

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
OPEN SESSION  
May 24, 2011**

Present at the meeting that was held at the Town Building were Selectmen Gary Bernklow, Charles Kern, Thomas Ryan, James Salvie, and Laura Spear.

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

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

**Public Input**

None.

**Chairman's Comments**

Mr. Salvie congratulated the Stow Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), the Board of Health, and the larger MA Region 4 MRC for the Mentor Award received from the Office of the Surgeon General and the Office of Civilian Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps at the Integrated Preparedness Conference this year. The Mentor Award honors an MRC unit that has successfully collaborated with other members of the network in the past year.

**Town Administrator's Report**

Mr. Wrigley reported on the following topics:

- The entire Harvard Acres project is almost complete. The well loan documents required by the state have been sent to the Water Pollution Abatement Trust (WPAT) and the Department of Environmental Protection. A total of 58 loans were approved totaling \$650,000, plus \$7,000 in administrative costs were incurred. The total borrowed from WPAT is \$670,000, leaving a balance of \$13,000 for any additional administrative costs, including registry fees for releasing the liens.
- Superintendent of Streets Mike Clayton is preparing for the Town Building parking lot extension, hoping to begin the work in June.
- On June 11, Mr. Wrigley will attend the Mass Fire Services building dedication. State Fire Marshall Steve Coan has worked for the past decade to fund, design, and construct \$42 million of vital improvements to the facility.
- At tonight's meeting, the Board will be asked to vote its position on a Keno license for Butternut Farms Golf Club. The state expects that municipalities will only file an objection to a license if they can identify a substantive reason that it is in the "public interest" to deny the license. Mr. Wrigley provided the Board with the relevant CMRs (state regulations) governing the topic.

**Meeting Minutes**

**May 11:** Ms. Spear moved to accept the May 11, 2011 meeting minutes, as submitted; Mr. Ryan seconded; and all voted in favor.

### **Final Precinct Map**

Town Clerk Linda Hathaway visited the Board for approval of a new precinct map, necessitated by Stow's increased population, per the 2010 Federal census. The Town will now have two districts, instead of one, with Great Road being the dividing line.

The Board must vote on the plan by June 22, after which a state Redistricting Committee will review and approve it. The new precincts will be in place for the March 2012 primary election. There will still be only one polling place – Hale Middle School.

Following discussion, Ms. Spear moved that the Board of Selectmen accept the 2011 Re-Precincting Plan for the Town of Stow as presented by the Town Clerk. The plan includes the precinct map, legal written description, and block listings; Mr. Ryan seconded; and all voted in favor. The Board signed an attestation of the vote for the state.

### **Flagg Hill Conservation Land Borrowing**

Treasurer-Collector Pam Landry visited the Board for approval to refinance the 10-year-old Flagg Hill bond with a new 10-year bond at a 2.0- to 2.1-percent rate. The new rate will save the Town roughly \$100,000.

Mr. Ryan moved that, in order to reduce interest costs, the Treasurer be authorized to provide for the sale and issuance of bonds under MGL Chapter 44, Section 21A to refund all or any portion of the remaining principal of and redemption premium and interest on any of the Town's outstanding general obligation bonds for the Flagg Hill conservation land debt; Ms. Spear seconded; and all voted in favor.

### **Chapter 61 Land Evaluation Process**

Chair of the Chapter 61 Quick Response Team Vin Antil visited the Board once again regarding a dry run of the land evaluation process when a Chapter 61 property becomes available for purchase.

Mr. Antil explained that there is more interest in continuing the exercise with a fresh and real case than spending more time on the McPherson/Boxboro Road parcel, which is long past. He said a new opportunity is expected soon.

It was noted that the test run had already accomplished its main objective – to create a descriptive report on the property as input to a Joint Boards meeting on whether to pursue purchasing the land for the Town. The other goal is to learn the degree to which the Quick Response Team report is adequate to help the Joint Boards decide whether to make the purchase.

Following an extended discussion on whether to have a Joint Boards meeting on the McPherson property, it was agreed that a full dry run is unnecessary. Instead, Mr. Antil will circulate the team's report to interested boards and stakeholders for comments.

### **Peabody Drive Block Party**

Peabody Drive resident Cece Braun visited the Board seeking permission to close a short section of the public way for a neighborhood block party on June 18.

Ms. Spear moved to permit Cece Braun on behalf of the Peabody Drive residents to close a portion of Peabody Drive between numbers 53 and 61 for a block party on Saturday, June 18 from 3:00 pm to 10:00 pm, as approved by Public Safety Officer Lima; Mr. Kern seconded; and all voted in favor.

### **Butternut Farm Golf Club Keno License**

In accordance with MGL Chapter 10 section 27A(b), Stow may file an objection with the Mass State Lottery Commission regarding issuance of a Keno license to Butternut Farm Golf Club, 115 Wheeler Road. The Board discussed whether there was any evidence that the license was not in the public interest, noting that the Police Department reported never having incidents at the club. Ms. Spear reported that there are ongoing issues with the club not observing stipulations of a special permit but that these have to do with plantings; there are no issues with occupancy.

