

**MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
January 13, 2009**

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

Also present was Town Administrator William Wrigley. Administrative Assistant Susan McLaughlin was absent.

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

Public Input

Resident Don Hawkes expressed concern about the Lake Boon Commission's proposed drawdown for weed control. The Conservation Commission is reviewing the notice of intent and has continued the public hearing two times. The Board of Health does not support the proposal as the data available indicates that many shallow wells would be adversely impacted. The selectmen agreed to add this topic to the next agenda for discussion.

Chairman's Comments

Mr. Ruggiero expressed thanks to all of those involved in working through the recent ice storm and power outage. The public safety departments and the Emergency Management team did an outstanding job serving the community

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Wrigley presented his activities report including an update of the town's response to Lieutenant Governor Murray's request for a listing of "shovel ready" projects. He is also working with the Board of Health on completing a Mutual Aid Agreement. He, too, congratulated Stow's emergency responders for a job well done during the power outage.

Meeting Minutes

None.

Public Hearing for Liquor License Alteration of Premises/Change of Location

At 7:15 p.m., Mr. Ruggiero opened a duly posted public hearing on a petition from Colonial Spirits (Nickrosz, Inc) for a liquor license change. The change is needed as the business is moving its location within the Stow Shopping Center. Ms. Sturgis moved to close the hearing; Mr. Robart seconded; all voted in favor. Mr. Dungan moved to approve the liquor license; Ms. Sturgis seconded; all voted in favor.

Sudbury Road Tree Removal

Tree Warden Bruce Fletcher, Superintendent of Streets Mike Clayton, and HL&P representatives attended. Though the topic was trees on Sudbury Road, two separate matters regarding tree removal were reviewed.

- The first came at the request of Hudson Light and Power Company to remove a total of 27 trees between Wildlife Woods and Whispering Way to accommodate upgrades in anticipation of increased usage from the State Firefighting Academy. Though a hearing had already been conducted on-site, several residents spoke in opposition to the need for

- this. Mr. Robart moved to approve the removal of these trees, Ms. Sturgis seconded. Four members voted in favor, Ms. Farrell opposed. The motion passed.
- The second request for tree removal was to accommodate the completion of the sidewalk between Barton and Pine Point roads. Mr. Robart moved to approve, Ms. Farrell seconded. All voted in favor.

Mutual Aid Agreement on Regional Health Support

Mr. Dungan moved to support the agreement, Ms. Sturgis seconded, all in favor.

Appointment of Call Firefighter/EMT

Upon the recommendation of the Fire Chief, Mr. Dungan moved the appointment of Frances Adams as Stow Call Firefighter/EMT, Ms. Farrell seconded, and all voted in favor.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment for Paper Ballots

Members of the Concerned Citizens of Stow Ted Perry and Jim Ogg presented a request for a Special Article in the warrant for Annual Town Meeting for the use of paper ballots on purchases over \$250,000. They received general support from the Board to include this article and agreed to assist with the wording for the warrant.

Community Preservation Act Surcharge Abatements

The Assessor's Office forwarded information regarding the criteria for filing for abatement if a family income falls below a certain level. During these difficult economic times, the Board wanted to communicate to the public that this option exists.

Liaison Reports

Master Plan: Mr. Dungan reported that the Master Plan Committee would review its survey results on February 4 at the Town Hall.

Tri-Town Meeting: Ms. Sturgis reported on the Tri-Town Meeting noting that Stow was far more prepared during the recent power outage than Bolton or Lancaster.

MMA Annual Meeting: It was agreed that Ms. Sturgis would represent our Board for any votes taken during the annual business meeting.

Capital Planning: Ms. Farrell reported that Capital Requests from Town Departments are coming in and the next meeting of the Capital Planning Committee will be January 20.

At 8:35 pm, Mr. Dungan moved to adjourn, Ms. Farrell seconded, and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen King Farrell
Clerk, Board of Selectmen

Approved as submitted, February 10, 2009