

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
July 6, 2010**

Present at the meeting that was held at the Town Building were Selectmen Stephen Dungan, Charles Kern, James Salvie, Thomas Ruggiero, and Laura Spear.

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

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

**Public Input**

Lew Halprin, 82 Pine Point Road, said he saw nothing on the agenda about the school building budget. The contract price was reduced but the budget has not been. \$400,000 has already been spent on options. He said the savings should be used to reduce the impact on taxes.

He also said he saw nothing about the Stow Historical Commission. He said the Commission has no members and asked when the current applicant be appointed. Ms. Spear said she would speak to this during the liaison reports.

Janet Stiles, 58 Pine Point Road, said she spoke with HL&P engineers Kennedy and Gould who said the planned placement of electrical poles (given as the reason for demolishing the blacksmith shop) could be easily relocated, with a cost from nothing to small. HL&P is willing to meet with the project engineer on alternative options. She said it is never too late to make a good decision and she hopes, with many others, to preserve the building.

Bill Byron, 469 Gleasondale Road, said he is pleased with the school construction bid. Speaking on behalf of those burdened with the additional taxes, he asked that the school building committee and the selectmen refrain from "finding things to spend the money on." Even though they are MSBA funds, they come from the same pocket.

**Chairman's Comments**

None.

**Town Administrator's Report**

Mr. Wrigley reported the following:

- Lower Village water: He is now retracing earlier steps, such as sharing water with Maynard.

Ted Perry, 13 Sawmill Road, asked from the audience what concrete information could his daughter-in-law, who runs the school, hang onto, for example, a period of time she can count on. Mr. Wrigley replied that if, for example, Maynard agreed to run from Pompositticut Street today, it could be a matter of months.

Kevin Keenan, Great Road, asked about water costs and whether the service area would be compulsory or voluntary. Mr. Wrigley replied that there are many options regarding costs and that participation would be voluntary.

- Blacksmith shop bid: He will discuss later on the agenda.

- Town Farm Fund Overseers: The Trustees of the Randall Town and Relief funds are willing to take over the Town Farm Fund.
- 911 state incentive program: The Police Dept has received two grants through this program, one of \$34,000 for a new dispatch center.

### **Meeting Minutes**

**April 6:** Mr. Dungan moved to accept the April 6, 2010 minutes, as submitted; Mr. Ruggiero seconded; three members voted in favor with Messrs Kern and Salvie abstaining. The motion passed.

### **Blacksmith Shop Outreach and Bid Response**

Mr. Wrigley said that one bid had been received, from Shelburne Farm owners Ted and Liz Painter. They requested some additional time, until July 15, to complete a feasibility determination.

Ms. Painter said they received three quotes to move the building, two were too high and one was a good price and good experience. They are waiting for a price to reconstruct the building on site. They would use the building to display farm tools and equipment and have the SpringFest blacksmith continue to hold demonstrations there. She said they feel a strong attachment to the blacksmith shop and do not want to see it torn down.

Ms. Spear said the bid meets many of the Board's criteria and suggested accepting the bid and, if it was not settled by July 15, line up volunteers to dismantle it. Mr. Kern emphasized that there was no flexibility in the July 31 deadline.

Mr. Salvie moved to accept bid for the Larsen blacksmith shop, submitted by Edward M. Painter, 106 West Acton Road, Stow, MA, dated July 1, 2010, subject to agreement on the contract and to authorize the chair to execute the contract; Mr. Dungan seconded; and all voted in favor.

### **Appointment of the Blacksmith Shop Dismantling Team**

Mr. Dungan said he has 16 volunteers to take down the building.

He moved to appoint the following people to a work team for dismantling the blacksmith shop, put it on a flatbed from the Highway Department, and transport it to the West School site: Wayne Fletcher, Bruce Fletcher, Steve Dungan, Tom Ryan, Dwight Sipler, Tom Ruggiero, Jim Salvie, Steve Quinn, Dorcas Sefton and sons, Chris Spear, Lew Halprin, Dan Nicholson, Robert Gorman, William Young, and Eric Bachtell.

Following discussion on protecting the Town from liability exposure, Mr. Dungan amended his motion to include: And that Steve Dungan be identified as the project manager and be authorized to officially appoint additional volunteers, as needed.

Mr. Salvie seconded; and all voted in favor.

Mr. Ruggiero said to better protect the Town, the Board must have some criteria for the volunteers, such as no one under 18 years old.

### **Formal Complaints Regarding ESBC and Board of Selectmen April 20, 2010 meeting**

Ms. Spear asked the Board to discuss how to respond to Dr. Stiles' complaints.

Mr. Dungan said it would be better if the complaint went to the subject of the complaint. He said some choose to use the town paper. Mr. Salvie felt it was addressed at the April 20 meeting.

Mr. Ruggiero said that this is the purpose of the liaison function, to discuss and try to resolve issues like this, instead of bringing everyone in to a Board meeting. Mr. Wrigley concurred that the liaison is always the first step, going forward.

Ms. Spear said they need a flexible standard operating procedure for this. She volunteered to draft one for the Board's review.

### **Dissolve Stow Assabet River Rail Trail Committee and Create Multi-Use Recreation Paths Committee**

Mr. Dungan said the original charter of the Stow Assabet River Rail Trail Committee to complete the rail trail through Stow could not be achieved at this time. The committee agreed it is time to disband and begin work to form a new multi-use network of paths.

With chair of the Stow ARRT Don Rising in attendance, members discussed clarifying the difference between the old and new committees and communication with the Pedestrian Walkways Committee. Collaboration would be needed in Phase Two of the walkways plan.

Mr. Dungan moved to dissolve the Stow Assabet River Rail Trail Committee; Mr. Ruggiero seconded; and all voted in favor.

