

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN MEETING FINAL
October 27, 2008

Present: Chairman Glenn Trindade, Selectmen Andrew Espinosa, Dennis Crowley, Richard Dunne and John Foresto, Town Administrator, Suzanne Kennedy and Board Secretary, Wendy Harrington was present.

Absent:

6:15 p.m. – Chairman Trindade called the Selectmen’s meeting to order in the School Committee Room at Medway Middle School

6:16pm Chairman Trindade moved that the regular session meeting be adjourned and the Selectmen enter into Executive Session with the intent to return to open session for reason number three “To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation...”
Selectman Dunne seconded; Roll call vote: Espinosa-aye; Crowley-aye; Trindade-aye; Dunne-aye; Foresto-aye; all ayes 5-0.

7:36pm There being no further business to discuss Selectman Foresto moved that the Executive Session adjourn and the Selectmen return to Regular Session. Selectman Dunne seconded; Roll call vote: Espinosa-aye; Crowley-aye; Trindade-aye; Dunne-aye; Foresto-aye; all ayes 5-0.

Public Comments: None

Guests:

Authorize the Chairman to Execute Contract Amendment By and Between the Town of Medway and the Town Administrator

Chairman Trindade was pleased to announce that the Town of Medway and Town Administrator Kennedy have reached an agreement in terms of renewing Administrator Kennedy’s employment contract.

Administrator Kennedy added that since she started working for the Town of Medway, the amount of difficult financial hurdles has been great and she is looking forward to three more years to process continued change. She added that entering this position was like a “time warp” but will continue to work towards making the Board of Selectmen and the Taxpayers proud.

The contract amendment was read by Chairman Trindade which amends the Town Administrator’s contract dated July 2, 2008 amending section 2 to a term of July 18, 2008 to July 18, 2011. Also amending section 4 with a new salary of \$107,000 in the first year, \$112,000 in the second year, \$117,000 in the third year, with benefits and deferred compensation defined in the contract.

Selectman Foresto moved that the Board authorize the Chairman to execute and employment contract By and Between the Town of Medway and the Town Administrator as stated in the Employment Agreement; Seconded by Selectman Espinosa; no discussion; all ayes 5-0.

Authorization of Chairman to Execute a Contract Amendment By and Between the Town of Medway and Sullivan, Rogers and Company, LLC-Town Administrator

The Town has interview three or four assistant Town Accountants whom Interim Accountant Pratt will be training and also working on the computer conversion. A short term contract for a mentor/guide would be helpful in this transition process. The contract has been reviewed by Town Counsel and there is a possibility the Town may be saving money in this department's expenses this year.

Interim Accountant Pratt is expecting to become a certified Town Accountant and the board was made aware that this is not required and often times takes many attempts to complete.

Selectman Crowley moved that the Board authorize the Chairman to execute a Letter of Engagement by and between the Town of Medway and Sullivan, Rogers and Company, LLC; Seconded by Selectman Foresto; no discussion; all ayes 5-0

It was suggested that previous Town Accountant, Barbara Durand be sent a letter of commendation from the Town of Medway. Selectman Dunne suggested a contract be prepared for consulting services so that Ms. Durand may perform consulting on an as needed basis.

Water Management Study-Administrator Kennedy

Administrator Kennedy explained the goal of the Town is to provide safe water for residents and she would like to have an operation and management audit performed by an outside contractor to create standard operating procedures. This study will give a full picture of the operation, will work in tandem with a water/sewer master plan and will cost approximately \$8,000-\$10,000 (which will be paid from water surplus). Selectmen Espinosa and Dunne will participate with Administrator Kennedy and Mark Flaherty (who agreed this is a good idea) in the interview process, and will ensure that Selectman Crowley's request for technical proposals is met.

