

**HOLDEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 7, 2011**

6:30 PM

Memorial Hall

**Present:** Robert Lavigne, Anthony Renzoni, James Jumonville, Kimberly Ferguson

**Absent:** David White

**Others Present:** Nancy Galkowski, Town Manager  
Elizabeth Helder, Recording Secretary

Vice-Chairman Renzoni opened the meeting at 6:30 PM. He announced that Chairman White would not attend the meeting due to a prior commitment. Ryan Patrick Murray, age 8, a third grader from Dawson School led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1. Selectmen Licenses & Appointments**

The Manager reported that there were no licenses or appointments for approval.

**2. Final Report – Town Charter Review Advisory Committee**

Vice-Chairman Renzoni announced that he had served as the Chairman of the Town Charter Review Advisory Committee. Sel. Lavigne served as Secretary of the Review Committee. Sel. Lavigne presented the results of the review for Selectmen consideration. He said the Committee had spent most of its review discussing the insertion of a recall provision in the Town Charter. Several stringent provisions for filing a recall of an elected official were included in the recall provision. Any citizen seeking the recall of an elected town official must state a valid reason on the recall affidavit. The Manager said she would confirm with Town Counsel that this section had been included on the affidavit.

Sel. Jumonville asked how the Charter Review would be presented at Town Meeting? Would the recommendations be separated out one by one or lumped together as one vote? Sel. Jumonville said he felt strongly about the Town Manager residency requirement. He said he felt the Manager should live in Town. Additionally he said he felt that there should be a term limit to the Manager's contract (Section 10: Appointment of Town Manager). Sel. Renzoni said that since the Board sets the Town Meeting Warrant, they could present the recommendations/report in any manner at Town Meeting. The Manager also said that the recommendations could also be amended on Town Meeting floor.

Sel. Ferguson said that she would like to see each recommendation broken down individually and did not want to see the report submitted as one Warrant Article on the Town Meeting floor. She said she also felt it was important that the entire report is presented on the Town Meeting floor.

Sel. Lavigne concurred with Sel. Ferguson's requests and said the Review Committee also felt that the recommendations should be presented separately on Town Meeting floor. In response to Sel. Jumonville's comments about a residency requirement for the Town Manager, he said by removing the residency requirement for the Town Manager, the review committee felt it would allow a future search committee more flexibility in hiring a manager.

Sel. Jumonville also stated that he felt the recall provision was "all or nothing" and that he did not agree with the requirements of 400 signatures and 7% of the population recommendation. He said he felt the recall provision should exist with no requirements attached to it. He said that the voters at Town Meeting should decide the ultimate fate of the recall.

Sel. Lavigne said the Committee determined that it was important to make the recall requirement threshold high in order to make the subject of the recall really matter. Additionally, The Committee also researched how other Town's are conducting their recall process. Sel. Renzoni said that the establishment of a high recall threshold would protect elected officials from any political nastiness.

Sel. Renzoni interrupted the discussion on the Charter Review to proceed with Citizens' Address at 7:06PM.

### **3. Citizens' Address**

No one came forward to address the Board.

Sel. Renzoni continued discussion on the Charter Review at 7:07PM.

### **2. Charter Review Discussion (reopened)**

Sel. Ferguson said she could understand not recalling an official in their last six months, but why not during their first six months? Town Manager Galkowski said one thought was to protect a new candidate against being removed from office just because a group of citizens did not want this individual in office.

Sel. Renzoni asked the Board to take the report home and to be prepared to discuss the recommendations at the March 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

### **4. Town Manager Miscellaneous**

1. The Manager informed the Board that she had provided a status report on the Selectmen's goals as set by the Board in the Fall of 2010. She noted that most of the items are well on their way to completion.
2. The Manager reported that the recreation registration program is online and available for residents to input their account information. The online payment option will be available April 1<sup>st</sup>. Residents are encouraged to create an account right now. As of March 7<sup>th</sup>, 60 families had created accounts. Current programs for adults must still be registered at the Recreation Department, but interested parties can print off the registration form online.
3. The Manager presented a quarterly report on the Solid Waste Enterprise fund and the recycling program. Also attached was a Recycling Calendar, which will go out in the next Light Department Bill. She also reminded residents that the next Document Shredding Day would be held on April 9<sup>th</sup>.
4. The Board reviewed the Revenue Expenditure Reports for the period ending January 2011 as prepared by Town Accountant Lori Rose.
5. The Manager announced that an update on the Asian Longhorned Beetle would be held on March 17<sup>th</sup> from 6-8PM at the Senior Center

