

July 15, 2002

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES  
JULY 15, 2002**

Present:     Arnold Wilson, Chairman  
              Charles Blanchard  
              George Dib  
              Hal White  
              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 July 1, 2002 as amended, by D. Sosik.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>:     H. White**

**Vote: Four in favor; G. Dib abstained.**

**MOTION:     To approve the executive session minutes of July 1, 2002 and release them to the public, by C. Blanchard.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>:     H. White**

**Vote: Four in favor; D. Sosik abstained.**

**Quarterly Reports**

Jean Joel, Town Accountant, informed the Board that they have been busy with the year-end bills. She has completed Fixed Asset training to assist with the requirements of GASB 34. This fall, conversion of utility billing and tax title will take place. She received a list from departments indicating what they have for equipment. She and Barbara Barry are working on a Financial Procedures manual to be used by all departments, which will inform everyone as to what must be done and when to submit bills. D. Sosik commended J. Joel for doing a good job.

B. Barry said that the final project cost for the Phase III sewer betterment is \$4,169,000. Based on the total number of ERUs (379.5), the total cost per ERU is \$10,985.51. The interest rate for those who choose to apportion their betterment will be 6.50%. Bills will be mailed to property owners in August, giving them the opportunity to either pay the betterment in full or to apportion it over a period of years. The first year's apportionment will appear on the real estate bills in the fall.

**MOTION: To approve the order as written (copy on file) and corrected (to include Stoney Brook Drive, Ridge Hill Rd., Simpson St., Wallace Rd., Wedgewood Rd. and Willaims Road) to establish betterment assessments for Phase III, by C. Blanchard.**

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

**Vote: All in favor.**

B. Barry informed the Board that J. Malloy will review fee schedules for the Town. She said that the Town does not charge a demand charge for delinquent water/sewer bills, and suggested that a \$5 charge be used in the future.

A. Wilson suggested that B. Barry write a memo to J. Malloy about it.

B. Barry said that all of the forms will be updated and will be available on disk. She said that J. Joel will go to procurement training in October. There will be in-house training sessions in 2003.

**Yankee Spirits – Transfer of Stock, Pledge of License and Pledge of Stock on Liquor License**

Attorney Brian Fitzgerald, Michael Cimini and Philip Zambrello appeared before the Board. J. Malloy informed the Board that the application was complete.

**MOTION: To approve the transfer of stock as requested in the application dated July 12, 2002, by C. Blanchard.**

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

**Vote: All in favor.**

**MOTION: To approve the transfer of stock, pledge of license and pledge of stock as submitted in the application dated July 12, 2002, by C. Blanchard.**

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

**Vote: All in favor.**

**MOTION: To close the public hearing, by G. Dib.**

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

**Vote: All in favor.**

**Evelix Development Corp. – New Liquor License for the Sturbridge Bistro**

Michael Swistak and Mark Zulkiewicz appeared before the Board. They purchased the Sturbridge Bistro and applied for a full liquor license. There will be no change in the business, and it will reopen as the Sturbridge Bistro. J. Malloy informed the Board that the old liquor license was surrendered. C. Blanchard asked if they would consider having reduced hours on the license, to limit the hours of operation until 11:00 p.m. since there are so many liquor licenses in

town, and they indicated that it would be run as a restaurant, not as a bar. They said that the 11:00 p.m. closing time was acceptable to them.

Dean Stickney, abutter, said that he had no objections to the business. He noted that trailer trucks use the parking lot overnight, and requested that the entrance and exit be altered to alleviate the situation.

**MOTION:** To grant the all alcohol restaurant liquor license to Evelix Development Corp., d/b/a Sturbridge Bistro, and to limit the hours of serving alcohol to 11:00 p.m., by C. Blanchard.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

#### **Senior Municipal Service Program**

**MOTION:** To approve Jerry Suprenant's participation in the Senior Municipal Service Program to do landscaping and grounds work at the Senior Center, by D. Sosik.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

#### **Police Officer Appointments**

**MOTION:** To confirm the appointment of Timothy McGuigan as a Police Officer in the Sturbridge Police Department at a starting rate of \$15.72 per hour, effective 7/16/02, by G. Dib.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

**MOTION:** To confirm the appointment of Michael Blanchard as a Police Officer in the Sturbridge Police Department at a starting rate of \$15.72 per hour, effective 7/16/02, by G. Dib.

