

November 19, 2001

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 19, 2001**

Present: Arnold Wilson, Chairman  
George Dib  
Hal White  
Charles Blanchard  
Doris Sosik  
James Malloy, Town Administrator

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. following the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION: To approve the minutes of November 13, 2001 as amended, by D. Sosik.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: G. Dib**

**Vote: Four in favor; H. White abstained.**

**MOTION: To approve the executive session minutes of November 5, 2001 as submitted, to remain confidential, by C. Blanchard.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: G. Dib**

**Vote: All in favor.**

**Building Inspector's Monthly Report**

J. Malloy read Mark Lev's report to the Board (copy on file). C. Blanchard asked about the status of storage of material on the corner of Holland Road and Rt. 20. J. Malloy said that Mark Lev met with Brian Caron regarding the concern over the use of the property to store material. M. Lev indicated that he had previously approved using the property for storing material, but not processing, and had Mr. Caron cease processing material on the site unless he were to apply for and receive a permit from the Board of Selectmen. C. Blanchard suggested that Mr. Malloy meet with M. Lev to discuss the matter and check whether it is proper under the town's zoning.

**Greg Morse, DPW Director and Paul Donahue & Roy Wood, U.S. Filter/EOS – Monthly Reports**

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G. Morse read his report to the Board (copy on file). The Center School building was tied into the town sewer system, and is now ready for a rest room facility.

G. Morse and L. Adams attended the Stormwater Management seminar.

G. Dib asked about the painted arrow symbols in the road. G. Morse said that they serve to identify the location of catch basins. He informed the Board that the line striping will be done on Friday.

P. Donahue read his report to the Board (copy on file). He said that Chuck Everson has returned to work as an operator. He informed the Board that Don Schellhammer, who had been on long-term disability, passed away last week.

A. Wilson noted that the electrical parts of the pump stations in Phase 3 work, but have not been connected by Mass. Electric. J. Malloy said that the work was supposed to have been done by Wednesday. He suggested allowing the residents on Farquhar Road, Stoney Brook and Blueberry Lane an extra four weeks to connect to the sewer line.

It was the consensus of the Board to end the voluntary water ban.

**MOTION: To end the voluntary water ban in the Town of Sturbridge,  
by G. Dib.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: D. Sosik**

**Vote: All in favor.**

### **Correspondence**

Oct. 29 Timothy Deschamps, Assistant Superintendent, Central Mass. Mosquito Control Project – Additional information regarding the Project.

C. Blanchard asked if J. Malloy had received input from the Board of Health and Conservation Commission. Mr. Malloy said he had not, but that he would follow up.

Nov. 5 Ranette Larsen, International Institute of Municipal Clerks – Announcing that Lorraine Murawski, Town Clerk, has earned the designation of Certified Municipal Clerk.

Nov. 7 Alicia Matthews, Director, Dept. of Telecommunications and Energy – Regarding the rate hearing for Charter Communications.

**Resignation**

**MOTION: To accept the resignation of Scott Kemp as a reserve officer from the Sturbridge Police Department, by H. White.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: D. Sosik**

**Vote: All in favor.**

C. Blanchard suggested sending him a letter of appreciation.

**Website Usage**

J. Malloy contacted Virtual Town Hall to see whether he could place “counters” on the webpage, but found that they have a different and more sophisticated method of measuring use of the webpage that gives detailed information down to the type of browser used by people visiting the site. Mr. Malloy provided the Board with some statistics on use for the period between Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> and Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> (copy on file). Mr. Malloy will review the information on a monthly basis to see what pages people are viewing and information being downloaded and use this information to make changes and keep the website updated and useful.

**Fiskdale Village Tavern, Inc. – New Liquor License**

Bonita Porter and Attorney Philip Leader appeared before the Board. J. Malloy informed the Board that their application was complete.

**MOTION: To approve the new liquor license for the Fiskdale Village Tavern, Inc., by G. Dib.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: D. Sosik**

**Vote: All in favor.**

**Emergency Management Coordinator Position**

**MOTION: To confirm the Town Administrator’s appointment of Josef Rokus as the Emergency Management Coordinator with a stipend of \$2,079 per year, by D. Sosik.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: H. White**

**Vote: All in favor.**

**Special Town Meeting Warrant**

**Article #70** – Designates the G & F Industries property as an Economic Opportunity Area (EOA #6) and authorizes the Board of Selectmen to offer a Tax Increment Financing plan.

**MOTION:** To place Article #70 on the warrant and to recommend approval, by C. Blanchard.

2<sup>nd</sup>: H. White

**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #71** – Authorizes the submission of the Project Certification Application to the state for G & F Industries and explains the level of the local Tax Increment Financing Plan.

