

March 3, 2003

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES  
MARCH 3, 2003**

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

Vice-Chairman Charles Blanchard called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. following the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Andre Cormier – Sewer Connection on Cedar St./Westwood Drive**

Andre Cormier appeared before the Board. He said that there had been a difference of opinion between the Board of Health and DPW regarding a 20 acre piece of property with full required frontage on Westwood Drive and some frontage on Cedar Street, as to whether he could tie into the sewer system. The Board of Health said that he could, but Greg Morse was not sure and suggested that Mr. Cormier consult the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Cormier submitted a sketch for the Board's review. C. Blanchard asked whether it would use gravity or a grinder pump. J. Malloy noted that there is a low pressure system. It was the consensus of the Board to hold action on the matter in order to do some research.

**Police Officer Appointment**

**MOTION:   To confirm the Town Administrator's appointment of  
              Ronald Obuchowski as a full-time Police Officer effective  
              March 6, 2003 at a starting rate of \$17.17 per hour, by H.  
              White.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>:   D. Sosik**

**Vote: All in favor.**

**Well #2 Modifications**

J. Malloy met with Tighe & Bond, Layne Christensen Company and Greg Morse regarding the failed pump at Well #2. The manufacturer is going to replace the pump under warranty, but through these discussions the benefits of having a variable speed pump at this well were discussed, and recommended by Tighe & Bond. Mr. Malloy and G. Morse suggested

March 3, 2003

moving forward with the project as recommended by Tighe & Bond and refurbish the old well for \$3,300. With the \$12,000 appropriated at the December 17, 2002 Special Town Meeting and the remaining funds in the project appropriation, there is sufficient funding to move forward on this project.

**MOTION:** To approve the modifications as outlined in the February 21, 2003 letter from Omer Dumais at Tighe & Bond and authorize the Town Administrator to execute any change orders or contracts to effect this upgrade, by D. Sosik.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

#### **Sturbridge Bistro – Live Entertainment License**

**MOTION:** To approve the Live Entertainment License for the Sturbridge Bistro for the hours of 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., by D. Sosik.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

#### **IOD Claim – Robert Wright**

**MOTION:** To approve the Injured On Duty claim of Robert Wright and authorize the payment of hospital bills, by H. White.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

#### **Sturbridge Host Hotel – Change of Manager on Liquor License**

John Reardon, the new General Manager, appeared before the Board. Tom Plunkett left the position late in 2002.

**MOTION:** To approve the Change of Manager application as submitted by Sturbridge Associates Limited Partnership, d/b/a Sturbridge Host Hotel and Conference Center, by H. White.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

H. White noted that there have been problems with the noise level of live entertainment at the Host. J. Reardon assured the Board that they are

addressing the decibel level problem. A sound engineer has been consulted to discuss the possibility of installing a baffle wall.

### **Annual Town Meeting**

J. Malloy submitted to the Board a draft of the Town Meeting warrant.

#### **Article #1 – Town Reports**

**MOTION:** To place Article #1 on the warrant and support it, by G. Dib.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

#### **Article #2 – Utilization of Free Cash**

**MOTION:** To place and support Article #2, by G. Dib.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

#### **Article #3 – Town Budget**

**MOTION:** To place and support Article #3, by G. Dib.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

#### **Article #4 – Elected Officials' Salaries**

**MOTION:** To place and support Article #4, by G. Dib.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

#### **Article #5 – Water Department**

**MOTION:** To place and support Article #5, by G. Dib.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

#### **Article #6 – Sewer Department**

**MOTION:** To place and support Article #6, by G. Dib.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

#### **Article #7 – Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Non-Conforming Uses**

**MOTION:** To place Article #7 on the warrant, by G. Dib.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #8 – Zoning District Amendment – Suburban Residential to Commercial**

**MOTION:** To place Article #8 on the warrant, by G. Dib.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

A.Wilson arrived at 7:07 p.m.

**Article #9 – Big Alum Sewer Project**

**MOTION:** To place and support Article #9, by G. Dib.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #10 – Tri-Annual Revaluation**

**MOTION:** To place and support Article #10, by G. Dib.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #11 – Town Hall and Center School Renovation**

It was the consensus of the Board that in view of the present economy, this article should be removed from the warrant and be reconsidered next year.