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

**Vote:** Four in favor; C. Blanchard abstained.

#### **Part-Time Dispatcher Appointments**

**MOTION:** To confirm the Town Administrator's appointment of Melissa Palmer as a part-time dispatcher at a starting rate of \$11.53 per hour, effective 7/16/02, by G. Dib.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

**MOTION:** To confirm the Town Administrator's appointment of Sean Comerford as a part-time dispatcher at a starting rate of \$11.53 per hour, effective 7/16/02, by G. Dib.

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**2<sup>nd</sup>: H. White**  
**Vote: All in favor.**

### **Phase II Stormwater Regulations**

Sturbridge has been identified as an urban area by the U.S. Census Bureau, which then requires the Town to comply with the Phase II Stormwater Regulations within a very tight timeframe. J. Malloy and G. Morse expressed concerns regarding this issue, due to the cost and short timeframe for compliance and technical assistance that will be needed. Mr. Malloy will work on this over the next few weeks and will update the Board at the August 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. H. White said that he had read an article in the newspaper about Spencer, and suggested that Sturbridge band together with other urban area towns.

### **Selectmen's Meeting on 7/23/02**

**MOTION: To set a Board of Selectmen meeting at 6:30 p.m. on July 23, 2002 at Burgess Elementary School, by C. Blanchard.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>: H. White**  
**Vote: All in favor.**

### **Executive Session Minutes**

**MOTION: To release the executive session minutes of April 16, 2002 and July 1, 2002, by C. Blanchard.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>: G. Dib**  
**Vote: Four in favor; D. Sosik abstained.**

**MOTION: To release the executive session minutes relating to the Dumas property only, with other items to remain confidential, by C. Blanchard.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>: H. White**  
**Vote: Four in favor; D. Sosik abstained.**

**MOTION: To set a public hearing for input regarding the right of first refusal on August 5, 2002, by G. Dib.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>: H. White**  
**Vote: Four in favor; D. Sosik abstained.**

### **Correspondence**

**MOTION: To appoint Doris Sosik as an alternate to the CMRPC for FY03, by C. Blanchard.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>: G. Dib**  
**Vote: Four in favor; D. Sosik abstained.**

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Regarding the MMA Action Alert, it was the consensus of the Board to ask legislators to protect the lottery and pass a Chapter 90 Bond Bill.

### **Old Business**

G. Dib received a letter from Diane Meunier, Secretary of the Sturbridge Lions Club, indicating that they have decided not to take back the Lions Community Center when the School Department vacates the building. They would like to have their shed remain there for their use, or relocated somewhere that is easily accessible. G. Dib suggested that the Building Re-use Committee meet again to discuss the matter.

G. Dib noticed a sign on Rt. 20 that indicated a yard sale at Rom's, at the former Bramble House building. J. Malloy said that he would contact the property owner.

D. Sosik said that she was happy to see the new crosswalk at the Blackington Building.

### **New Business**

G. Dib said that the Patriotic Celebration on July 5<sup>th</sup> in Southbridge was a great success, with an estimated crowd of 12,000 in attendance.

A. Wilson said that the Board received a request from the Community Preservation Committee to utilize \$75,000 of the Lucent gift account to help to purchase the Dumas property. C. Blanchard expressed concern about earmarking the funds before Special Town Meeting, and felt that it would be premature to make this decision. He suggested waiting until after the Town Meeting vote before taking any action. G. Dib agreed.

### **Ask the Selectmen**

C. Blanchard received a call from an individual who identified himself, but who wished to remain anonymous, regarding the vote to hold a public hearing on the Dumas property. C. Blanchard informed him that there is no agreement in effect, and the public documents have been released. The public hearing has been set for August 5<sup>th</sup>, which will be a good opportunity for the residents to ask questions and offer their input on the matter. The Community Preservation Committee will meet on July 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the issue, and the meeting will be televised.

H. White announced the Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at Burgess Elementary School.

G. Dib suggested that the Board adopt a summer schedule.

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**MOTION: To adopt a summer schedule, that there will be no work session on August 12<sup>th</sup>, by G. Dib.**

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

C. Blanchard recommended waiting until the week before the work session before decided not to meet, in case some issues come up. G. Dib rescinded his motion; D. Sosik rescinded her second.

**MOTION: To adjourn, by H. White**

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

**Vote: All in favor.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knowles

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BOS Clerk

Date