

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
9/28/09
7:00 PM

Selectmen Present: Philip Trapani, Chairman; Evan O'Reilly; Gary Fowler; Stephen Smith, Clerk; C. David Surface

Others Present: Michael Farrell, Interim Town Administrator; Beverly Enos, Town Moderator; Janet Pantano, Administrative Assistant

Absent:

Call to Order

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

Mr. Trapani stated that the Mike Donohoe 5K Run is this weekend on October 4 and encouraged residents to participate.

Warrant & Minutes

Mr. Trapani stated that there is a warrant to sign.

Mr. Surface moved to approve the minutes of *September 14, 2009*. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Correspondence

Mr. Trapani stated that they have received a memorandum from Kopelman & Paige regarding Amendments to Conflict of Interest Law and also a letter from the State Ethics Commission. Mr. Farrell updated the board on this new policy and how must be implemented. He stated that he took the training program today and it took about 15 minutes and he passed. He stated that all employees, officials elected and appointed must be given a summary of chapter 268A and complete the training by December 28, 2009. He stated that the Selectman must appoint a liaison for the Town to the Ethics Commission.

Mr. Surface moved to appoint *Michael Farrell State Ethics Commission Liaison for Georgetown*. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Trapani stated that they have received two letters of request for appointment as an AHTF Trustee from Charles M. Waters and Timothy J. Gerraughty. Mr. Surface updated the board on the Trustee functions and that there are funds available to use and programs that can be implemented with these funds. He stated that the Trust must be recorded and posted on the Website. He stated that the recommended make up of the trustees would be

Barbara Hart, Chair of AHTF, Charles M. Waters, Timothy Gerraughty, Chair of Board of Selectmen Philip Trapani and he would like to serve.

Mr. Surface moved to appoint *Barbara Hart, and Timothy J. Gerraughty as an Affordable Housing Trustee* term to expire *June 30, 2010* and *Philip Trapani, Charles M. Waters as an Affordable Housing Trustee* term to expire *June 30, 2011*. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote. Mr. Trapani abstained.

Mr. O'Reilly moved to appoint *C. David Surface as an Affordable Housing Trustee* term to expire *June 30, 2011*. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote. Mr. Surface abstained.

Mr. Trapani stated that they have a request from Mark Unger, Wiring Inspector to waive the electrical fee for installation of lights to illuminate the flag at Harmony Cemetery. Mr. O'Reilly stated that he had talked with Mr. Unger and this was only about a \$40.00 fee.

Mr. O'Reilly moved to waive the *Wiring Inspector fee for the illumination of the flag at Harmony Cemetery*. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Trapani stated that they have been invited to attend and Eagle Court of Honor ceremony for two Scouts Michael Smith and Daniel Noelk, Troop 51, on Saturday, October 17, at 12:00PM. He stated that he attended a ceremony last year and it was an honor and asked that the members try to attend. Mr. Surface stated that he would like to attend.

Mr. Trapani stated that they have a request by the United Nations Association of Greater Boston to issue a proclamation and to attend the 64th Anniversary of the United Nations. He asked for a motion to send a proclamation. No motion was made.

Old Business

Fire Company contract update from Fire Chief Al Beardsley

Chief Beardsley updated the board on the meetings that have been held with Selectmen Smith and Town Counsel. He stated that they have a meeting next week with Central Fire Company. He stated that they will also be setting up a meeting with Erie 4. He stated that there were some misunderstandings on the Erie contract and it has gone back to Town Counsel. Mr. Smith explained that there were some misunderstandings and they had a heated meeting. He stated that he met with the Erie members again the next day and that they are going back to the drawing board on the contract. He stated that he is hopeful that they are now on the same path. Dan Brodie thanked Mr. Smith for coming down and talking with them and that he felt it was alarming that the Fire Chief only talked with them twice. Mr. Trapani stated that he would like to move forward and that

they will work to come to an agreement. Mr. Smith stated that he will take ownership of the misstep and will work to make it right.

Mr. O'Reilly asked if the hearings should be held in public. Mr. Brodie stated that he would not want to move to public meetings. He stated that they support the town and are not looking for more funds from the Town. Mr. Smith stated that it is his goal to get an agreement in principal and then bring to the BoS. Mr. Trapani asked for a timeline. Mr. Smith stated that he would like to have a contract worked out over the next two weeks. He stated then he would think Erie would take it to a member meeting and then the contract would come to the BoS.

Mr. Fowler asked if the BoS approve the final contract. Mr. Smith stated that the Selectmen to approve the final contract. Mr. Surface asked in terms of support what the dollar amount is. Mr. Brodie stated \$3,000 has been the stipend. Mr. Trapani stated save this for another meeting. He stated that the spirit is to work together.

Selectmen's Report

Preservation Restriction Agreement & CPA Grant Agreement

Mr. Farrell stated that they do not have the final agreements. He stated that the Grant has to be signed with the Historical Society and the Restriction with Historical Society and Historical Commission. He stated that on page 6 #12 there is a change and other then that the document is done. He stated that the Historical Society is anxious to have the roof done as they have tarps protecting it now. Mr. Surface asked about Prevailing Wage Rates. Mr. Farrell explained that this project is a private organization and they do not have to go by Prevailing Wage Rates. He stated that this has twice gone out to bid and there have been no bidders for the dollar amount. He explained that Town Counsel has approved the agreements. Mr. Trapani asked to see Town Counsel statement and a clean copy of the agreement. Mr. Farrell explained that TC is not making an opinion it is up to Historical Society's Attorney to make an opinion. Mr. O'Reilly stated that the Historical Society owns the building. Mr. Farrell stated that he can provide the confidential documents. Mr. Surface stated as long as we do not own the building he is comfortable moving forward. Mr. Fowler agreed. Mr. Farrell stated that the CPC does review the bills and approve payments. Mr. Trapani stated that he just wants to be sure we are meeting all requirements and have the documentation.

