150 timers and will have them in October. He stated that he has looked at a system they could have a PC that would turn off lights in the downtown late at night and would be located at the Police Station and it would allow them to turn the lights on if needed. Mr. Trapani asked about putting timers on 300 lights. Mr. Snow stated this year 150 on timers and next year 150 because of costs. Chief Mulligan stated that until you shut the lights off you do not know what the impact will be. Mr. Trapani stated that there will be a cost to remove the lights. Mr. Snow stated that the Light Dept will take the lights down at no charge but he stated that they would charge to put them back up. Lt. Cudmore stated that if a resident wants theirs down the Dept would look at these first. Mr. Dion stated that they would have to make sure not in an intersection and it does not present any safety concerns.

*Light Commissioner Opening*

Peter Dion, Light Commission Chairman was present

Mr. Dion stated that they have an opening for a Light Department Commissioner with the death of Mr. Rauseo. He stated that they requests that the opening be posted and then

both boards review the resumes and meet to fill the position. Board agreed to have the Light Department put an ad in the paper and to put the opening on the web and Cable TV and after review of resumes to meet and vote.

#### *Flea Market @ Harry Murch Park*

Paul Nelson, Democratic Town Committee was present

Mr. Nelson explained that they held the flea market two years ago at the Park and the committee is asking for a 30 minute Parking variance in the No Parking Areas around the park during the event. Mr. O'Reilly stated that okay for drop off and pack up but he is not comfortable with all day. He asked if other events are going on for Georgetown Days in this area. Sandy Gerraughty stated that she has not heard about this event and that they have other events going on at Park & Ride and there is a Football Game at the High School so parking may be an issue. Mr. Trapani stated asked Mr. Nelson to meet with the Georgetown Days Committee and see where there would be parking. Ms. Gerraughty stated that they may want to look at another space to hold the event with the football game and the farmers market at Park and Ride. Mr. O'Reilly stated that they have already had complaints of parking in this area from residents and to allow for an event he is not comfortable with this. Chief Mulligan stated that they can not enforce a 30 minute parking. Mr. Trapani asked if the Democratic Committee could work with the Georgetown Days and see if they have a place that has parking. Chief Mulligan stated that if they agree with the 30 minute parking he asked if Mr. Durkee could put up signs that would be more permanent than bags over the no parking signs.

#### *School Stimulus Funds*

Carol Jacobs, Superintendent and Terry Wiggin, School Business Manager were present. Mr. O'Reilly asked about layoffs at the Schools. Ms. Jacobs stated that the goal of the School Committee was to not cut any positions and when the State cut Chapter 70 then they needed to cut a .6 Industrial Art position and this employee retired. She stated that others were personnel positions/actions and some positions were not invited back.

Ms. Jacobs handed out an information sheet on how they are using the Stimulus Funds. She stated that Georgetown is receiving \$1,026,220. She explained how this occurred. She stated that by adding Full Day Kindergarten also made a difference. She discussed funds and that they are adding a Business Development Position and explained what this position would do. Mr. Trapani asked how they would measure success for this position. Ms. Jacobs stated that the position will have to pull in the funds to fund the position and bring in the funds for the School. Discussion on stimulus funds that they will be spending this year FY10 and stimulus funds FY11. She stated that they are spreading out the funds over two years. Mr. Smith asked if the funds are meant to be spent over two years. She stated IDEA is for two years the other funds are not. He asked if the carryover would penalize the town for spending over two years. Mr. Wiggins and Ms. Jacobs stated that it would not impact FY11 funding. She stated that the Schools are helping with Insurance for the town. She stated that they worked with the Teachers Unions and kept costs down over the life of the contract by \$600,000.

#### *Georgetown Days*

Sandy Gerraughty was present

Ms. Gerraughty stated that this year they have two dates for Georgetown Days one September 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> and one in October Horrible Happenings. She explained the events in September. Mr. Trapani stated that he just wants to be sure to get the events advertised. Ms. Gerraughty stated that events and forms for any contests are on Georgetownfun.org. She asked if any group wants to join just contact them so they can coordinate so all groups are successful.

