

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
NOVEMBER 9, 2011
REGULAR SESSION

Members Present: David Parker, Francis Cavaco, Robert McLintock

William Rice arrived late.

John Whelan was absent.

Town Administrator: Pamela T. Nolan

Chairman Parker called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence. He advised the meeting was taped via audio and video. Mr. George Morse of the Seekonk Star was taping audio.

At Mr. Cavaco's recommendation, the order of business moved to:

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Appointment of 3rd Class Probationary Officer

Police Chief Ronald Charron recommended the appointment of Ryan A. Bernier.

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. McLintock, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Ryan A. Bernier as 3rd Class Probationary Officer.

The vote: Mr. Cavaco – Aye; Mr. McLintock – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye.

Officer Bernier was sworn in by Town Clerk Janet Parker.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Chairman Parker advised that Mr. Rice had notified him last Thursday of his resignation as Vice Chair.

A motion was made by Mr. McLintock, seconded by Chairman Parker, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Mr. Cavaco as Vice-Chairman.

WORK SESSION WITH MUNICIPAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairwoman Lauren Walsh stated that no action was taken on the warrant articles because the MCIC did not have a quorum. The MCIC will meet prior to Town Meeting.

The MCIC has concerns regarding the \$25,000 for repairs to the County Street Fire Station considering the condition of the building.

They will get a cost to repair the north roof of the fire station.

The MCIC recommends the \$100,000 to address the needs at the Animal Shelter.

Ms. Walsh noted that the Town had appropriated \$75,000 for a facilities study. The results should be available by February 2012. The Animal Shelter and the County Street Fire Station were included in that study.

Mr. McLintock felt they have to define more clearly what capital items are in terms of dollars.

Ms. Walsh felt the public should know what the State mandates are regarding the emergency medical dispatch.

She talked about the \$73,000 for School Department technology.

Mrs. Nolan noted that, from a purchasing point of view, the bid cannot be separated.

Chairman Parker indicated a quad board (Board of Selectmen, MCIC, School Department, and Finance Committee) meeting will be scheduled.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Consider Approval of October 5, 2011 Regular Session Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. McLintock, seconded by Chairman Parker, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To correct the minutes of October 5, 2011, as follows:
Page 4, paragraph 7, under Community Speaks, change the word "engineer" to "engine."

The vote: Mr. McLintock – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye; Mr. Cavaco – Aye; Mr. Rice – Aye.

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A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. Rice, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the regular session minutes of October 5, 2011, as amended.

The vote: Mr. Cavaco – Aye; Mr. Rice – Aye; Mr. McLintock – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion on Central Avenue Roadway Improvement Project

Mr. Lamoureux reported that core sampling was done today to make sure asphalt is appropriate and according to specifications. They will continue to work on sidewalks during the winter.

Mr. McLintock referred to a letter from Mr. Cabral to Mass. Highway regarding unacceptable blacktop. He commended Mr. Cabral.

Discussion on Warrant Articles 4 and 5

Mrs. Nolan noted these two are almost identical; one is for Municipal Capital and one is for Municipal Stabilization.

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. McLintock, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To include Articles 4 and 5 on the Town Meeting Warrant.

A motion was made by Mr. Rice, seconded by Mr. Cavaco, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To open the warrant.

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. Rice, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To remove Article 15 from the warrant.

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. McLintock, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To close the warrant.

Set the Order of Articles for Warrant

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. McLintock, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the order of the warrant articles as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion on Curb Cut Route 114 at Route 6

Mr. Lamoureux advised that Mr. Cabral had contacted Mass. Highway regarding “No left turn” signage in the area of the Five Guys Restaurant.

Chairman Parker noted there are several “left lane must turn left” signs at the 114 bridge. He suggested all but one of those signs should be removed. He couldn’t understand why the State put sidewalks on the bridge because there are none after the bridge.

Consider the Approval of Snow Plow Vendors for the Department of Public Works

Mr. Lamoureux said there are approximately 20 vendors.

Mr. Cavaco said that he reviewed the applications. At this time, only three of 16 qualify.

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. McLintock, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve Thomas Piquette, Scott Lamontagne, and Narciso F. Correia as snow plow vendors in 2011-2012.

Rescind Vote of Appointment of J. Creamer to MCIC

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. McLintock, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To rescind the appointment of J. Creamer to the MCIC.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Update on Old Town Hall

Mrs. Nolan advised that the Historic Commission had requested but did not receive money from the CPC to remove the asbestos. She spoke to the elders of the Wampanoag tribe. The matter was deferred until a meeting in June 2012.

At Mr. Rice's request, Chairman Parker suggested that members of the Wampanoag Tribe attend a meeting to present their plan to the Board.

Mrs. Nolan reminded residents that the Veterans' Day observation is scheduled for Friday, November 11, 2011, at 12 noon in front of Town Hall. Veterans' Agent Seth Bai has arranged for participation by Seekonk High School students, who will read essays, Rev. Amaral, the Police Honor Guard, and boy and girl scouts.

She announced that the 7th Annual Tree Lighting will be on Thursday, December 1, 2011, at 6 p.m. Hurley Middle School students will provide music and Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there. Kiwanis Club members will be accepting food donations for Doorways. Mrs. Beverly Hart is the contact for more information.

Mrs. Nolan advised that she received notice from the Governor regarding a new community innovation challenge grant program. This is for regionalization of services. She received an e-mail from the Rehoboth Town Administrator. A total of \$4M will be distributed throughout the Commonwealth.

She noted that she held a meeting of regional administrators last week. They will try to meet monthly.

She advised that the Town was reviewed by Standard & Poors and retained the AA rating.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Cavaco reported no problems with the warrants for two weeks in a row.

He asked about the sign at the entrance to Peck Street.

Mrs. Nolan said it is still at DPW.

Mr. Cavaco requested an agenda item to discuss the generator for Town Hall and the Public Safety Complex.

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He requested an agenda item for December 14, 2011 to discuss securing more land for the Veterans Park.

Mr. McLintock suggested talking to Tom Piquette about the generator.

Chairman Parker advised that the Town Clerk and he met with the Water Department to ask for additional land to expand the cemetery.

He advised that he contacted the Ethics Commission regarding the appointment of Mr. Cavaco and Mr. McLintock to the Board of Health. The Ethics Commission ruled there is no violation.

He extended belated birthday wishes to Mr. Rice and Mr. McLintock.

Mr. Cavaco noted that since his election he has had office hours at Town Hall every Monday from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. He would like to hear from contractors who have problems with the Board of Health.

COMMUNITY SPEAKS

Mr. Ed Wiseman felt it is important to send out an engine on ambulance calls because sometimes the EMTs need assistance.

Mr. Paul MacPherson of Newman Avenue asked who is responsible for hiring and firing at DPW, Police and Fire Departments.

Chairman Parker advised that for those three it would be a recommendation from the Town Administrator to the Board of Selectmen.

At 8:19 p.m. Mr. Cavaco motioned, seconded by Mr. McLintock, to go into Executive Session for consideration of the Memorandum of Agreement for the Seekonk Call Firefighters Association; not to return to Open Session.

The vote: Mr. Cavaco – Aye; Mr. Cavaco – Aye; Mr. Rice – Aye, Chairman Parker – Aye.

The Chairman noted that he would not attend Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

John Whelan, Clerk



Patricia Gamer, Secretary