Water Main Issue-Greg Eldridge, Haley and Ward Mark Flaherty, Water Superintendent

It has been suggested by Haley and Ward, and in consultation with Planning Board that the Town considers replacing the 40 year old water main in the Industrial Well project from an 8" main to a 10" main from the well to Route 109. Mr. Rodenhiser, Planning Board Chair, believes that this consideration is important if looking to possible future growth of 40 acres within the next 5-10 years.

This change would cost approximately \$170,000 and the funding source for the change order to the existing contract would be from a past TM article naming \$3.3 Million for this project. There is anticipated litigation involved but both Administrator Kennedy and Selectman Crowley believe there will be \$170,000 available. Haley and Ward will appear before the Board on 11/3 with their recommendation after running the data through a water model, which will include input from the Planning Board.

Review/Recommendations-Fall Town Meeting Warrant

Article 5- This article will provide raises to certain non-union personnel who follow the union contract. The municipal contract has not been signed and the Town Administrator would like to provide raises totaling \$23,123.47 to these employees.

Selectman Dunne moved that the Board recommend approval of Article 5; Seconded by Selectman Espinosa; no discussion; all ayes 5-0.

Article 6- This article transfers \$41,880.30 from salary reserve to the police department as their contract has been settled.

Selectman Crowley moved that the Board recommend approval of Article 6; Seconded by Selectman Crowley; no discussion; all ayes 5-0.

Article 7- This article simply re-allocates funding on purchases of equipment with the total remaining at \$180,000.

Selectman Espinosa moved that the Board recommend approval of Article 7 as read; Seconded by Selectman Crowley; no discussion; all ayes 5-0.

Article 8- Article 8 is for acquiring property for crosswalk revamping to comply with state regulations. Administrator Kennedy advised that the motion will say “acquire by gift” and if unable to acquire will come back to ATM.

Selectman Dunne moved that the Board recommend approval of Article 8 as read; Seconded by Selectman Espinosa; no discussion; all ayes 5-0.

Article 9- Article 9 requests approval to transfer monies from the water main account to water testing.

Selectman Foresto moved that the Board recommend approval of Article 9; Seconded by Selectmen Crowley; no discussion; all ayes 5-0.

Article 10- Article 10 is to transfer \$20,750 to the emergency water account.

Selectman Foresto moved that the Board recommend approval of Article 10; Seconded by Selectman Espinosa; no discussion; all ayes 5-0.

Article 11- Article 11 is to transfer \$554,000 which was unspent funds on the Village Street Well to the Industrial Well.

Selectman Foresto moved that the Board recommend approval of Article 11; Seconded by Selectman Dunne; no discussion; all ayes 5-0.

Article 12- Article 12 is anticipating the demolition or renovation of the Highland Street Well but the Town is awaiting a study to be done by Tata & Howard.

Selectman Dunne moved that the Board hold on Article 12 and recommend on Town Meeting floor after more information is obtained; Seconded by Selectman Crowley; no discussion; all ayes 5-0.

Article 13- CPC to pay the legal bills for 50 Winthrop Street, which is held up in Probate Court, this article transfers those funds.

Selectman Dunne moved that the Board recommend approval of Article 13; Seconded by Selectman Crowley; no discussion; all ayes 5-0.

Article 14- This is a no cost Article presented by the Veteran’s Agent which provides those town employees who go into active service to maintain their employment status and be compensated by the Town the difference between their US pay and their Town pay for a combined total of what they were being paid by the Town prior to their active service.

Chairman Trindade moved that the Board recommend approval of Article 14; Seconded by Selectman Dunne; no discussion; all ayes 5-0.

Articles 15,16,17,18,19,20,21,23-

Selectman Crowley moved that the Board recommend approval of Article 15,16,17,19,20,21 and 23; Seconded by Selectman Dunne; Discussion: Selectman Dunne confirmed with Andy Rodenhiser, Planning Board Chair that the Planning Board wants all of these Articles on the Warrant; all ayes 5-0.

Article 22- Planning Assistant Susy Affleck-Childs was present and advised the Board that some streets on this article are not ready and recommended holding for further information.