#### *Special Town Meeting*

Beverly Enos, Moderator

Ms. Enos stated that she was present to see if the Town will have a Fall Town Meeting. Mr. Farrell stated that there are two pressing needs one is the Snow and Ice and the other is from the Board of Assessors who need to make an adjustment of \$30,000. He stated that Free Cash will not be certified until late September. Ms. Enos stated that she is away the first two weeks in November. Mr. Farrell stated that they are looking at the end of October. Mr. Trapani asked Mr. Farrell to let departments know about the Fall Town Meeting and if they have any articles to get them in asap. Mr. Farrell stated that they have a Department Head meeting scheduled and he will add this to the agenda.

#### *43D Update*

Tillie Evangelista and Jim Lacey, Economic Development Committee members were present

Mr. Lacey explained where they are in the process with the application and matching funds. He stated that the EDC voted to go to developers and businesses to ask for assistance to fund the position. He stated that they are looking for a \$23,500 match. He stated that he and the Chair Ted Kottcamp is going to a meeting with the State and the funds may be available. Mr. Trapani stated that it would be difficult to tell the town that this would not be a conflict or appearance of a conflict by asking for funds from developers. Mr. Lacey disagreed. He stated that Wednesday is the meeting and that they may find the funds. Ms. Evangelista stated that Mr. Cracknell is an exceptional employee who could make more money as a consultant if he wanted and she would hate to lose him. Mr. Trapani stated to let them know what they can do to help if they do not get the funds. He stated that the Planning Board has been concerned with the hours the Planner is spending on the 43D and he stated that he feels this is important time spent and a benefit for the Town. Mr. Lacey stated that the concern is the work load. Mr. Trapani stated that they have to come up with the obligation of the Town. Ms. Evangelista stated that \$8700 is the minimum that they need to get through the application process. Mr. Smith stated that this could go to STM as the amount is different what they asked for in the spring. Mr. Lacey asked what number he should ask for from the State. Discussion. He stated that he is going to ask for the \$23,500. Ms. Evangelista stated that they do not want to loose Mr. Cracknell. Mr. Trapani stated that he supports Mr. Cracknell.

#### *Conservation Commission Administrative Assistant Position*

Mr. Trapani stated that they have received notice from the ConCom of a recommended applicant for the Administrative Position. He stated that they have recommended Carol

Fitzpatrick. He stated that he knows Ms. Fitzpatrick and she will be a great addition to Town Hall staff.

**Mr. O'Reilly moved to approve *Carol Fitzpatrick as the Conservation Commission Administrative Assistant*. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

### **Selectmen's Report**

Mr. Trapani stated that with two members missing he would like to hold FY10 Priorities for the next meeting.

### **Board Business**

Mr. Trapani stated that they have a list of fall meetings October 5 & 19, November 2 & 16, and December 7 & 21, 2009. Board was okay with the dates.

### **Appointments**

Mr. Trapani stated that there were some appointments to finish.

**Mr. O'Reilly moved to appoint *Michael Farrell as Acting Finance Director* term to expire December 31, 2009. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

**Mr. O'Reilly moved to appoint *Michael Farrell as ADA Coordinator* term to expire December 31, 2009. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

**Mr. O'Reilly moved to appoint *Michael Farrell as Sexual Harassment Grievance Officer* term to expire December 31, 2009. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

**Mr. O'Reilly moved to appoint *Michael Farrell as a member of the Stormwater Management Committee* term to expire December 31, 2009. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

**Mr. O'Reilly moved to appoint *Philip Trapani to the School Feasibility Committee* term to expire June 30, 2010. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

### **Board Business**

Mr. O'Reilly asked about Erie and Central contracts. Mr. Smith stated that they are waiting for a reply from Town Counsel and that they will meet the September 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. He stated that this is a unique contract. Mr. O'Reilly stated that he has heard that there are issues still up in the air. Mr. Trapani stated that they can hold an Executive Session in September if there are any sticking points. Mr. Smith stated that they are holding negotiations separately with each company. Mr. Trapani asked that Mr. Smith let him know how the negotiations are progressing.

**Mr. O'Reilly moved to adjourn. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:20PM.

Minutes transcribed by J. Pantano.

Minutes approved September 14, 2009.