

**MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
November 25, 2008**

Present at the meeting that was held at the Town Building were Chairman Thomas Ruggiero and Selectmen Stephen Dungan, Kathleen Farrell, and Ellen Sturgis.

Also present were Town Administrator William Wrigley and Administrative Assistant Susan McLaughlin.

Chairman Ruggiero called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Public Input

None.

Chairman's Comments

Mr. Ruggiero asked that people keep our service members in mind especially at this time of year and in these tough economic times to be generous, if one is able. He also wished good luck to the Nashoba Regional football team in its Thanksgiving Day game.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Wrigley reported on the following topics:

- He and Mr. Ruggiero expect to bring a recommendation to the Board at the next meeting to hire the new police officer. Of 71 applicants, the police sergeants interviewed six, who were then interviewed by the search team. He noted that this hire is to fill an existing vacancy, has been budgeted for, and will bring the department up to full staffing.
- This morning, he met with Mass DEP and the Assabet Water Company on the Lower Village water supply. The project is progressing and the next step is pump tests. There is still the issue of demonstrating a large enough customer base in Lower Village to pay off the DEP loan to Assabet Water. Possible customers are Plantation Apartments and Pilot Grove, and maybe a Town purchase of Lower Village water for firefighting.
- Also this morning he met with Planning Board chair Laura Spears, Planning Coordinator Karen Kelleher and Selectman Dungan regarding a question regarding a boundary between private property and Town property in the Lower Village. The next step will be discussions with the property owner for a possible compromise.
- Bids are due on December 10 for construction work on the Snow recreation project.
- He is in discussion regarding a possible mutual aid agreement proposed by Mass Public Health to share resources, such as health agents. Public safety groups, such as fire departments, already have such agreements in place.

Recognition of Representative Patricia Walrath

Mr. Ruggiero began the tribute by asking, "How do we say 'Thank You' for 30 years?" He noted some of Rep Walrath's most significant achievements: building the Mass Firefighting Academy, located in Stow; planning the transition of Devens from a military base to a residential and business district; and the state's unique health care legislation. He thanked her for her help of children, seniors, and the needy.

Mr. Dungan presented her with a proclamation he had written on behalf of the Board and Ms. Farrell presented her with a bouquet of white roses. Board members and Mr. Wrigley shared personal anecdotes of their work together over the years. Several attendees, including Daisy Dearborn, Jim Sauta, and the district's newly elected Representative Kate Hogan, thanked her for her service.

The Board also presented her with a Stow Throw from the Council on Aging as a token of their appreciation.

Creation of Land Use Evaluation Committee

This discussion was deferred until Mr. Robart was able to be present.

Change in Board of Selectmen's Meeting Nights

This discussion was deferred until Mr. Robart was able to be present.

Liaison Reports

SuAsCo (Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivershed) Coalition: Mr. Ruggiero suggested adding SuAsCo as a liaison report from Ms. Farrell. It was agreed that Ms. Farrell would invite SuAsCo Coalition Director Nancy Bryant to the next meeting.

Elementary School Building Committee: Ms. Sturgis said that Stow representatives will meet with the Mass School Building Authority on December 8 for approval of the Owner's Project Manager contract.

Local Access Channel Advisory Committee: Mr. Dungan said that Verizon is working on cable TV access.

Master Plan: Mr. Dungan said that the town-wide Master Plan survey is out and responses are due by December 15, 2008.

Lower Village: Mr. Dungan reported that new granite fence posts have been installed at the Common.

Municipal Affordable Housing Trust: Mr. Dungan reported that they are ready to hire a consultant.

Office filing system: The project is moving along. He will bring a plan to the Board.

Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2008: Mr. Dungan moved to accept the November 10 minutes, as amended; Ms. Sturgis seconded; and all voted in favor.

At 7:50 p.m., Mr. Dungan moved to adjourn; Ms. Sturgis seconded; and all voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan McLaughlin
Administrative Assistant, Board of Selectmen

Approved as amended, December 9, 2008