Having found no evidence that the license would be detrimental to the public, the Board chose to file no objection to the license application.

### **Annual Appointments of Inspectors**

Ms. Spear moved to appoint the following inspectors and officials to a one-year term, ending on May 31, 2012:

- Building Commissioner: Craig Martin
- Wire Inspector: Robert W. Norton
- Deputy Wire Inspectors: Michael A. Norton and Charles Weeks
- Gas Inspector: Ray A. Smith
- Deputy Gas Inspectors: Robert Smith and Adam Sahlberg
- Plumbing Inspector: Eric S. Sahlberg
- Deputy Plumbing Inspectors: Ray A. Smith and Adam Sahlberg
- Local Building Inspectors: Douglas Hyde and Ray A. Renzoni
- Forest Fire Warden: Fire Chief Michael McLaughlin

Mr. Kern seconded; and all voted in favor.

Mr. Wrigley took this opportunity to express his appreciation to all the inspectors for the “heavy lifting” they did to make the Harvard Acres well installations a success.

### **Annual Dog Warrant for the Animal Control Officer**

Pursuant to the provisions of MGL Chapter 140, Ms. Spear moved to issue the annual dog warrant to the Stow Animal Control Officer; Mr. Ryan seconded; and all voted in favor. Mr. Salvie signed the warrant on behalf of the Board.

### **Permit for the Annual Positive Spin ALS Bike Ride**

In his first motion as a selectman, Mr. Bernklow moved to permit the annual Positive Spin ALS bike ride, scheduled for June 12, 2011, as indicated on the May 27, 2011 route of the race and as approved by Public Safety Officer Lima, the permit contingent upon receipt of the required Certificate of Insurance; Mr. Ryan seconded; and all voted in favor.

### **Selectmen’s FY 2012 Committee and Liaison Assignments**

Members reviewed the list of FY 2011 assignments and discussed changes for FY 2012, considering both Mr. Bernklow joining the Board and Mr. Dungan leaving.

Ms. McLaughlin will send the results of the discussion to Mr. Salvie for the next meeting.

### **Transportation Advisory Committee**

Ms. Spear provided a proposed committee description for a new Transportation Advisory Committee, as discussed with Mr. Dungan at the April 26 meeting.

Ms. Spear moved to form a Transportation Advisory Committee, as described in the May 15, 2011 committee posting, as written, and that the members of the Transportation Advisory Committee be designated as Special Municipal Employees; Mr. Ryan seconded; and all voted in favor.

It was agreed that the vacancies be posted for 30 days and that the posting be sent to Mr. Dungan, per his interest in being a member.

### **Master Plan Implementation and Priorities**

This topic will be put on the next meeting agenda.

### **Liaison Reports**

**Public Safety:** The Fire-Rescue department had made progress in meeting the state regulations.

**Pompo Re-Use:** Only four members of the public attended the May 18 open forum, a disappointing result. The committee will do estimates of a retrofit and operating expenses with and without the library and a provisional plan for allocating costs among the tenants.

**Elementary School Building:** The steel is up, the building walled in, and the roof is on. The project is roughly four weeks behind schedule.

**Pedestrian Walkways:** Villages at Stow will donate the easement through the swale. The walkway will be complete by late summer or early fall.

**Stow Municipal Affordable Housing:** The Trust had substantive discussions with the Stow Community Housing Corporation regarding a loan.

**Planning Board:** Has applied for a Sustainable Communities grant for Track Road and the Lower Village. They are working on a growth forecast for MAPC. They co-authored a CLURPA letter with the Town of Harvard. The Lower Village Planning Sub-committee issued its final report.

**Historical Commission:** Created a working group for the Stow West School programs, with Karen Gray as Director, which was agreed to by the Town Clerk.

**Track Road:** Ms. McLaughlin was directed to contact potential member Mary Hunt once again about her interest. Mr. Wrigley said the \$46,000 at Town Meeting would be Stow's 20 percent of the Department of Transportation requirement for the design grant, with the total design cost of \$230,000. Mr. Rising is getting a priced up contract amendment from AECOM for Mr. Wrigley's review and signature.

### **Future Agenda Topics**

This will be a new agenda item to get input from members on upcoming topics. There were no topics at this time.

At 8:45 p.m., Ms. Spear moved to enter Executive Session, for the purpose of discussing a proposed contract for the new Chief of Police and to adjourn without returning to Open Session; Mr. Ryan seconded. All voted in favor by roll-call vote: Ryan – aye, Kern – aye, Spear – aye, Bernklow – aye, and Salvie – aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan McLaughlin  
Administrative Assistant

Approved as amended, June 14, 2011