Second Hand Shop changes to Town Bylaw request of Police Dept

Mr. Trapani stated that he would like to hold this amendment until spring. Mr. Farrell stated that he has not heard from Counsel and wanted to hold until he talks with them. He stated Counsel has stated that this can be a BoS regulation and/or a bylaw change. Mr. Smith stated that he would want to also check to be sure that this will not cause any undo hardship to business owners.

New Business

Reserve Fund Transfer Request

Mr. Farrell explained that these are Police Department requests. He stated that the funds are for the Radio that had to be replaced and for Animal Control costs. He stated that the

funds are requested from the FinCom Reserve Fund. Mr. Trapani asked if there will be more animal control fund requests. Mr. Farrell stated that there probably will be.

Mr. Surface moved to Transfer from the Reserve Fund to Line item 12118, Police Operating, \$4,703 for the replacement of the police department's radio repeater. Mr. O'Reilly seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Surface moved to Transfer from the Reserve Fund to Line item 12922, Animal Control Expenses, \$124 for expenses due to rabid animals. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-1 vote Mr. Fowler opposed.

Town Administrator's Report

Town Report

Mr. Farrell stated that the Town Report will be finished this week. Mr. Trapani stated that he would forward the finalized Selectmen's report.

Appointments

Request from Cable Advisory Committee to appoint Carl Fischer to the Cable Advisory committee.

Mr. O'Reilly moved to appoint *Carl Fischer to the Cable Advisory Committee term to expire June 30, 2010*. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Request by the Council on Aging to appoint Jeannine DesJardin as an Alternate to the CoA.

Mr. Fowler moved to appoint *Jeannine DesJardin as an Alternate Member of the Council on Aging term to expire June 30, 2010*. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Board Business

Mr. Trapani stated that they have received a letter of resignation from Lonnie Brennan from Affordable Housing Task Force. Mr. Surface asked that the opening be posted on the web site.

Special Town Meeting

Mr. Farrell stated that the board must official set the date for the STM.

Mr. Surface moved to set the *Special Town Meeting for Monday, November 16, 2009 at 7:00PM*. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Council on Aging Van

Mr. Farrell gave an update on the CoA van condition. He stated that Colleen Fiorello has a short term and long term solution to replacing the van. He stated that right now they are borrowing Merrimac's van and paying for the gas. He stated that she has reached out

to MVRTA and talked with Joe Costanza and he will have a van available mid October to lease to the town for \$1. He stated that this will be a 2004 Van and this will get through short term needs. He stated that Ms. Fiorello has also been talking to Mass Transit and has talked to surrounding communities regarding a regional back up van. He stated that she has also talked to Sen. Tierney's office and they will put this need on the Federal budget for next year and we will pursue both avenues and hope for one.

Selectman Initiatives

Mr. Trapani stated that he has asked for key initiatives for the year from all the Selectmen. He stated that the key incentive that he wants to work on is the Government Study Committee and he stated the goals of that committee. He stated that a goal of the committee would be to look at the duties/position of the Town Administrator, Finance Director, Highway Surveyor elected vs. appointed and a DPW, and Town Clerk elected vs. appointed. He asked to post on the website openings for this committee. He stated that they are looking for 5-7 members.

Mr. Surface's Goals for this year

Mr. Surface stated that he would like to strengthen communication with the State representatives and he outlined what he has already done and met with. Mr. Trapani asked if there was anything that the board could do to help. Mr. Surface stated that if he is able to set up a meeting in town if the members could attend.

Long Term Strategic Plan

Mr. Trapani stated that it is his goal to make decisions for 10 to 20 years down the road so we are not looking back as to why things were not done. He stated that spending funds should be for a goal as part of the master plan or strategic plan. He stated that an implementation plan is difficult to put forward they need an execution plan. Mr. Trapani stated that he would want to have this plan for the ATM in May. Mr. Surface stated that this may be aggressive but a year from now they may have something. Mr. Trapani stated that maybe they could have a draft at the ATM. Mr. Smith stated that this is also on his list and a two member committee could get more done and that he would like to be a part of the Strategic Plan Committee. Mr. Trapani stated that they all should be a part of this process.

Mr. Trapani stated that at the next meeting he is would like to be ready to set up the Government Study Committee.

Old Business

Mr. Surface asked if the letter to Essex Regional Retirement had gone out. Mr. Farrell stated that the letter did go out. Mr. Surface asked for a signed copy of the letter. Mr. Farrell stated that the ERRB had their meeting this morning and our Treasurer went to the meeting. He stated that at the meeting the first item was a vote to table the vote because they did not have enough information. He stated in what he saw 14 towns wanted to move the funds. He stated that there are some Housing Authorities and Nonprofits that may not have responded.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:25PM.

Minutes transcribed by J. Pantano.

Minutes approved October 19, 2009.