

Board of Selectmen's Meeting
October 18, 2010, 6:30 PM
Sanford Hall, Town Hall, 155 Village Street

Present: Chairman Dennis Crowley; Selectmen Richard Dunne, John Foresto, and Andrew Espinosa; and Town Administrator Suzanne Kennedy.

At 6:34 PM Chairman Crowley called the meeting to order and the Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

At 6:36 PM, Selectman Foresto moved that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy regarding litigation with the intent to return to public session for the regular meeting scheduled at 7:00 PM; Selectman Espinosa seconded. No discussion; Roll call vote: Foresto – aye, Espinosa-aye, Crowley-aye, Dunne-aye.

At 7:16 PM Chairman Crowley reconvened the public session.

Public comments: None

Medway Energy Committee Update:

Mr. Frank Faist, Chairman, Medway Energy Committee, briefly updated the Board on recent activity. He announced that a public forum on the proposed Stretch Code for Medway was scheduled for 7:30 PM on Tuesday, October 26, in the Medway Middle School Administration Wing. Mr. Faist stated this meeting is primarily for information sharing, with contractors and realtors as well as residents. He noted that, based on comments shared that evening, the committee will be making its vote on the issue on October 27. The flyer with information on the forum is posted on the Town website.

Selectman Dunne encouraged residents to attend the forum to learn the facts, noting there are numerous rumors floating around on costs associated with the code. He stated further that this code will eventually become part of the building code.

Review and consideration of warrant articles:

Town Administrator Suzanne Kennedy briefly reviewed each article as follows:

#1 – This is a housekeeping article that allocates CPA funds to three categories within the fund.

#2 – A Community Preservation Committee article regarding the Thayer property, this article requests funds to pay for design services for improvements on the house. Selectman Foresto asked that the CPC consider the entire property, not just the house.

#3 – This article rescinds an article that supported authorized but unissued debt for the Industrial Park Road Well.

#4 – This article references the installation of water mains on Route 109/Main Street, major projects under consideration for completion within 2 years. It is more cost effective to install new water mains when the roads are being worked on, opening the road only once. Ms. Kennedy stated this gives the capacity to fund the project in entirety. Chairman Crowley asked for additional documentation for the Board to review prior to the October 25th meeting.

#5 – This article will add the Stretch Energy Code as a Town Bylaw. This code will eventually become part of Massachusetts Building Code.

#6 – This article requests approval of funding for the Medway Middle School Repair Project. Ms. Kennedy suggested that wording be inserted to clarify that the funding would be via debt exclusion to differentiate from a conventional override.

#7 – Ms. Kennedy indicated this article was of a housekeeping nature, to pay FY10 bills in FY11 (fire department kitchen renovation).

#8 – This article would allow an amount to settle an arbitration case.

#9 – This article will revise the language of Town bylaw, which would not require firefighters to reside in Medway in order to be eligible for on-call duty. Ms. Kennedy indicated a residency requirement significantly reduces the pool of qualified candidates for fire and EMT service.

November Election Warrant:

Ms. Kennedy stated the Election Warrant must be signed by the Board and passed it around the table for signature.

Route 109/Main Street Renovation Project:

The Board was in receipt of a letter, dated October 8, 2010, from Weston and Sampson to Thomas Holder, Director of Public Works, containing cost estimates for water main replacements.

Selectman Espinosa moved that the Board both reaffirm and amend the Route 109 Committee with the following members: Pam Benjamin, David D’Amico, Tom Holder, Dan Hooper, Andy Rodenhiser, Chan Rogers, Ann Sherry, Paul Yorkis and Selectman Andrew Espinosa; Selectman Dunne seconded. Selectman Espinosa announced that a public hearing on the project will take place in approximately a month, and the committee needs to be up and running. All ayes, 4-0.

Presentation on Middle School Repair Project:

Chairman Crowley asked that the PowerPoint presentation be posted on the Town website so that residents could review it at their leisure.

Bob Tucker introduced Dan Bradford and Tim Bonfatti, Compass Project Management. Mr. Bonfatti made the presentation, discussing the topics of MSBA process overview, existing conditions, contents of the Statement of Interest, accessibility improvements, updates with regard to air quality, fire alarms,

intercoms and security, gym floors, corridor floors, improving electrical network, replacement of windows and some doors, improved traffic flow, and creation of a new Middle School entrance.

Discussion followed, touching on construction timelines, approximate costs, funding by debt exclusion instead of override, reimbursement from MSBA, areas being improved that are not reimbursable (administrative offices), strict adherence to the Statement of Interest items, the blending of new construction areas with existing areas, improving space usage and allocation, flexibility for peak enrollments, looking ahead for technological advancements and increased use of technology, and acknowledgment that there will be repair or replacement issues on certain things that is expected with normal usage.

Chairman Crowley stated the Board has been very fiscally conservative in the last five years and will continue to utilize this approach in their decision on this project. He noted that the Board has not yet discussed the project.

Mr. Tucker announced that a tour for the public is scheduled for Wednesday, October 27 at 6:00 PM. The PowerPoint presentation will also be available that night.

Discussion followed on the issue of selecting a date for a special town election, if the proposed article passes November Town Meeting. A December date was suggested, noting that inclement weather is less likely then than in January, prompting a better voter turnout. Ms. Kennedy noted that application for a special town election must be made to the Town Clerk at least 35 days before the proposed date.

The Board agreed to meet at 7:30 AM on Thursday, October 21, to discuss financial aspects. The Treasurer-Collector and Town Accountant will attend that meeting to provide staff input.

Eagle Scout Court of Honor – Zachary Thomas Lindsey:

The Board was in receipt of an invitation to attend the Eagle Scout Award Ceremony and Court of Honor for Zachary Thomas Lindsey on Sunday, October 24, 2010. A Proclamation of Accomplishment was read by Chairman Crowley, praising Scout Lindsay for his years of hard work and achievement, and declaring that Zachary Lindsey should be recognized with honor on Sunday, October 24.

Request to Hunt on Town-Owned Property:

Selectman Crowley stated he received a request from a resident to bow hunt on community property. The resident has all necessary licenses and permits. If the request is not approved, he would like permission to park on Town-owned property and walk to the Briggs property to bow hunt as he has permission to hunt there.

Allison Potter, Assistant to the Town Administrator, stated that hunting is permissible, if the Board allows, as long as the hunter is over 500 feet away from any residence. This hunter would like to hunt or park on the acreage not being used by the community farm. Ms. Potter stated she researched what other areas are being used for hunting and discovered they are much larger than this particular space.

Selectman Foresto expressed concern about setting a precedent, prompting a flood of similar requests, as well as issues of liability and public safety.

Ms. Kennedy suggested getting input from the Police Department and will invite the Police Chief or his designee to attend the October 25 meeting.

Approval of Town Warrants:

Selectman Foresto moved that the Board approve a Warrant for Account #11-15S-A in the amount of \$450.00; Selectman Dunne seconded. No discussion. All ayes, 4-0.

Chairman Crowley moved that the Board approved a Warrant for Account #11-16A in the amount of \$3,878,697.03; Selectman Dunne seconded. No discussion. All ayes, 4-0.

Selectman Foresto moved that the Board approve a Warrant for Account #11-16 in the amount of \$1,106,730.71; Selectman Dunne seconded. No discussion. All ayes, 4-0.

At 9:40 PM, Selectman Dunne moved to adjourn; Selectman Espinosa seconded. No discussion. All ayes, 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Galliardt
Board Secretary