

September 20, 2004

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2004**

Present: Arnold Wilson, Chairman  
Charles Blanchard  
Doris Sosik  
Hal White  
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 September 7, 2004 as submitted, by Charles Blanchard.**

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

**Vote: Three in favor; A. Wilson abstained.**

**MOTION: To vote to approve and to sign the letter to Paul Gillen, TRSD School Committee, Carol Curtin, Union 61 School Committee and the Tantasqua and Union 61 School Districts indicating the Board's recommendation to decline to extend Kathleen Reynolds' contract, drafted and dated September 20, 2004 by C. Blanchard.**

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

**Vote: All in favor.**

**MOTION: To recess tonight's meeting at approximately 7:00 p.m. to allow the Board to attend tonight's meeting of the Tantasqua Regional School Committee's meeting regarding the extension of the Superintendent's contract, by C. Blanchard.**

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

**Vote: All in favor.**

At approximately 6:50 p.m. the Board left Town Hall to attend the Tantasqua meeting.

**Tantasqua Crosswalk/Signage**

**MOTION: To approve the plans entitled "Plan – Proposed Crosswalk Locations" dated August 18, 2004 and authorize the Tantasqua Regional School District to have the signs and crosswalks installed as per the plans, by C. Blanchard.**

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

**Vote: All in favor.**

At 9:25 p.m. the Board returned from the first Tantasqua School Committee meeting and met in open session.

A.Wilson announced that Union 61 School Committee voted 8 to 7 to extend the Superintendent's contract. The Tantasqua Regional School Committee will meet Tuesday, September 21<sup>st</sup> to vote on the same matter. The Board of Selectmen will take action to reconvene on Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> to attend the meeting at Tantasqua.

### **Traffic Safety Committee**

**MOTION: That the Board approve placement of "Thickly Settled" signs on Willard Road, and ask the Safety Committee to review it after six months, by C. Blanchard.**

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

**Vote: All in favor.**

Lake Road – Posting of speed limits – Any person with the written consent of a property owner abutting a private way may petition the Board of Selectmen to set a speed limit on a private way (MGL Ch. 90 Paragraph 16). The Board of Selectmen may set a speed limit on a private way without the approval of Mass. Highway. J. Malloy will investigate if other private ways have posted speed limits.

The Traffic Safety Committee did not see the need to move street lights on Wallace Road.

The recommendation on the Blackington Building will require additional research. If the parking area was illegal, it would have been removed in 1992-93 when Mass. Highway reconstructed Rt. 20 in the Fiskdale area.

The boulder in the entranceway to the parking area behind the Seraph has not been moved. J. Malloy will send the property owner a follow up letter.

### **MEMA Grant**

**MOTION: To authorize the Town Administrator to execute the grant contract between the Town of Sturbridge and the Commonwealth for \$2,200 and to serve as the contract manager and authorized signatory, by D. Sosik.**

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

**Vote: All in favor.**

### **Request to Discontinue Bushnell and Walker Roads**

J. Malloy submitted to the Board a request from Rep. Reed Hillman to discontinue portions of Bushnell and Walker Road, and his response to Rep. Hillman. The Division of Conservation Resources sent a letter indicating that they had no objection to a discontinuance. Mr. Malloy suggested holding a public hearing, then if the Board chose to move it forward, to place a question on the next Special Town Meeting or the Annual Town Meeting in April 2005. It was the consensus of the Board to hold a public hearing and move forward.

### **Correspondence**

**MOTION: To approve the drawdown on Big Alum Lake on October 15<sup>th</sup>, by C. Blanchard.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>: H. White**  
**Vote: All in favor.**

### **Old Business**

H. White asked about the FAX from Kurt Nelson of Tighe & Bond regarding the review status of the reports submitted to DEP by Sugrue & Associates for the 51 Holland Road parcel, and the recommendation that the Town send a letter to DEP to request that the site be audited.

**MOTION: To authorize the Town Administrator to draft the requested letter, by H. White.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Blanchard**  
**Vote: All in favor.**

A. Wilson noted that Mobil Oil has asked the Town to do testing for leakage at 51 Holland Road, and he suggested sending that information to DEP. C. Blanchard suggested that it be sent under a separate letter.

A. Wilson requested input from the Board regarding the goals and objectives for the Town Administrator.

A. Wilson provided the Board with an update on the meetings that he and J. Malloy had with the Superintendent of Schools, Kathleen Reynolds. He said that the first meeting was held on June 17<sup>th</sup>, and the Chairman of the School Committee was also present. The goal was to establish a separate and distinct relationship built upon mutual respect and trust, and each person present was to write down what each party should work on to accomplish that goal. The second meeting was held on August 10<sup>th</sup>, at which time they reviewed the list.

### **New Business**

**MOTION: To approve the Chapter 90 request forms as presented for \$153,000 for repavement of Shepard Road, by H. White.**

September 20, 2004

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

**Vote: All in favor.**

**MOTION: To recess the regular Board of Selectmen meeting to 7:00 tomorrow to attend the second session of the Tantasqua School Committee, by C. Blanchard.**

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

**Vote: All in favor.**

**MOTION: To convene in executive session under MGL Ch. 39, §23B, Paragraph #3: To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation; and #6: To consider the purchase, exchange, taking, lease or value of real property, not to reconvene in open session, by D. Sosik.**

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

**Roll call vote: All were in favor.**

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knowles

---

BOS Clerk

Date