

**MARION BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS**

**August 19, 2008**

**Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Chairman Jonathan F. Henry, Selectmen Roger F. Blanchette and Stephen M. Cushing and Town Administrator Paul F. Dawson. Also present were Lee Craver, Kenneth J. Souza of *The Wanderer*, Andrea Smith of the *Tri-Town Observer*, Board of Health members Elizabeth Dunn, Albin R. Johnson, III and Jason Reynolds, Health Director Karen Walega, Helen Westergard, Eunice Manduca, Carol Sanz and Helene Craver, secretary.

**Mr. Cushing moved** the minutes of August 5, 2008; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The Board met with the members of the Board of Health and Ms. Walega regarding the opening created on the Board of Health by the resignation of Mrs. Dunn to meet the requirements of retirement benefits. Mr. Dawson noted that this had been announced at the last meeting; today, we had received two applications for the opening. Mr. Henry said that it is the Board's customary procedure to take these applications under advisement until the next meeting and then proceed with an interview. Dr. Reynolds said that it was the Board of Health's feeling that Mrs. Dunn's resignation was a mere technicality and that the circumstances warrant special consideration, even though there may be other qualified candidates. Mr. Henry said that the fact that there were other applicants demands the Board to maintain the integrity of the process and give everyone equal consideration. Mr. Blanchette agreed, stating that this procedure helps the Board make better decisions. Mr. Johnson expressed his irritation that an article had appeared in the *Boston Globe* about the opening—the Board of Health is not seeking a replacement for Mrs. Dunn. Mr. Blanchette and Mr. Dawson stated that the article did not originate with the Board of Selectmen. Mrs. Dunn said that she had requested a decision this evening, as Dr. Reynolds had taken time off from work to attend this meeting. Mr. Dawson said that anyone who wished to vote would have to attend the meeting. Mr. Johnson asked if the candidates could be made aware that the opening was purely "bookkeeping"? Mr. Dawson said that that would be the decision of the interviewers because, as of now, a vacancy exists.

Mr. Dawson summarized the four articles that would be voted on at the Special Town Meeting to be held September 22—to purchase a small strip of land abutting Littleneck Village, to transfer the care, custody and control of the land to the Marion Affordable Housing Trust to develop the property for affordable housing for people over the age of 62; to transfer the care, custody and control over the existing Littleneck Village from the Town of Marion to the Marion Affordable Housing Trust for affordable senior housing and to accept an easement on the property. Mr. Blanchette expressed his surprise that there were only those four articles on the Warrant. Mr. Dawson explained that the Planning Board had withdrawn an article for funding the master plan, as there was a problem with fiscal year timing and that the Meeting was being held early this year, to accommodate the Trust's timing for the Littleneck project.

**Mr. Blanchette moved** to close the Warrant for the September 22 Special Town Meeting; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

(A copy of the Warrant for the September 22 Special Town Meeting is attached to these minutes and made a part by reference.)

The Board signed a site eligibility letter for Littleneck Village to allow E. A. Fish to begin the process of funding through DHCD.

**Mr. Cushing moved** to approve a request for a street closure on Spring Street from Main to Cottage from 5:00-11:00 p.m. on August 30 for a Town Party; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Sanz encouraged everyone to attend the Town Party, which will be a great cookout with a DJ.

**Mr. Cushing moved** a one-day, wine/malt license for VFW Post #2425 for the Town Party on August 30; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**Mr. Blanchette moved** the appointment of William D. Titcomb as Veterans' Agent/Grave Officer, term to expire July 1, 2009; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Dawson reported that he had tentatively scheduled a Personnel Advisory Board meeting for September 9 at 6:30 p.m., but this has not yet been confirmed.

Mr. Dawson reported that the evaluating committee had received three proposals and interviewed the principals for Owner's Project Manager for the police station and is close to making a final decision. Mr. Blanchette asked when they could expect a final design and cost of the project. Mr. Dawson explained that, when the Owner's Project Manager was on board, they could begin the process with the architect and would then have a better idea.

**Mr. Blanchette moved** to award the contract for the rubbish packer to McDevitt Trucks of Avon, MA for \$182,500; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

A brief discussion was held concerning the ambulance billing. Mr. Dawson will determine the billable trips from July-present.

The Board reviewed a memo from Harbormaster Michael Cormier regarding the myriad problems encountered with the recent Buzzards Bay Regatta. Mr. Dawson reported that he had spoken with the Harbormaster today and learned that a meeting was scheduled with the Buzzards Bay Regatta representatives to discuss the breakdown of communications. It was agreed that one of the major problems was a lack of supervision on the part of the Regatta operators and that police details would be



imperative in the future. Mr. Dawson stated that the results of the meeting would be reported to the Board.

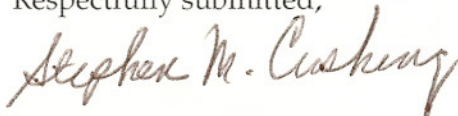
A discussion followed on water consumption at 51 Main Street and Superintendent of Public Works Zora's opinion that the village loop project was not responsible for the jump in consumption at the residence. Mr. Dawson reported that he had discussed this with the homeowner.

The Board discussed correspondence from the Southeast Regional Task Force on Casino Impacts and a scheduled meeting for area representatives. Mr. Henry noted that the Town hasn't taken an official position on the casino, but meetings of the Task Force are likely to be contentious. Mr. Blanchette offered to be the Town's representative to the group.

**Mr. Henry moved** to appoint Mr. Blanchette the Town's representative to the Southeast Regional Task Force on Casino Impacts; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**Mr. Henry moved** to go into executive session at 7:59 p.m. to discuss collective bargaining and personnel matters and not to return to open session following the executive session; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously, Messrs. Henry, Blanchette and Cushing voting aye.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen M. Cushing, Clerk

Date signed:

Attachment