

February 19, 2002

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 19, 2002**

Present: Hal White
Charles Blanchard
Doris Sosik
James Malloy, Town Administrator

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

Approval of Minutes

**MOTION: To approve the minutes of February 11, 2002 as amended,
by D. Sosik.
2nd: C. Blanchard
Vote: All in favor.**

Shriners Fundraiser

Peter Sudyka of the Shriners appeared before the Board. They propose to hold a fundraising carnival in the Wal-Mart parking lot from March 6th through March 12th, Wednesday through Friday: 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.; Saturday: 1:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.; Sunday: 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. The Shriners support 22 hospitals, burn centers and orthopedic centers, the services of which are free to children up to age 18.

H. White suggested that they consult the Board of Health regarding the use of Sani-Cans at the site. D. Sosik asked about the noise level of the carnival. P. Sudyka said that the generators with diesel engines would create some noise, but he did not think that the music would be very loud, and if it became a problem, the carnival employees would turn it down.

C. Blanchard suggested that P. Sudyka consult the Fire Chief, Police Chief and Board of Health for their recommendations. H. White suggested that the information be provided to the Board in writing, and requested a copy of their license. He also suggested that Chief Button contact Chief Cammerata in Westfield to find out if there were any issues. The Board agreed to review the matter again in two weeks.

Hearthstone Inn and Restaurant – Alter Premises on Liquor License

Joseph Faucher of the Hearthstone Inn appeared before the Board. They proposed to expand their serving area to the first floor in the adjacent building to be used for business meetings and functions.

C. Blanchard requested a sketch of the floor plan of the areas that will be included.

MOTION: To close the public hearing, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To grant the extension of the liquor license to include the area described by Joseph Faucher, in the building adjacent to the Hearthstone Inn, subject to receiving a sketch, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

Rosemary Joseph, Superintendent of Schools – Burgess Funding Request

Rosemary Joseph appeared before the Board. She submitted a Burgess Elementary FY02 Budget Analysis (copy on file), indicating a net budgetary shortfall for FY02 of \$66,825, the majority of which comes from salary issues and utility costs. She said that for the past two years, with late filing there is a mechanism in place that if additional funds are received for education they could be expended with a School Committee and Finance Committee vote.

J. Malloy suggested that the Board not vote on it yet, since there were only three members present, and Doris Sosik is a teacher, so she would have to abstain from the vote. Mr. Malloy also questioned whether this was possible since the Town had set the FY02 tax rate. He is waiting to hear from Jim Johnson at the Dept. of Revenue for a final answer. If it is not possible, Mr. Malloy suggested considering a Special Town Meeting article. The Board will vote on it on March 4th.

Updated Budget

J. Malloy submitted to the Board a revised budget with all of the votes. The Betterment Committee recommended that the \$4,000 request to fund the town's Website be funded through the Town Administrator's budget. C. Blanchard said that when the Board had discussed the Website, the

concept was to use betterment funds, and recommended that the Betterment Committee reconsider it. H. White said that G. Dib had made a point of saying that the Board needs to send a message by cutting costs.

MOTION: To add \$4,000 to the Town Administrator's Purchase of Services account #11232-52000 to fund the Town's Website, by D. Sosik.

2nd: C. Blanchard

Vote: All opposed.

The Board asked J. Malloy to hold another Betterment Committee meeting to reconsider.

MOTION: To approve the Highway Department salary figure at \$366,374, by D. Sosik.

2nd: C. Blanchard

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To approve the Public Accommodations Inspector figure at \$9,168, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To approve the Council on Aging Salaries/Wages figure at \$11,772, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

Dumas Property

J. Malloy submitted to the Board the Notice of Intention to sell the property at 138 McGilpin Road and a letter from Nancy Ryder on behalf of the Open Space Committee and Pat Barnicle on behalf of the Community Preservation Committee. Both committees asked the Board of Selectmen to utilize the 120-day statutory timeframe to consider this request and ascertain whether a consortium of local, state and private parties might be able to acquire this parcel prior to the parcel being developed.