**Article #12 – Community Preservation Report**

**MOTION:** To place Article #12 on the warrant, by H. White.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #13 – Community Preservation – Acquisition of Open Space**

**MOTION:** To place Article #13 on the warrant, by D. Sosik

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #14 – Community Preservation – Historic Preservation**

**MOTION:** To place Article #14 on the warrant, by D. Sosik

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #15 – Recreation Revolving Fund**

**MOTION:** To place and support Article #15, by G. Dib.

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

**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #16 – Ambulance Revolving Fund**

**MOTION:** To place and support Article #16, by D. Sosik.  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** H. White  
**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #17 – Hazmat Cleanup Revolving Fund**

**MOTION:** To place and support Article #17, by D. Sosik.  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** H. White  
**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #18 – Library Revolving Fund**

**MOTION:** To place and support Article #18, by D. Sosik.  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** H. White  
**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #19 – Senior Center Revolving Fund**

**MOTION:** To place and support Article #19, by D. Sosik.  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** H. White  
**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #20 – Sturbridge Area Tourist Association**

**MOTION:** To place and support Article #20, by D. Sosik.  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** A. Wilson  
**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #21 – Betterment Committee**

**MOTION:** To place and support Article #21, by D. Sosik.  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** H. White  
**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #22 – Capital Improvement Plan**

**MOTION:** To place Article #22 on the warrant, by H. White  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** D. Sosik  
**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #23 – Economic Opportunity Area Designation – ALSCO Industries, Inc.**

**Article #24 – Economic Area Project Certification – ALSCO Industries, Inc.**

**MOTION:** To place and support Articles #23 and #24, by H. White.  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** D. Sosik  
**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #25 – Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements**

**MOTION:** To place and support Article #25, by D. Sosik.  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** H. White  
**Vote:** All in favor.

**Article #26 – Digitized Tax Maps**

**MOTION:** To place and support Article #26, by D. Sosik.  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** H. White  
**Vote:** All in favor.

J. Malloy informed the Board that he had received a request from Ed Galonek, Jr. dated February 27, 2003 to re-zone the back portion of his property, The Boardwalk Plaza, from Suburban Residential to Commercial. As it stands, if Mr. Galonek prohibits the customers and employees of the Whistling Swan from parking in his lot, the Whistling Swan will not have adequate parking and their customers will park everywhere, such as the Cigar Shop, Cumberland Farms, Subway and the VFW parking lot, creating problems in the area. Mr. Malloy noted that the Planning Board has not reviewed the matter.

**MOTION:** To place an article on the warrant regarding changing the back portion of this land to commercial zoning as requested by Ed Galonek, to allow additional parking in this area, by D. Sosik.  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** G. Dib  
**Vote:** All in favor.

H. White said to be sure that the abutters are notified, and do not oppose this action.

**Burgess Fire Alarm**

**MOTION:** To place an article on the Special Town Meeting warrant for development of specifications for a school-wide fire alarm system for Burgess, not to exceed \$15,775, by H. White.  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** G. Dib  
**Vote:** All in favor.

**MOTION:** To place an article on the Annual Town Meeting warrant to transfer from available funds a sum of money not to exceed \$100,000 to furnish and install a fire alarm system at Burgess Elementary School, by D. Sosik.  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** G. Dib

**Vote: All in favor.**

**MOTION: To close the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting, by  
A.Wilson.**

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

**Vote: All in favor.**

### **Update on Stormwater Management Compliance**

Tighe & Bond has completed the permit application and Suzanne Pisano has mailed it. It will be sent to the EPA on Monday.

### **Old Business**

G. Dib announced that the July Patriotic Celebration Committee will meet on Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m., but he will be unable to attend. J. Malloy said that he would try to attend.

G. Dib asked about the status of the recommendations of the Traffic Safety Committee regarding parking around Town Hall, the Library and the Federated Church. J. Malloy said that all homeowners in the neighborhood have been notified, and Town Hall employees have been instructed to use the back parking lot. He noted that over the past few days, the parking lot behind Town Hall has been empty, and some people have commented that they thought the Town Hall was closed.

H. White asked when Route 131 would be paved. The final engineering has not been completed. J. Malloy said that it is scheduled to be paved in 2004.

A.Wilson asked about the fire truck and sweeper that were put on hold. J. Malloy said that it was postponed until 2005, in view of the state aid budget cuts.

D. Sosik said that the problem on cars going past the gate at Burgess School Road has become worse. A tree has been broken, a shrub that abuts the building and a memorial garden have been run over because of concealment by snow. J. Malloy said that he would discuss the matter with G. Morse and Rosemary Joseph.

C. Blanchard asked about the issuance of landfill stickers by the Town Clerk. A. Wilson said that he would discuss it with her.

March 3, 2003

### **New Business**

D. Sosik had spoken to a tourist who was upset about having been given a ticket for making a left turn at Old Sturbridge Village. The sign in the island has an arrow that looks like it is going straight. J. Malloy said that the sign faces Route 20 at an angle. A. Wilson suggested notifying the Chamber of Commerce.

C. Blanchard announced that the Burgess budget hearing will be held on Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the North Cafeteria.

C. Blanchard announced that the Republican Caucus will be held on Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at Sturbridge Town Hall.

C. Blanchard announced that the Democratic Caucus will be held on Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at Sturbridge Town Hall.

### **Ask the Selectmen**

There were no calls.

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

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

**Vote: All in favor.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knowles

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BOS Clerk

Date