### **5. Selectmen Subcommittees**

**Sel. Jumonville: Memorial Day Parade Committee:** Next meeting March 9th.  
**Skate Park:** Next meeting March 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Sel. Lavigne: EDC:** Have not met.

**Open Space Committee:** Have not met.

**Town Charter:** Presented Committee recommendations to the Selectmen tonight.

**Sel. Ferguson: Affordable Housing:** Have not met.  
**Municipal Electric Power Advisory Board:** Will meet in March.

**Sel. Renzoni: Water/Sewer Advisory Board:** Will meet on March 14<sup>th</sup> jointly with the BOS and CDM.  
**Master Planning Committee:** Have completed Phase 1 of the plan.

#### **6. Selectmen Miscellaneous**

**Sel. Jumonville: 1.** Asked for information regarding the Anna Maria trunk line at the March 14<sup>th</sup> CDM meeting.

**2.** Discussed a recent court decision involving the Town of Saugus appealing a sewer hook-up.

**3.** Discussed the possibility of sending Thomas Prince students from Princeton to Mountview School. Sel. Jumonville said that in a recent survey 75% of Princeton families did not want to send their students to Holden. The Manager said an invitation had been extended to Princeton. However, enrollment projections need to be completed before a final decision can be made.

**Sel. Ferguson: 1.** Suggested that water use restriction meeting with DEP be scheduled during on camera. The Manager said that she would present several options to the Board at the March 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**2.** Asked about the large amount of water at the 122A/Rt. 31 intersection. The Manager said it was all ground water and the DPW thinks that there might be a blockage in the drain. The issue will be investigated and resolved in the spring when the damaged water main at the intersection is repaired.

**3.** Will follow up on some line items in the budget with the Finance Committee Chairman. The Manager asked her to follow up on these issues with her as well.

**Sel. Lavigne: 1.** Asked that some of the committee updates on the Town's website be updated.

**2.** Asked for monthly updated information on the Light Department.

**3.** When will the Spring recycling surveys and information be sent out? The Manager said the survey is an internal survey being conducted by Casella of who is or is not recycling. There is no survey being sent directly to customers. Targeted information will be sent to those who are recognized as not participating in the recycling program.

**4.** Asked the Manager extend an invitation to the new Library Director to meet with the Board. The Manager will invite the new Library Director to the second Selectmen meeting in April. The Library Director is not anticipated to start her position until the end of March.

**Sel. Renzoni: 1.** Burn permits may be picked up in person at the Fire Department.

**2.** Discussed end of year projections for the Water/Sewer Enterprise fund. The Manager said the CDM projects approximately \$200,000 in the black. She said that the Town's original revenue projections made in the summer of 2010 misprojected revenues of \$400,000. Additionally, the Manager informed the Board that the Town will need to make a 5<sup>th</sup> quarter payment of \$200,000. The Manager said the Town was in the process of turning the account around, but it will take time.

Sel. Ferguson stated that she is hearing from ratepayers expressing their concerns of increases in the Water/Sewer rate structure. She said the account is a major concern for the entire Board. Sel. Lavigne said that the Town is not properly forecasting the Water/Sewer Enterprise Fund.

**7. Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Sel. Lavigne, seconded by Sel. Ferguson, it was **VOTED 3-0-1 WITH 1 ABSTENTION TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 22, 2011 MEETING MINUTES WITH AN AMENDMENT TO ADD JOE DOLAK AND DON MANCINI TO THE "PRESENT" SECTION OF THE MINUTES.** (Abstained: Renzoni.)

**8. Adjournment**

Motion by Sel. Lavigne, seconded by Sel. Ferguson, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJOURN THE MARCH 7, 2011 MEETING AT 7:53PM.**

APPROVED: March 21, 2011