**MOTION:** To place Article #71 on the warrant and to recommend approval, by C. Blanchard.

2<sup>nd</sup>: H. White

**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #72** – Town Counsel Fees

**MOTION:** To place Article #72 on the warrant and to recommend approval, by C. Blanchard.

2<sup>nd</sup>: D. Sosik

**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #73** – Police Department Grant

**MOTION:** To place Article #73 on the warrant and to recommend approval, by H. White.

2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Blanchard

**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #74** – Landfill Salaries

**MOTION:** To place Article #74 on the warrant and to recommend approval, by H. White.

2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Blanchard

**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #75** – Acceptance of MGL Ch. 32B, Section 91

**MOTION:** To place Article #75 on the warrant, by C. Blanchard.  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** H. White  
**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #76 – Fire Engine Transmission**

**MOTION:** To place Article #76 on the warrant and to recommend approval, by C. Blanchard.  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** H. White  
**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #77 – Cedar Lake Bath House**

**MOTION:** To place Article #77 on the warrant, by H. White.  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** D. Sosik  
**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #78 – Casino Issue**

**MOTION:** To place Article #78 on the warrant and to recommend approval, by G. Dib.  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** D. Sosik  
**Vote:** Four in favor; H. White abstained.

**Article #79 – Town Accountant's Supply Costs**

**MOTION:** To place Article #79 on the warrant and to recommend approval, by H. White.  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** D. Sosik  
**Vote:** All in favor.

**Casino Issue**

J. Malloy submitted to the Board information from Perkins Coie, the law firm that represents North Stonington, CT. Mr. Malloy spoke with Dorothea Vitrac in New Braintree regarding the anti-jail campaign that they waged in that town. She indicated that it was a four-year campaign involving both the grass roots and the town. Mrs. Vitrac indicated that the grass roots group did fund raising, but that the town was also involved. She said that the town funded \$100,000 for the campaign 10 years ago, at a time when their total town budget was \$400,000. She warned against using lobbyists due to their "continued connection" with politicians and indicated that

lobbying on their own behalf was more effective. She served on their Board of Selectmen during this four-year period. She agreed to meet with Sturbridge's grass roots group to give them some ideas and lessons learned that may be useful here. It was the consensus of the Board that it would be a good idea to have Mrs. Vitrac come to Sturbridge to provide input.

G. Dib said that if the casino were to come to Sturbridge, it could mean having 25 buses/day, coming into town, 365 days/year for a total of 36,500 bus arrivals and departures per year with 428,875 people on those buses, which is more than the annual attendance at Old Sturbridge Village.

C. Blanchard noted that there may be more support in the legislature for casino gambling.

D. Sosik offered to help in the grass roots effort, and said that she was impressed with the information received from Perkins Coie.

**G.L. Food Services, Inc./Whistling Swan – Transfer of Liquor License – Common Victualler License**

Attorney Paul Sushchuk, George Lagaris and his son appeared before the Board. J. Malloy noted that their application was complete. Mr. Lagaris, of Nanuet, NY has had 25 years of experience in the restaurant business and plans to relocate to this area.

**MOTION: To approve the transfer of liquor license for G.L. Food Services, Inc./Whistling Swan, by G. Dib.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>: D. Sosik**  
**Vote: All in favor.**

**MOTION: To approve the Common Victualler license for G.L. Food Services, Inc./Whistling Swan, by H. White.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>: D. Sosik**  
**Vote: All in favor.**

The Board welcomed George Lagaris to the community.

**Old Business**

G. Dib gave the Board an update on the School Regionalization Committee. At their meeting last Wednesday, it was unanimous that they move forward. The Town of Holland asked that a member of the Finance

Committee be on the Committee. Brookfield was vocal in expressing concern over how the Committee was formed. The Committee has expanded its focus to include other issues. The Superintendent of Schools, Rosemary Joseph, will no longer be required to attend each meeting; the school principals could attend meetings in her place. The Committee reviewed records from every school district that did go to full regionalization. They agreed that their decision should not be based primarily upon financial issues, but on education of the children.

C. Blanchard asked whether Senator Brewer and Rep. Hillman have responded to J. Malloy's letters regarding the USDA grant. Mr. Malloy said that both have responded to his emails, and Rep. Hillman went into Boston with David Tuttle and discussed it with him. Senator Brewer will be happy to support the USDA grant.

### **New Business**

A.Wilson said that he and J. Malloy will meet with Rosemary Joseph on November 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

A.Wilson will meet with Charlene Cutler on November 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.

A. Wilson announced that there will be an MMA meeting on November 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **Ask the Selectmen**

H. White took a call from John Canavan, who asked J. Malloy to be specific about when residents on Farquhar Road could hook up to the sewer line. J. Malloy said that he will find out when Mass. Electric will be connecting; possibly by Wednesday. A.Wilson suggested that a notice be posted on the cable channel.

**MOTION: To close the warrant, by C. Blanchard.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: G. Dib**

**Vote: All in favor.**

**MOTION: To adjourn, by G. Dib.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: H. White**

**Vote: All in favor.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

November 19, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knowles

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BOS Clerk

Date