

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**FEBRUARY 29, 2012**  
**REGULAR SESSION**

Members Present: David Parker, Francis Cavaco, John Whelan,  
Robert McLintock, William Rice

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 and asked if anybody in the audience was taping.

**LICENSE HEARING**

**Outside Entertainment License for Rockwell New England Rides and Amusements**

Mr. Harold Fera of Rockwell Amusements was in attendance. The carnival is a fundraiser for the American Legion and will be held at the old cinema.

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

**VOTED:** To approve the request of Rockwell Amusements to hold a carnival at 800 Fall River Avenue, Seekonk, MA from April 26, 2012 to May 6, 2012 for the benefit of the American Legion.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Grant Authority to Veterans Memorial Committee to Fund Raise and to Keep Funds in a Gift Account**

Mr. Cavaco noted that the Board appointed a committee last week. The Board must authorize this committee to raise money privately and to keep the money in a gift account. The committee will decide on a design for the garden and bring it back to the Board.

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

**VOTED:** To authorize the Veterans Memorial Committee to raise money for the sole expenditure of the memorial garden.

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

**VOTED:** To authorize the Veterans Memorial Committee to accept donations on behalf the memorial garden.

**Accept Gift of \$500 from Francis Cavaco to the Veterans Memorial Fund**

Mr. Cavaco explained that one of his goals was to establish a Veterans Memorial Garden to recognize the veterans of this community. This donation will help achieve this goal.

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

**VOTED:** To accept the \$500 gift from Francis Cavaco to the Veterans Memorial Fund.

Mr. McLintock suggested the Board adopt a policy to thank all people who come before the Board with donations.

**INTERVIEW CANDIDATES FOR VARIOUS COMMITTEES**

**Norman Champigny, Banna Station Building Committee**

**Michael Bourque, Banna Station Building Committee**

**Russell Hart, Energy Conservation Committee**

Mrs. Nolan advised that Town Moderator Michelle Hines was in attendance to conduct the interviews. She will later appoint two people to the Banna Station Building Committee.

She noted that Mr. Champigny was not in attendance. He showed an interest in this committee. He was an original member of the call firefighters.

Mr. Michael Bourque stated that he has lived in Seekonk for 43 years and a member of the Fire Department for 24 years. He learned a lot as a member of the building committee for the Public Safety Complex.

The meeting moved to:

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Town Moderator to Appoint Banna Station Building Committee**

Ms. Hines appointed Michael Bourque to the Banna Station Building Committee. She told him to see the Town Clerk to be sworn in.

The meeting returned to the regular order of business.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Energy Conservation Committee**

Mr. Russell Hart stated that he was a mechanical engineer. He talked about his experience with energy conservation.

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

**VOTED:** To appoint Russell Hart to the Energy Conservation Committee.

Chairman Parker urged residents to come forward and join this committee. There are still vacancies.

**Consider Increase of Budget for Construction Engineering for Central Avenue Project**

Town Engineer David Cabral noted that he had previously talked to the Board about this. Mr. McLintock, Mr. Cavaco, and he met with DOT representatives at the district office last week. He met with the resident engineer on Monday of this week and on Tuesday with Mrs. Nolan, Mr. Cavaco and Mr. McLintock.

Mr. Cabral reviewed reports #1-12. Report #13 in the amount of \$40,668 is withheld until next week.

The total subtotal is \$80,330.07. There are additional estimated costs: Traffic police - \$10,000, price adjustment for hot mix asphalt - \$45,000, diesel price adjustment - \$30,000 and gasoline prices - \$2,000 for a total deficit of \$6,669.73. It will not cost the Town any additional money. The negative will be paid for by the State.

Mr. Cabral noted that majority of the work has been done. The entire project should be completed by July 1, 2012.

Chairman Parker asked how the \$10,000 for police detail was missed in planning the project.

Mr. Cabral said the money was for overtime.

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

**VOTED:** To authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Resident Engineer's Reports #6-12.

**Consider Increase of Budget for Construction Engineering for Central Avenue Project**

Mr. Cabral explained this concerns additional engineering services in the amount of \$5,000.

Mr. McLintock felt this item could be funded through the reserve fund.

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

**VOTED:** To go to the Finance Committee and request a \$5,000 transfer from the reserve fund for unanticipated costs.

Mr. Cavaco would like an agenda item for next week on the 25% submittal for the Route 114A project.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Budget Review for Planning Board**

Budget amount - \$117,036 (.6% increase).

Mrs. Nolan noted that \$40,000 was in last year's budget for the comprehensive plan; this year the \$40,000 is for a review of zoning bylaws and subdivision rules.

**Budget Review for Assessor's Office**

Budget amount - \$230,230 (increase of 3.7%).

Mrs. Nolan noted that the original budget included a salary increase for the Board of Assessors. They wanted to be reinstated to their original stipend. She rejected that. The stipend amount is \$6,500.

Mr. McLintock felt they deserve the money based on their expertise and the amount of work they do.

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

**VOTED:** 3 Ayes; 2 Nays; To reinstate the stipend to \$8,717, as requested by the Board of Assessors.

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

**Budget Review for Veterans**

Budget amount - \$164,441 (increase of 55%). The Veterans Agent has projected that services benefits will increase to \$123,000 next year. A portion is reimbursed by the State.

Board members requested that Mr. Bai attend a future meeting for discussion.

**Budget Review for Conservation Commission**

Budget amount - \$41,579 (7.6% increase – all in payroll line).