Mr. Salvie moved to create a Multi-use Recreation Path Committee, as described Mr. Dungan's proposed draft posting, dated July 3, 2010; Mr. Ruggiero seconded; and all voted in favor.

Mr. Salvie moved to designate members of the Multi-use Recreation Path Committee as Special Municipal Employees, pursuant to General Law Chapter 268A; Mr. Dungan seconded; and all voted in favor.

### **Annual July 1 Appointments**

Mr. Salvie moved to reappoint the following individuals to the stated committees and terms, as posted on June 8, 2010:

- Assabet River Rail Trail [Intermunicipal Steering] Committee Representative (annual from July 1): Donald B. Rising
- Cable License Advisory Committee: Arnold Buckman
- Cemetery Trustees (3 years from July 1): Roy Dudley
- Conservation Commission (3 years from July 1): David Coppes, Ingeborg Hegemann-Clark, Douglas Moffat
- Constable: Robert Kirchman
- Hudson Light and Power Board, Stow Advisory Member (annual from July 1): Edward A. Brown
- Lake Boon Commission: Lee Heron
- Local Access Channel Advisory Committee (2 years from July 1): Chris Funkhouser, Bob Glorioso, Len Golder, Lisa Lavina
- Municipal Affordable Housing Trust (2 years from July 1): Cynthia Perkins
- Recreation Commission (annual from July 1): Robert Braceland, Michael Busch, John Sangermano
- Registrar of Voters: John O'Connell
- Tree Warden (annual from July 1, per Town Charter): Bruce E. Fletcher

- Trustees, Randall Relief Fund (3 years from July 1): Dorothy Sonnichsen
- Trustees, Randall Town Fund (3 years from July 1): Dorothy Sonnichsen
- Veterans' Graves Committee (annual from July 1): Jeffrey J. Lance, George A. Veracka
- Zoning Board of Appeals (5 years from July 1): William Byron

Mr. Dungan seconded; and all voted in favor.

#### **Appointment of Part-time Dispatcher**

Mr. Salvie moved to appoint Nancy L. Campbell as a part-time dispatcher for a one-year term, ending June 30, 2011; Mr. Dungan seconded; and all voted in favor.

#### **State Primary Warrant**

Mr. Salvie moved to approve the warrant for the Massachusetts state primaries, to be held on Tuesday, September 14, 2010; Mr. Dungan seconded; and all voted in favor. Ms. Spear signed the warrant.

#### **Reconsider Town Farm Fund Overseers**

Mr. Salvie moved to dissolve the Town Farm Fund Board of Overseers, as established by the Board of Selectmen on January 5, 2010; Mr. Dungan seconded; and all voted in favor.

Mr. Salvie moved to assign responsibility for managing and administering the Town Farm Fund to the Trustees of the Randall Relief Fund and Randall Town Fund; Mr. Dungan seconded; and all voted in favor.

#### **Boxboro Regional Deer Population Study Committee**

Ms. Spear reported on a meeting she attended regarding the Town of Boxborough's concern with their large deer population. The Town has created a 10-person committee for a deer study with the goals of:

- Reducing accidents
- Reducing cases of Lyme disease
- Decreasing the deer population (now at 6-10 deer per square mile)

Boxborough now wants to expand this to a regional study task force with four members from Stow.

Following discussion, the Board agreed to stay tangentially involved and participate in regional outreach and education.

#### **Responding to Legislative Contact Requests**

Ms. Spear said she receives numerous requests from agencies to contact other agencies or legislators on behalf of one project or another. The other members confirmed that they receive them, too.

After discussion, it was agreed that members may respond to these requests as individuals, not using their titles. But any responses by the Board on behalf of the Town should be discussed and approved by the full Board.

#### **MinuteVan Shuttle Survey Update**

Mr. Dungan reported that the South Acton commuter shuttle survey was posted on the website and printed copies were available outside the Town Clerk's Office. The deadline for responses is September 30.

### **Liaison Reports**

**Public Safety:** Mr. Ruggiero said that Mr. Clayton is moving up Sudbury Road work, in response to requests from the Pedestrian Walkways Committee. Honey Pot Hill Orchard is again requesting to direct traffic on a public way this fall. And he said that Chief Trefry provided the Town's position on a statewide initiative on zero tolerance for seatbelt use.

**Pedestrian Walkways:** Mr. Salvie said the Planning Board was deciding whether to approve the Pedestrian Walkways Phase 1 Design tonight.

**NRSD:** Mr. Kern said he expected no budget impact due to recent teacher and staffing changes.

**ESBC:** Mr. Kern said at their last meeting, the ESBC voted to add six of the seven "wish list items" to the project because the General Contractor bid was lower than expected. As to reducing the contingency line items, he said that SMMA recommends keeping the funds in the budget and rolling them forward, not removing them from the budget.

**Pompo Use Study Committee:** Mr. Kern said they had their first meeting and elected Jim Sauta as chair.

**Master Plan Committee:** Mr. Kern said they expected to hold their last meeting on the following Thursday.

**MAGIC:** Ms. Spear said the MAGIC Shared Service Program was funded. A listing of the projects that communities are doing is available.

**Planning Board:** Ms. Spear said the Board was setting priorities and discussing zoning enforcement.

**Historical Commission:** Ms. Spear said she had spoken with a wide variety of people for input about the Commission and would have a new charge ready to review at the next Board meeting.

### **Correspondence**

Ms. Spear said that the Board's letters to DHCD in support of the Plantation II and Pilot Grove II projects were cited in the funding approval letters, showing that they made a difference.

At 9 p.m., Mr. Dungan moved to adjourn; Mr. Ruggiero seconded; and all voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan McLaughlin  
Administrative Assistant

Approved as amended, August 17, 2010