

MINUTES

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

August 12, 2013

Meeting called to order at 6:22 P.M.

**Present** Selectmen Elizabeth A. Gorski, Joseph R. D'Amore and Chairman Donald N. Greaney

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

**Residents seeking appointments**

Kathleen King DeLisle was present and informed the Board she is interested in giving back to the community she lives in and expressed an interest in being appointed to the vacancy on the Finance Board. Selectman Gorski told Kathleen that the town has a pretty good program in place with its Finance Board; that they meet with town department heads, the school and make recommendations on all department budgets. Kathleen told the Board that she has managed trust accounts for work.

Moved Gorski, seconded D'Amore, and it was

**VOTED:** To appoint Kathleen King DeLisle to serve on the Finance Board, said appointment effective immediately through June 30, 2014. 3-0

Selectman D'Amore thanked Ms. DeLisle for stepping forward to fill the vacancy on this important board; that he was excited to have her come forward; that she's very well qualified, if not over qualified.

Kathleen Franson was present and informed the Board that she is a Realtor; that she's familiar with zoning laws and understands why they are needed and is hoping to be appointed to the permanent position on the Zoning Board. Selectman Gorski thanked Ms. Franson for stepping forward; that the town needs new people getting involved. Selectman D'Amore stated that he had attended a ZBA hearing on July 3<sup>rd</sup>; that with the absence of one of its five regular members and lack of alternate members everything heard that evening had to be unanimous; that the ZBA is one of the most important boards in town; that people have needs.

Moved Gorski, seconded D'Amore, and it was

**VOTED:** To appoint Kathleen Franson to the three-year vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals, said appointment effective immediately through June 30, 2016. 3-0

The Board had also received letters of interest of appointment from Daniel MacDonald who currently serves on the Government Advisory Committee and was willing to serve as a regular member or Alternate on the ZBA. Moved Gorski, seconded D'Amore, and it was

**VOTED:** To appoint Daniel MacDonald to serve a one-year term as an Alternate on the Zoning Board of Appeals, said appointment effective immediately through June 30, 2014. 3-0

Both Selectman Gorski and D'Amore complemented the good job MacDonald has done chairing the GAC, which committee they both sit on, saying they believe he will do a great job serving as an alternate member on the ZBA.

**Retired Fire Chief John Clement-Selection Process for new Fire Chief**

Chief Clement met with the Board to discuss the selection process for filling the vacancy for the town's Fire Chief position. Also attending this portion of the meeting were fire department personnel, Deputy Lay, Captain Ruchella, Captain Greaney, firefighters Briscoe and Issa. Clement gave a brief summary of the process for filling the vacancy. He mentioned the committee that developed the job description and how it did a good job on the description and Selectman Gorski responded saying the committee did an excellent job for the Board. Clement told the Board if they have received a lot of applications they should screen and hold initial interviews to narrow down the field; that the group or the Board of Selectmen could do this first round if the Board wanted. Clement suggested the second part of the selection process should be the numeric evaluation of each remaining candidate. Clement also suggested the Board should have 6 planned questions for the final interviews then evaluate responses.

Gorski asked if they had a committee would it make a recommendation to the Selectmen. Selectman D'Amore commented that the process is going very well and that they are on schedule but the big question is who chose the last Chief and how does the Board do that? He suggested the Board could make a committee made up of 2 Selectmen, 2 Finance Board members, a community leader and charge them as the search committee; that no applicants should be a part of that committee.

Chairman Greaney suggested the Board look at the job descriptions and see what they have and, if needed, they could form a committee after that. Selectman Gorski responded that she doesn't think bigger is necessarily best and that she feels the Selectmen are capable as community leaders to do a good job on the selection process.

Fire Captain Ruchella stated he thinks the job description was well written and doesn't think anyone from the department should be a part of the decision. Fire Chief Clement asked the Board if they were to proceed with the interviews would they make the criteria for selection public? The Selectmen stated they would. Selectman D'Amore asked Clement if the criteria for scoring candidates is part of the credentialing system and Clement responded that it is. He asked that the credentialing be sent to their Assistant and Clement responded that he thinks she has it.

Clement suggested the questions to be asked in the final interview need to be meaningful and have meaning to this town. Clement suggested the Board share all that they can with the public, talk to other department heads to ascertain how candidates get along and deal with other departments; that they should determine what the number of finalists will be and treat all candidates equally. Clement told the Board that they could talk to out of town Mayors, Supervisors, etc. and in town candidates, various department heads. Selectman Gorski asked about the process when Clement was named Chief and he responded that there was none; that the previous Chief was retired by then and the Selectmen appointed him to the position. Resident Kathleen Kastrinelis and wife of Deputy Fire Chief Michael Kastrinelis, arrived mid-way through this appointment and asked the Board if all applicants were supposed to be at this meeting. Kastrinelis was told that the Board did not ask the firemen to attend. The Board thanked Clement for his input on the process of hiring a new Chief.

