

**Town of Princeton, MA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting
February 5, 2007**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM. Present were Chairman -Alan Sentkowski, Members - Raymond Dennehy and Joe O'Brien and Town Administrator - Dennis Rindone.

FY07 Warrant #16

The Board reviewed and signed the payroll and vendor warrants from the Treasurer & Accountant.

Minutes

January 22, 2007- Regular Meeting – Alan made a motion to accept the minutes with changes. Joe seconded. All were in favor (3-0).

Update - Paint Interior of Town Hall

Common area is complete. Individual offices will be painted next. Spring cleaning is taking place as well.

Thomas Prince School Roof Update

The original cost for roof was \$232,597.00. Engineering survey will be done in the spring.

Public Tree Hearing

The Public Hearing opened at 5:15 PM to discuss tree removal on Brooks Station Road as part of road reconstruction project to begin in spring in accordance with Chapter 87 Mass General laws. The list is for tree # 62 through #108.

Tree Warden was unable to attend the hearing; however he submitted a letter expressing concern with the removal of trees #97, 98, 102,104, &105. He feels they should be protected. Residents expressed the same concerns with the addition of trees #100, 101, and 107. All concerns are for trees near the Ball Hill intersection. Raymond made a motion to approve the removal with the condition that should these specified trees (#97, 98, 100, 101, 102, 104, 105, & 107) become necessary to remove as an unavoidable consequence of the construction project, they must first be reviewed and approved by the Tree Warden. Joe seconded. All in favor. (3-0).

Dennis will send letter to Mass Highway and the contractor expressing concern about the specified trees and saving them if at all possible.

The Public Hearing closed at 5:30 PM.

Appoint New Town Clerk- Lynne Grettum

Alan moved that the Select Board appoint Lynne Grettum of 125 Houghton Rd., Princeton to the position of Town Clerk for a term to expire on January 30, 2010. Joe seconded. All were in favor. (3-0).

Alan, as Justice of the Peace performed the swearing-in of Lynne as Town Clerk and signed the record. Lynne will send a letter to the Secretary of State recording that she has been duly sworn in. The Board is pleased to welcome Lynne and expressed confidence in her abilities as the new Town Clerk.

FY08 Budget Update

Some items need finalizing. Dennis will add to the February 20th agenda and work to complete. Questions about Parks & Rec director salary and hours were discussed. Salary Compensation Plan will include Parks & Rec director information. More discussion will take place on February 20th.

Longevity Plan

The Personnel Board recommends a longevity plan that would provide a bonus to employees reaching their 10-year anniversary. A suggestion to add to the base salary was discussed. Dennis will work on the numbers and a future discussion will take place.

FY08 Milage Rate

Dennis informed the Board that the current mileage rate for the town is .30 cents. PMLD is .36 cents and the federal rate is .48 cents.

Capital Improvement Planning Committee Requests

The town has free cash available for all recommendations by CIP. The TPS roof replacement is the only number that is uncertain at this time.

Wachusett Earthday Appointment

Joe made a motion to appoint Arthur Allen III of 13 Town Farm Road as a member of the Wachusett Earthday Committee for a term to expire on February 4, 2008. Alan seconded. All were in favor. (3-0).

Paramedic Waiver Letter

Alan made a motion to send correspondence to Ed McNamara, Director of Central Mass EMS Corp. requesting a Paramedic Basic Staffing Waiver. Joe seconded. All were in favor. (3-0)

Reserve Fund Transfer Request

Alan made a motion to transfer from the Reserve Fund account #01-5-132-780 in accordance with the provisions of MA General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 6 the amount of \$1,645.00 to the Tree Warden account #01-5-294-780. Joe seconded. All were in favor. (3-0)

At 6:15 PM Alan moved to go into executive session to discuss contract negotiations and to return at 6:30 PM. All were in favor. (3-0).

The regular meeting reconvened at 6:30 PM.

Library Project

The Library Trustees presented the information to the Board concerning the preservation of the library.

- The library is the heart of Princeton and needs to be protected.
- 200 families contribute annually
- Water infiltration has been an ongoing problem that threatens the newly completed interior.
- Debt for interior renovations will retire in June 2008. An annual payment of \$54,000 will become available.
- The Friends and Trustees will contribute \$25,000 towards the project.
- MHC grant may bring \$50,000.

- Trustees request Selectmen approve a warrant article to borrow \$150,000.
- Trustees request Selectmen approve a warrant article for historic preservation restriction easement.

Alan moved that the Princeton Board of Selectmen approve an application to the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF) on behalf of the Library Trustees for preservation work on the Goodnow Memorial Building. The Board authorized the Chairman to sign all documents associated with the application on behalf of the Board. Joe seconded. All in favor. (3-0).

Alan moved that the Town of Princeton represented by the Board of Selectmen owns the Goodnow Memorial Building and if the Town receives an MPPF Grant and Town Meeting approves the Town intends to place a preservation restriction on the Building, otherwise known as the Princeton Library. Joe seconded. All in favor. (3-0)

ALS Study Committee

The Committed presented the following update:

- Patient care is excellent; however maintaining skilled paramedic coverage is a concern. Princeton has limited calls resulting in lack of opportunity to utilize paramedic skills.
- Opportunity for a for-profit ambulance service is limited due to remoteness and absence of facilities in town.
- The current approach to paying for the ambulance service with revenue from transports is not sustainable. The town may have to cover some of the cost.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM. All were in favor. (3-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Savoie
Administrative Secretary