

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN MEETING FINAL

November 10, 2008

6:00 PM

Room A111, High School, 88 Summer Street

Selectmen Present: Chairman Glenn Trindade, Andrew Espinosa, Richard Dunne, John Foresto. **Absent:** Dennis Crowley

Administration Present: Suzanne Kennedy, Town Administrator, Melanie Phillips, Treasurer/Collector, David D'Amico, Public Services Director, Allen Tingley, Police Chief, Paul Trufant, Acting Fire Chief, Carol Pratt, Interim Town Accountant, Allison Potter, Assistant to the Town Administrator.

Also Present: Barbara Saint Andre, Town Counsel, and Mark Cerel, Moderator.

Mr. Trindade commented that this was the first Fall Town Meeting under the new charter.

Warrants

The warrants for November 13, 2008 were read into the record.

Town Bills: \$106,878.14

School Bills: \$300,591.74

Gross Payroll – Town: \$133,298.58

Gross Payroll – School: \$748,022.33

Total: \$1,288,790.79

Selectman Dunne moved to accept the warrants as read; Seconded by Mr. Foresto; no discussion; all ayes.

Contract with Barbara Durand for Financial Software Consulting Services

Ms. Kennedy provided background on the pending implementation of the MUNIS financial software. She stated that Ms. Durand's quote was the lowest among those solicited; fifty percent less than other quotes. Ms. Kennedy stated Ms. Durand's role would be to develop the chart of accounts, which she has done before.

Selectman Dunne moved that the Board authorize the chair to execute the contract with Barbara Durand for financial software consulting services; seconded by Mr. Foresto; no discussion; all ayes.

Industrial Park Road Water Main Agreement

Ms. Kennedy stated that Haley and Ward have submitted an engineering proposal for the Industrial Park Road water main. The company would provide professional engineering services associated with permitting, designing and constructing a twelve inch water main for this road.

Mr. Dunne asked about the cost. Ms. Kennedy said it would be \$50,800. Counsel has reviewed the contract and the accountant has verified the availability of funds, which will come from the water surplus account.

Mr. Dunne asked if the project went out to bid. Ms. Kennedy stated it did not. She said this firm is working on the Industrial Well project and it is an extension of the existing contract. Mr. Trindade agreed. Mr. Dunne said it is a new contract. Ms. Pratt stated that engineering services are exempt from MGL 30B.

Selectman Foresto moved that the Board authorize the chairman to executive a contract on the Industrial Park Road Water Main Agreement, conditional upon the final preparation and approval of the Interim Town Accountant and Town Administrator; Seconded by Mr. Dunne; no discussion; all ayes.

FY 10 Budget Policy Statement

There was a brief discussion about the fiscal year 2010 budget policy statement. Ms. Kennedy stated she is preparing two versions for the Board's consideration based on the discussion at its meeting on Saturday, November 8.

Mr. Dunne asked if the statement included background information. Ms. Kennedy answered that context would included in the statement.

Fall Town Meeting Warrant

Article 12

Mr. Cerel asked if the Board agreed to dismiss Article 12. Ms. Kennedy stated that this article is obviated by the RFP for the Water Master Plan.

Articles 4, 9, 10, 12

Mr. Cerel asked if the Board agreed that Articles 4, 9, and 10, the three articles relating to transfers should be placed on the consent calendar, as well as Article 12 for dismissal. The Board agreed.

Article 3

Mr. Cerel noted the typographical error in Article 3.

He stated he conferred with Town Counsel on which articles need more than majority vote.

Article 8

Mr. Cerel addressed Article 8, relative to crosswalk construction on Route 109. Mr. Trindade asked for clarification about funding. Mr. D'Amico stated that this article allows the Town to accept easements as a gift in order to construct these crosswalks.

Article 7

Mr. Cerel addressed Article 7. He said that he exchanged emails with Mr. D'Amico about this. He said that there is no problem with adjusting the figures on the motion. The Board agreed and briefly discussed the change in allocation. Mr. D'Amico clarified that the dump truck would cost \$5,000 to \$6,000 less than the anticipated \$45,000 and that amount could be put towards the bucket truck.

Mr. Cerel asked whether the motion was going to track the article and if it was within the article's scope to alter. Mr. Espinosa asked if the amount is increasing. Mr. Cerel said it was. Mr. D'Amico stated that the total amount would remain the same. Mr. Cerel said they could make the motion from the floor; he would make sure the Finance Committee was made aware of the change. Mr. D'Amico said he would explain it to Mr. Foss.

Article 22

Mr. Cerel asked about the street acceptances. Mr. Trindade said that the Ishmael Coffee agreement still needs to be signed and that Broad Acres is unresolved. A certain parcel has not been accepted. Mr. Cerel said they could play it by ear.

Ms. Saint Andre said the Ishmael Coffee agreement has not been signed, but the Town has 120 days to get it signed, so it is safe to proceed with the vote.

Article 27

Mr. Cerel asked if the Walker property was a 3-2 vote. The Board confirmed it was. He asked about the Finance Committee's position. It was not supported. He commented that a positive vote was floating and he has prepared such a motion. Ms. Kennedy said an Affordable Housing document has been distributed.

Mr. Dunne asked about the term "convey". Mr. Cerel answered that it means to transfer and it can involve cost. Mr. Dunne asked if the intent is not to sell it. Mr. Cerel said the objective would be to have no cost associated with the conveyance. He added that the Board should be prepared to provide land for affordable housing unless it wants 40B development forced upon the Town. Mr. Dunne felt the bottle cap lots would address affordable housing. He supported profiting from the sale of the Walker Street property.

Mr. Trindade said he wants affordable housing in Town, and would like a minimum of two, and ideally three or four, units constructed on the property. He said it could give some Town employees the opportunity to live here. Mr. Cerel stated, speaking as a member of the Community Preservation Committee, that affordable housing is part of its mission and the Walker Street initiative supports this. Mr. Dunne reiterated that the bottle cap lots better addresses this need. It was noted that the Town was still at least two years away from acquiring the bottle cap land for development.

Mr. Cerel confirmed that the meeting would begin with a statement from the Selectmen concerning the budget. Mr. Trindade said he would be giving that presentation.

Selectman Espinosa moved that the Board adjourn at 6:40pm; Seconded by Mr. Foresto; no discussion; all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,
Allison Potter
Assistant to the Town Administrator
*Approved 3/16/09