**Road Commissioner Robert Arakelian**

Road Commissioner Arakelian presented a Chapter 90 Project Request application for the Board's approval informing the Board that the monies will be used for paving the lower half of Uptack Road, Byfield Road (entire length), Coleman Road drainage problem and paving down to Carleton Road. Arakelian told the Board that he will be going out to bid for asphalt price.

Chairman Greaney asked Arakelian where the Route 97 project is at and Arakelian told the Board that project design is 100% complete but DOT is now changing some utilities; that he thinks it should go out to bid in the summer or Fall of 2014.

Moved Gorski, seconded D'Amore, and it was

**VOTED:** To approve the Chapter 90 Project Request application presented by Road Commissioner Arakelian for work on Uptack, Byfield and Coleman Roads. 3-0

Arakelian next told the Board that he had planned to take the millings from School Street and put them on J.B. Little Road; that he had an encounter with a State DEP employee who will make it very difficult to follow through with that plan. Arakelian told the Board that DEP fined the town for patching J. B. Little Road and for cutting trees, even those located in the uplands. (Cut the trees in preparation for working on rehabbing the road with the School Street millings, but temporarily patching severe potholes at this time); that he had gone to DEP's office in Wilmington with an Engineer regarding the town's work on J.B. Little; that DEP will gate off the road. Arakelian told the Board that he informed the State that he was required to do work on J.B. Little because liability is an issue for the town after 48 hours. DEP suggested they would look into possibly purchasing that section of the road. Selectman D'Amore suggested there could be some precedent created at the Pingree Farm Road and stated the town needs to keep people safe.

Arakelian told the Board that the town will need to be paid for the portion of J.B. Little the State may want to purchase; that the town will be losing Chapter 90 funds if the town gives up the road. Selectman Gorski asked if that was an evacuation route for the Seabrook plant. Arakelian responded that he thinks the evacuation route goes down Center Street but will check on it. He told the Board the town would need to get an appraisal like the MBTA did.

Lastly, Arakelian reported to the Selectmen that they need to talk with the softball organization/recreation people because someone broke the lock to the water system timer at the Pines and then someone repaired the lock; that the watering system has been tampered with in the past and is continuing.

Arakelian told the Board the vandalism is costing the town money; that someone shuts off the watering system and leaves it off; that the new fields aren't getting water when the system is tampered with; that so far this year the damage to the system has cost \$1,500. Arakelian reported that the water is still being shut off; that they are trying to run it themselves; that someone recently tampered with the rain censor, filling it with water so system would not run. Chairman Greaney remarked about the town's mower being gone and an ATV replacing it. Finance Director Labrecque stated that Recreation reconsigned the mower to Rosencrantz and kept the money they received for it. Greaney stated he would not mind getting the mower back. The Selectmen agreed they need to speak with Dan Stewart and Pam Blaquiere of Recreation and asked that they be scheduled for the next meeting.

MINUTES-PAGE #4  
AUGUST 12, 2013

**Approve Warrants**

Moved D'Amore, seconded Greaney, and it was

**VOTED:** To approve weekly Payroll Warrant #14-06. 2-1

D'AMORE, GREANEY – "AYE"; GORSKI – "ABSTAIN"

Moved D'Amore, seconded Gorski, and it was

**VOTED:** To approve Deduction Warrant #14-04A. 3-0

Moved D'Amore, seconded Gorski, and it was

**VOTED:** To approve Bill Warrant #14-05. 3-0

**One-Day Beer & Wine License**

Selectmen reviewed the application of Pentucket Youth Football organization for a One Day Beer and Wine license for their Casino Night fundraiser being held at Veasey Park on September 21, 2013 from 7:00 P.M. to 11:00 P.M. Moved Gorski, second D'Amore, it was

**VOTED:** To grant a one-day Beer & Wine license to Pentucket Youth Football for their Casino Night fundraiser at Veasey Park on September 21, 2013 between the hours of 7:00 P.M. to 11:00 P.M., Police Detail Officer required during hours beer and wine is served.

**Right of First Refusal-Affordable Unit at Groveland Commons**

The Selectmen reviewed an email received from CHAPA informing them of the sale of an affordable unit at Groveland Commons. Moved Gorski, seconded D'Amore, and it was

**VOTED:** To decline the Right of First Refusal on affordable unit # at Groveland Commons.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, moved Gorski, seconded D'Amore, and it was

**VOTED:** To adjourn.

Adjourned at 7:43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Lewandowski, Administrative Assistant