

## **MINUTES OF THE APRIL 27, 2009 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman David Canada, Selectman Bruno Federico, and Town Administrator Paul Deschaine. Mr. Copeland was not present due to his being out of Town.

The meeting was opened at 7:32 PM.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Mr. Deschaine gave the Treasurer's Report on behalf of Kevin Peck. He reported that the current general fund balance was a negative \$990,004.80. He is holding the two School checks so that the account is not overdrawn. He still has \$1,300,000 in investments, which will mature on May 1, 2009 at which time he will release the School checks.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Mr. Canada reported about the Swine Flu health alerts that we have received from the Department of Health and Human Services. He stated that preventative and protective actions are being recommended to slow the spread of the disease. He stated most importantly, that if you are sick, stay home and limit your exposure to others.

The Board then reviewed meetings scheduled in the coming week and meetings that were held during the past week.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Town Assessor:** Andrea Lewy was present to give her monthly report. She reviewed various applications for Veteran's credits and elderly exemptions with a note that she had a handout for additional details. Mr. Canada moved to approve all of Andrea Lewy's recommendations. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy has been working on measuring and listing new houses and major additions so that the assessed value can be included in the first tax bill, which will be due July 1, 2009. She tried to get most of the major pickups done for that tax billing. She then reviewed the logistics of preparing the warrant for the first tax billing.

Ms. Lewy then reported on the statistical update, which she feels is a little ahead of schedule. She is almost done with all the condominium projects and is reviewing her work. The other neighborhoods in Town are still under review. Ms. Lewy feels things are going well at this time. Mr. Federico asked if she had run into any resistance as of yet. Ms. Lewy said that they had not had much at all. Only one person complained that a monitor was being too forceful when trying to list a house. Ms. Lewy then met with the owner and he understood the purpose and process behind the effort.

Ms. Lewy then reported on the tax map project, which is progressing. She still has eight to ten maps that still need to be reviewed. There are a total of twenty-eight maps now. Sarah Del Rossi has been a big help in reviewing the draft maps as part of quality control.

Ms. Lewy reported that Steve Traub has been contracted as a special appraiser for the statistical update. Mr. Traub will concentrate on special properties like Lindt Chocolate since their

property is a specialized commercial property. Mr. Traub should start at the end of April and work through the month of May. Chris Murdough and Ms. Lewy will measure the Lindt Chocolate buildings and Mr. Traub will be doing the comparative analysis.

Ms. Lewy stated that she is targeting to get notices regarding the new proposed values out by the end of July and, at the beginning of August, begin to hold hearings with property owners. Following that schedule, she hoped to be done by September 1, 2009, which is the property inventory submittal date to the State.

**Administration:** Mr. Federico asked if a laborer in the Highway Department had been hired. Mr. Deschaine stated that Charlie Brown had started work today. Mr. Canada asked if he was going to renew his commercial driver's license. Mr. Deschaine understood that he would. Mr. Canada asked if he was going to obtain it on his own time. Mr. Federico concurred. He stated that if practice driving can fit into the normal workday, he could do that. However, if it was a separate training effort, then it should be done on Mr. Brown's own time.

Mr. Deschaine presented the Highway Safety Grant application for the Board to sign. This was for an additional driving while intoxicated patrol. Mr. Federico moved to authorize the Chairman to sign the grant contract. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine presented for signature the one-year lease for the Gifford House to the Friedmans. The Board reviewed and then executed the lease.

There was a brief discussion regarding the Park Ranger's house tenant and the report that he had multiple dogs in the building. Tara Barker is looking into the matter.

**PARK PERMITS/MUNICIPAL CENTER RENTALS:**

Catherine Miner requested the use of the Park for a child's dedication party on May 9, 2009, which was approved.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Deschaine read a letter of request from Cara Rince for a raffle permit. Mr. Canada moved to issue the permit as requested. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada read, in summary, a proclamation to make May 4-10, 2009 Public Service Recognition Week. Mr. Canada then moved to adopt the proclamation. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada then summarized a Silver Star Banner Day proclamation. Having no comment, Mr. Canada moved to adopt the proclamation as presented. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Board then reviewed and approved checks.

Mr. Federico asked if the Fire Department was going to start using the reader board on the new sign in front of the Fire House. Mr. Deschaine said that they might be waiting for the Board to authorize the use or for it to be lit. Mr. Federico recalled that the lighting proposal from Dan Whittier was approved at \$1,800. Mr. Canada suggested that Mr. Federico send an email to Fire Chief Bob Law asking him to assign the task to someone. Mr. Federico thought that the daily fire danger rating would be useful if posted on the sign.

Mr. Canada then moved to approve the minutes of March 23, 2009. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Federico asked about the status of the E-Reg Program. Mr. Deschaine and Joyce Charbonneau were still working on the particulars of the program. Mr. Federico asked if credit cards were going to be taken via the program. Mr. Deschaine stated that was not the intent of the E-Reg Program. They use what is called an e-check system. The advantages and disadvantages of credit card use were then discussed.

Mr. Federico then suggested hosting a coffee reception in honor of Public Service Recognition Week. Mr. Canada concurred. Mr. Federico will head up the event.

At 8:58 PM, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss a personnel matter. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. At 9:20 PM, Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes due to the matters of personnel discussed. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 9:21 PM, Mr. Federico moved to adjourn. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Reviewed By,

Norma Corrow  
Recording Secretary

Paul Deschaine  
Town Administrator