

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2006

Present: Selectmen Kent Scott, James Galligan, Joseph Dzikczek, and Raphaela Rozanski, Town Administrator, Suzanne Kennedy and Administrative Services Assistant, Celeste Hanson were present. Selectman Glenn Trindade arrived late (7:21 p.m.)

7:04 p.m. – Chairman Scott called the meeting to order in Sanford Hall of Town Hall. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments: None .

Approve and sign warrant:

- Selectman Rozanski moved that the Board approve and sign warrant number twenty-nine (29) for fiscal year '06 as read by Chairman Scott in the total amount of \$810,971.60; Selectman Galligan seconded; all ayes 4-0-0 (voted).

Report of the Town Administrator:

- Administrator Kennedy, stated that the Accounting Consulting has finished with the Town Accountant side of the data reconstructed needed to commence the audit. Administrator Kennedy reported that there is a problem with the Treasurer/Collector cash reconciliations as a result from staff not being properly trained but will be addressed soon. Administrator Kennedy further stated that Marge has had to reconstruct over five (5) years of data due to the conversion exercise that should have been performed well over a year and one half ago. Administrator Kennedy reported that the problem with the receivables continues also as a result of the conversion not being dealt with properly from inception. Administrator Kennedy stated that the current staff also was not properly trained and that similar problems exist with tax title and tax receivables as well as excise tax. Administrator Kennedy is hopeful that proper training of current staff will commence and get the Treasurer Collector Office back up to speed and open more hours to the public within the next few months.
- Administrator Kennedy stated that she has reviewed some projected 2006 financial data and presently does not want to quote specific financials until 2005 has been completely settled and 2006 is brought up to date and settled. Selectman Dzikczek commented that the Town has experienced similar issues in past years and inquired if the errors have been corrected or if the errors have continued into 2006. Administrator Kennedy stated that she is not one hundred percent confident that 2006 is error free as staff has never been properly trained and that the consultants now know what needs to be reviewed. Administrator Kennedy stated that training of staff is expected shortly and she will be able to present more accurate financial data to the Selectmen within the next few weeks. Administrator Kennedy stated that there will be significant issues to deal with for 2006.
- Administrator Kennedy reported that she has been working with Director D'Amico on the snow removal policy and they will be ready to present the police proposal to the Selectmen within the next few weeks. Administrator Kennedy stated that the Director may create a power point presentation for the Town website.

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Board Business:

- Selectman Rozanski moved that the Board approve the overspending of the Snow and Ice Budget; seconded by Selectman Dziczek; all aye 5-0-0 (voted).
- Selectman Rozanski moved that the Board approve the Emergency Transfer request of nine thousand dollars (\$9,000.00) for consulting services as submitted by Administrator Kennedy; seconded by Selectman Trindade. all ayes 5-0-0 (voted).
- Selectman Rozanski moved that the Board approve the appointment of Charles Myers to the Cable Advisory Committee until the completion of tasks has been occurred; seconded by Selectman Trindade; all ayes 5-0-0 (voted).
- Chairman Scott commented that he read the newspaper article relative to cable negotiations to commence and encourage individuals interested in volunteering services to the committee to contact Selectman Rozanski or the Board of Selectmen's office.

Reports of the Selectmen

- Selectman Rozanski thanked the Town Administrator and Administrative Services Assistant for their assistance with researching information and reproduction of documents relative to the upcoming cable negotiations. Selectman Rozanski announced that she has a copy of the Bluestone report to share with members of the Board and other interested parties. Selectman Rozanski stated that anyone wishing a copy of the report to contact her. Chairman Scott also urged interested parties and board members to access the MMA website for reports as well.
- Selectman Galligan reported that the Audit Committee rescheduled their meeting for next week.
- Selectman Trindade stated that the IDC has begun a marketing campaign via regular mail and e-mail relative to the sewer extension project and will update the Board as warranted. Selectman Trindade also stated that he has met with the Assessors regarding uploading the assessor data on the town website and that the Board of Assessors will be presenting a proposal to the Selectmen shortly. Selectman Trindade highly supports this idea as it will relieve the Treasurer Collector and Assessors staff of many inquiries. Selectman Trindade also stated that he has some volunteers to assist with the Town website upgrade. In closing, Selectman Trindade stated that he has very deep concerns relative to the treatment of Town Hall staff and would like the Board to address the matter.

The Board entered into a discussion regarding the matter and commented as follows:

- Selectman Dziczek supports addressing the abusive, unprofessional behavior of individuals publicly.

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- Administrator Kennedy fears that such behavior will become worse as taxpayers begin to experience the increase to taxes and decrease of services.
- Selectman Rozanski commented that the Selectmen are making an appeal for civility and that Town officials need to educate the residents regarding the town's financial status and how services will and can be impacted by such.
- Chairman Scott commented that he has been made aware of such vitriolic behavior and he is very concerned. Chairman took the opportunity to thank the many residents who show their appreciation and kindness to staff. Chairman Scott urged residents to contact the Board directly during the public comment portion of their meetings and to please not abuse the staff, as current staff is not at fault for the present financial crisis. He stated that the Board should consider a series of public forums to inform the residents of updated financial status as it becomes available.

The Board continued with the Selectmen's reports as follows:

- Selectman Dziczek reported that he visited the Evergreen Cemetery and noted that the large pine tree that fell as a result of the microburst was cleared away and wanted to publicly thank those who were responsible for the clean up.

Report of the Chairman.

- Chairman Scott announced that the Community Preservation Committee will be ready to present an update to the Selectmen shortly and instructed the Administrative Services Assistant to schedule an appointment on the agenda when the request is made.
- Chairman Scott urged the Board to review receipt of correspondence from Senator Spilka and thanked Representatives Vallee and Loscocco for their continued advocacy on behalf of Medway.

8:25 p.m. There being no further business to discuss, Selectman Galligan moved that the meeting be adjourned; Selectman Rozanski seconded; All ayes 5-0-0 (voted).

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste Hanson
Administrative Services Assistant

NOTE: APPROVED BY BOS ON