

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
March 19, 2012, 7:00 AM**

**Town Administrator's Conference Room, Town Hall
155 Village Street**

Present: Chairman John Foresto, Selectman Andrew Espinosa, Selectman Dennis Crowley, Selectman Glenn Trindade and Town Administrator Suzanne Kennedy. Selectman Richard Dunne was absent. It is noted that Selectman Espinosa left the meeting at approximately 9:20 AM.

Also Present: Melanie Phillips, Finance Director; Allen Tingley, Police Chief; Paul Trufant, Fire Chief; Susy Affleck-Childs, Planning and Economic Development Coordinator; Rich Boucher, Director, Information Technology; Tom Holder, Director, Department of Public Services; David D'Amico, Deputy Director, Department of Public Services; Wendy Rowe, Library Board of Trustees.

At 7:00 AM Chairman John Foresto called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public comment: None

Warrant Review – Special Town Meeting:

The Board reviewed a draft Warrant for Special Town Meeting.

With departmental staff members on hand to answer questions, the Board went through the warrant articles and briefly discussed some of them. If an article is not mentioned here, there was no substantive discussion on it. Chairman Foresto encouraged Board members to ask questions as they reviewed each article rather than waiting until the end.

Referring to Article 1, it was noted that specific dollar amounts will be available closer to Town Meeting. The same is true for Article 5.

After discussion, Selectman Trindade moved to delete Article 4 – Transfer: Legal Account to Appellate Tax Litigation Fund; Selectman Espinosa seconded. No further discussion. VOTE: 4-0-0.

Warrant Review – Annual Town Meeting:

The Board reviewed a draft Warrant for Annual Town Meeting.

Again, it is noted that, if an article is not mentioned here, there was no substantive discussion:

Article 3 – There was brief discussion reminding the Board that the \$37,290 for economic development consulting was coming from free cash, in addition to funds in the Planning Dept. budget. The Board had previously asked for more information on how the funds were specifically to be used. Selectman Trindade emphasized that unless the property owners are involved in development efforts, they will feel like they can do what they want. Brief discussion followed on marketing in general. Selectman Espinosa

reminded Ms. Affleck-Childs that any approved funds will not be spent unless their efforts are in line with the overall strategic plan.

Regarding other capital items, there was brief discussion on walkways, bridge repairs, computer virtualization, library computers and the possibility of getting DOT funding for various DPS projects. It was noted that school computers have to be an expense item to offset depreciation. The Board expressed concern that money should be set aside for computers to be replaced every five years on a staggered schedule, and that has not been happening. The Board asked for a list of specific parks and field improvements. Selectman Trindade asked the Board if it could find a little money to repair or redo the paving around the back of the police station.

Article 4 – It was noted that the fire truck will be a combination pumper-ladder truck.

Article 6 – Concern was expressed that sewer rates would have to be increased in order to cover this funding. Brief discussion followed.

Article 17 – Selectman Trindade expressed concern that abutters may not have been notified of this. They bought their homes with the understanding that land could not be built upon. Also concern that applicant should pay associated costs. Appraiser should be hired by the Town.

Article 18 – Selectman Trindade wondered when the revolving fund for Parks and Recreation was established. Brief discussion followed on how the account works and other sources of revenue for this department.

Article 22 – It was noted that the library must spend 60% of their appropriated amounts, yet the funds spent do not have to come from the appropriation. Brief discussion followed.

Article 24 – Concern was expressed that the Brentwood residents are not aware of the impending project and its impact on the neighborhood as well as specific homeowners.

Article 27 – Chief Tingley briefly explained how it would be helpful to be able to fingerprint prospective licensees.

Article 28 & 29 – Brief discussion on appointment versus electing members to the Board of Health, and why physicians are not interested. It was noted that there is a lack of applications from interested parties. It was decided to keep both articles 28 and 29 for the time being.

Article 30 -- Street acceptance process -- the language of this article will be further revised and reviewed by Town Counsel.

Article 31 – Will be removed as it is not quite ready.

Article 32 & 33– These articles contain updated or new definitions of specific terms and wording. The Board asked for clarification on specific changes; they have received a copy with highlighted changes. Ms. Affleck-Childs noted that Article 33 lists completely new definitions. Discussion followed. Ms. Affleck-Childs will submit a revised report featuring comments from Town Counsel.

Remaining Zoning Articles – Ms. Affleck-Childs briefly reviewed them, noting that sometimes entire sections have been deleted and replaced with new, updated language, and in some cases, renumbering paragraphs. Outdoor storage of materials and vehicles, language relative to kennels, and other changes are included.

There was discussion of possibly doing a complete overhaul of the bylaws rather than the occasional update. This would allow a complete and thorough review of zoning bylaws in their entirety. Discussion followed.

Article 51 – Personhood. The Board believes Town Meeting is not the appropriate place for this article, but because it has been submitted via citizen petition, the Board does not have the authority to remove it.

**At 10:00 AM Selectman Trindade moved to adjourn; Selectman Crowley seconded. No discussion.
VOTE: 3-0-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Galliardt
Night Board Secretary