C. Blanchard suggested finding out how much of the land will be donated as open space, and to find help through other conservation-minded entities to acquire the land. Grace Riel of Coldwell Banker said that the owner will donate 40 – 50 acres. C. Blanchard asked if the Town can exercise its rights under MGL Ch. 61 if it does not take the whole parcel. Marge

Cooney submitted copies of Mass. General Law which addresses the Board's questions. She said that the property must be conveyed intact, under full acreage in order to recoup some of the purchase price.

MOTION: To authorize the Town Administrator to work with the Open Space Committee and Community Preservation Committee to investigate the possibility of a coalition to purchase the Dumas property, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: H. White

Vote: Two in favor; D. Sosik abstained.

One-Day Liquor License for St. Anne's

St. Anne's Parish requested a one-day wine and malt license for their St. Patrick's Day dinner dance to be held on March 15th.

MOTION: To grant a one-day wine and malt liquor license for St. Anne's Church for Friday, March 15, 2002 from 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. at the Parish Center, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

Appointments

The Board received two applications and a recommendation from the Fire Chief to appoint Nicholas DaDalt and Matthew Kelly as Call EMTs in the Sturbridge Fire Department. C. Blanchard expressed concern about adding two people who are strictly EMTs, noting that one of them is a full-time college student, which raises a question about level of service. The Board decided to hold on voting until the next meeting.

Other Issues

The Board received a request from the Coalition for the Environmental Bond seeking support for section 2F of H.4213, An Act Providing for Capital Facility Improvements and Repairs for the Commonwealth. J. Malloy will forward the request to the legislators.

There were two requests for consideration regarding the Phase III connection fee. It was the consensus of the Board to explain to Paul Richardson that he is not eligible for the \$200 connection fee, since it only applies to single family residences, not to apartment buildings. It was the consensus of the Board to grant Richard Garon the \$200 connection fee,

since he lives on Blueberry Lane, and missed the deadline by a few weeks, and there had been a problem with the pump station.

Annual Town Meeting Warrant

MOTION: To place Article #1 Town Reports on the warrant and recommend support, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To place Article #2 Utilization of Free Cash on the warrant and recommend support, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To place Article #3 Town Budget on the warrant and recommend support, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To place Article #4 Elected Officials' Salaries on the warrant and recommend support, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To place Article #5 Water and Sewer Contract Operations on the warrant, with no recommendation at this time, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To place Article #6 Water Department and Article #7 Sewer Department on the warrant, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To place Article #14 General Bylaw Amendment – Scenic Roads on the warrant and recommend approval, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To place Article #15 General Bylaw Amendment –
Temporary Uses on the warrant and recommend
approval, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To not place Article #17 General Bylaw Amendment –
Zoning Amendments on the warrant, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To not place Article #18 General Bylaw Amendment –
Animal Waste Disposal on the warrant, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To place Article #19 Sewer Bylaw Amendment on the
warrant and recommend approval, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To place Article #20 Tantasqua Regional Agreement on
the warrant and recommend no action, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To place Article #21 Recreation Revolving Fund on the
warrant and recommend support, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To place Article #22 Ambulance Revolving Fund on the
warrant and recommend approval, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To place Article #23 Hazmat Cleanup Revolving Fund on
the warrant and recommend approval, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To place Article #24 Library Revolving Fund on the
warrant and recommend approval, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik
Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To place Article #26 Sturbridge Area Tourist Association on the warrant and recommend approval, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik
Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To place Article #28 Capital Improvement Plan on the warrant and recommend approval for \$129,156, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik
Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To place Article #29 Central Mass. Mosquito Control Project on the warrant and recommend approval, by C. Blanchard.

2nd: D. Sosik
Vote: All in favor.

The Board proposed to issue debt for purchase of a Fire Truck and Street Sweeper.

MOTION: To close the Annual Town Meeting Warrant, by D. Sosik.

2nd: C. Blanchard
Vote: All in favor.

Old Business

D. Sosik thanked the Conservation Commission and Open Space Committee for all of the work that they did on the Self-Help Grant for the purchase of the Ballard property.

New Business

J. Malloy congratulated the Board of Health for receiving an award for having the best municipal hazardous waste management program in the state.

Ask the Selectmen

There were no calls.

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MOTION: To adjourn, by C. Blanchard
2nd: D. Sosik
Vote: All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knowles

BOS Clerk Date