Selectman Dunne moved that the Board hold and to recommend on Town Meeting floor; Seconded by Selectman Espinosa; no discussion; all ayes 5-0.

Article 24-This article provides residents the ability to donate to the elderly to help pay their taxes, through their tax bill. Present to discuss was Treasurer/Collector Melanie Phillips.

Selectman Dunne moved that the Board recommend approval of Article 24; Seconded by Selectman Crowley; no discussion; all ayes 5-0.

Article 25- This article provides for trench digging permits, for the safety of our residents.

Selectman Espinosa moved that the Board recommend approval of Article 25; Seconded by Selectman Foresto; no discussion; all ayes 5-0.

Article 26-This article allow the Town to solicit for information for a possible organic farm at 50 Winthrop Street.

Selectman Foresto moved that the Board recommend approval of Article 26; Seconded by Selectman Espinosa; no discussion; all ayes 4-0 (Selectman Dunne abstained as he is a board member for the Medway Community Farm, non-profit which has already been formed).

Article 27- This article provides for the town owned property at 9 Walker Street to be transferred to affordable housing, with the source of funding for any incurred expenses coming from CPC. Selectman Crowley believes that selling the property for approximately \$100,000 is a better use and put affordable housing in another location.

Chairman Trindade moved that the Board recommend approval of Article 27; Seconded by Selectman Espinosa; no discussion; Yes 2, No 3. Did not support.

Appointments-Bylaw Committee and the Board of Assessors

Hold to next meeting

Approval of Minutes

Selectman Foresto moved that the Board approve the minutes of the September 15, 2008 meeting with changes noted as discussed; Seconded by Selectman Espinosa; no discussion; all ayes 4-0 (Selectman Dunne abstained as he was absent).

Selectman Espinosa moved that the Board approve the minutes of September 22, 2008 meeting as amended; Seconded by Chairman Trindade; no discussion; all ayes 3-0 (Selectmen Foresto and Dunne were absent).

Selectman Dunne moved that the Board approve the minutes of October 3, 2008, a combined Selectman/School Committee meeting; Seconded by Selectman Espinosa; no discussion; all ayes 5-0.

Selectman Crowley moved that the Board approve the minutes of the October 6, 2008; Seconded by Selectman Dunne; no discussion; all ayes 5-0.

Minutes of September 22, 2008 Executive Session; hold for review November 3, 2008 meeting.

Administrator's Report-Town Administrator Kennedy

Administrator Kennedy announced there will be a DPS Consolidation Committee formed to look at the Water/Sewer/Solid Waste Departments. All are invited to participate.

Selectman's Reports

Selectman Crowley Selectman Crowley has asked that 2009 and 2010 budgets, as well as free cash information, be discussed at the 11/4 meeting. The Sewer contractor has started and they are starting opening the streets soon. Charles River Pollution Control/Water Treatment has proposed a \$19 Million capital improvement which will increase their operating budget and the sewer rate.

Selectman Dunne The first hatchet fell as a result of the financial crisis and the anticipated \$75,000 grant for the senior center has been reduced to \$25,000. Selectman Dunne believes this should be an eye opener for the upcoming budget season.

Selectman Espinosa Selectman Espinosa advised that there have been some unanticipated flushing issues due to all the issues that have not been addressed over the last several years. Selectman Espinosa will be sending out a memo/email to describe the flushing and reasons for the issues, he believes there has been a great deal of neglect in this area.

Selectman Foresto Nothing to report

Approval of Warrants

Warrant number 17 dated October 30, 2008 totaling \$794,185.78.

Selectman Foresto moved that the Board approve the warrants as read; Seconded by Selectman Dunne; no discussion; all ayes 5-0.

9:34pm There being no further business to discuss Selectman Crowley moved that the regular session meeting be adjourned; Selectman Foresto seconded; 5-0

The next regular session of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for November 3, 2008 at 7:00pm in Sanford Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Harrington

Board of Selectmen Secretary

*Approved 3/16/09