Mrs. Nolan was asked to find out exactly what that was for.

**Budget Review for Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen**

Board of Selectmen's budget is \$24,100 (3.79% increase under expenses).

Mrs. Nolan noted that Board members are attending more conferences and meetings.

She stated there is a difference in the Town Administrator's budget because her predecessor budgeted the position at \$90,000; her salary is \$106,000. Also, she belongs to more organizations and attends more meetings than he did. She allocated money for international town administrator meetings. However, it won't be very costly in 2013 because the meeting will be held in Boston, MA.

Chairman Parker advised a public hearing will be held on the entire budget at a later date.

**Consider Approval of Administrative Policy Form for Exit Interview**

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

**VOTED:** To table the Administrative Policy Form for Exit Interview.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

**Updates on Banna Fire Station Building Committee, Senior Center Building Committee, Animal Shelter Building Committee**

Mrs. Nolan advised that she met with Mr. Warren Carpenter. The Banna Fire Building Committee is looking at a modular building. They researched and obtained a legal opinion on a one or two story building. Two members resigned, so the appointment made tonight is much appreciated.

The architect has to be paid to prepare the specifications. The cost is around \$40,000. The project is ready to go out to bid. She felt they would not deviate from the agreement with the neighbors to go with a two-story building. She received an asbestos report, which shows what has to be removed.

Mr. Rice suggested that Ms. Lauren Walsh of the CIC talk about the requirement that a member of the CIC must serve on the Banna Committee.

Ms. Walsh will address that during “Community Speaks.”

Mr. McLintock reported that the Senior Center Building Committee is ready to go. They are talking about modular. He has a 52-page document to be signed for National Grid.

He felt the people who serve on this committee should be commended. The Town is very fortunate to have skilled people. They are looking forward to the election.

Mrs. Nolan stated that she met with Save-A-Pet President Pat Cloutier. They are getting estimates. They need to decide if it will be two separate buildings or replace the existing building.

### **ISO Report – Building Department**

Mrs. Nolan advised that she received the building code enforcement evaluation report. It effects the insurance rating. The rating was at 5 in 1997. When Commissioner McNeil came to work in Seekonk, the rating was at 7. It is now back down to 5. She congratulated Mrs. McNeil for the work she has done. Residents should see a relief in insurance costs.

Chairman Parker said Mrs. McNeil did a fantastic job in responding to the investigator’s questions.

Mr. McLintock added that he is very impressed by Mrs. McNeil and her staff. He felt that she is straightforward. He suggested the Board consider some sort of automation for that department.

Mrs. Nolan said that she read to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class at Aitken School. Chief Jack and Mrs. Parker also read.

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

#### **Accounts Payable Warrant**

Mr. Cavaco advised the warrants are in order.

Mr. McLintock reported that Mass. DOT has approved the light on Route 44 at the entrance to the Public Safety Complex.

Mr. Cavaco asked if there had been any response to Chairman Parker's concern about the removal of dirt from Firefly.

Chairman Parker said he hasn't gotten an answer.

Mr. Cavaco asked if the Board had received a resignation from the representative to SRPEDD.

Chairman Parker will follow up on that.

Chairman Parker noted that the Superintendent of Public Works has saved the Town a considerable amount of money. The well on Lake Street has been capped and no longer needs to be tested; a savings of \$35,500 a year. A new contract was negotiated with the company monitoring the landfill at Newman Avenue and Fall River Avenue; a savings of \$67,000 over the next three years.

Mr. Cavaco felt that all contracts should go through the Town Administrator.

Mrs. Nolan will check.

Chairman Parker advised that tickets for the March 4<sup>th</sup> Celtics/Knicks game are sold out.

There will be a celebration of Seekonk's 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at a Paw Sox game this summer.

### **COMMUNITY SPEAKS**

CIC Chairwoman Lauren Walsh spoke about a clarification of the term "town officer." She felt the CIC seat on the Banna Fire Station Committee is blocking an at large member from being appointed. She is preparing a warrant article to remove that requirement from the bylaws. to remove the requirement

Mr. McLintock noted there are people who are willing to serve on Boards but cannot because they live out of town. He felt the bylaw should be changed.

Mr. Donald Kinniburgh felt the Planning Department should concentrate on the sign bylaw.

Chairman Parker advised that members of the Planning Board will be at the next meeting to respond to concerns.

Mr. David Viera inquired about the status of the plaque for the Veterans Memorial Garden.

Mr. Cavaco said there were donations of \$1,000+. He wasn't sure if the plaque was purchased.

Mr. Michael Bourque suggested the exit interview form should not be too lengthy.

February 29, 2012

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Ms. Michelle Hines reminded residents who are interested in serving on committees/boards need to fill out a talent bank form.

The Town Meeting will be held on Monday, June 25, 2012, at Seekonk High School. She will conduct her Town Moderator program on Cable TV two weeks before the Town Meeting.

Mrs. Nolan advised the warrant is open until March 23, 2012. She has received four articles.

At 8:36 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Whelan, seconded by Mr. Cavaco, to go into Executive Session per Chapter 30A, Section 21, for matters relative to AFSCME contract, call firefighters contract, and approval of Executive Session minutes of October 26, 2011, November 30, 2011, December 5, 2011, and December 21, 2011; not to return to Open Session.

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

Respectfully submitted,

John Whelan, Clerk

Patricia Gamer, Secretary