

Hull Board of Selectmen

Minutes

February 2, 2010

The meeting of the Hull Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:30 pm on Tuesday evening, February 2, 2010, at the Hull Municipal Building, 253 Atlantic Avenue, Hull, Massachusetts

Present: John Reilly, Chairman; Domenico Sestito, Vice Chairman; Christopher Olivieri, Clerk, Joan Meschino, and Dennis Blackall, Members. Also present were: Philip Lemnios, Town Manager, and James Lampke, Town Counsel.

Chairman Reilly opened the meeting and said the Board wanted to discuss the budget in relationship to the schools and the Town.

Lemnios explained that the cost per student differences are not a good way for comparisons to other city and towns because the Department of Education's (DOR) data information site accepts different facts from each of the districts thereby skewing the information. He emphasized that it is unfair and inaccurate to use the cost per student as a comparison between schools.

Reilly mentioned that our student cost is \$13,000. per student to which Lemnios replied that real dollars have gone down since FY 04 & 05; that 11% of Hull children attend the Hull Schools while Norwell has 22%. He added that the dilemma is we have the lowest population of school age children. He added that some schools such as Cohasset have self-generated off-set funds for sports, but Hull has 25% of families below the poverty line. Lemnios added that if the Town is able to institute the 21st century School concept it might attract more families.

On other subjects the Board discussed the level of staff of the Police, Fire and Highway Departments as down from five years ago, and that the Highway staff is very small for the amount of work that needs to be done. The War Memorial Landscape is being maintained by the Highway with a 0 budget; Lemnios will look at the request from Park & recreation for money back; Veterans Account is being supported by the state at \$100,000. Veterans care is mandated by law.

In response to an audience question in regard to the Stabilization Fund Lemnios said that some of it has been used to plug holes in the '05 budget due to the first loss in state aid. The total loss since 2004 has been \$3 million. Reilly commented that the Stabilization fund has to be funded every year, if possible, depending upon the State. Blackall said there is \$550,000. left in the fund. He also projected that the fund will probably be gone by 2012 and the town may need to cut services.

Dispatch Center

Lemnios estimated that the time frame for the Hull, Hingham, Norwell, Cohasset Dispatch Center, which has a 1.8 million dollar grant, has a soft completed date of July, but he thinks it might take a little longer. The local Police Station will remain staffed when dispatch moves, with one person per shift.

CORRESPONDENCE

1) The Chairman read a letter from Janet Bernault of the No Place for Hate Committee thanking the Board for its participation in the Martin Luther King Day celebration, and appreciates the Board's support.

2) Lemnios responded to a petition received from the residents of Gun Rock Avenue requesting that Gun Rock Avenue, because of its very poor condition, be included within the Atlantic Avenue rebuilding project., by explaining that Chapter 90 funds are not eligible to repair or rebuild Gun Rock Avenue, but he will look at the matter.

LICENSE RENEWALS

1a.b.c.d.) Unanimously approved the renewal of 3 Livery Vehicle Licenses and Livery Badge License to Richard Laws, 58 Lynn Avenue, on a motion by Olivieri, seconded by Blackall.

2). Unanimously approved the renewal of the Fascination license to Richard Lawrence, 189 Nantasket Avenue, on a motion by Olivieri, seconded by Meschino.

Moved-Olivieri: to go into executive session to discuss deployment of security personnel and sale, lease or disposition of real property and to reopen

Second-Meschino

Roll Call Vote: Aye, Blackall; aye, Sestito; aye, Reilly, aye, Olivieri; aye, Meschino.

The Board moved into executive session at 9:03 pm and returned to open session at 9:30 pm.

Moved-Olivieri: to authorize the Chairman to sign the document as requested by the Police Chief.

Second-Sestito

Voted: Unanimous in favor

Continued

Moved-Olivieri: to return to executive session to discuss sale, lease or disposition of
property and not to reopen

Second - Sestito

Roll Call Vote: Aye, Blackall; aye, Sestito; aye, Reilly, aye, Olivieri;
aye, Meschino

The Board moved into executive session at 9:32 pm and thereafter adjourned..

Approved