

May 2, 2005

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
MAY 2, 2005**

Present: Arnold Wilson, Chairman
 Hal White
 Doris Sosik
 David Schmida
 William Emrich
 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 April 25, 2005 as amended, by H. White.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of April 19, 2005 as amended, by H. White.

2nd: D. Schmida

Vote: Four in favor; D. Sosik abstained.

Department Head Quarterly Report – Barbara Search

Barbara Search read her report to the Board (copy on file). D. Sosik asked whether there was state funding to help with remodeling of the Senior Center. B. Search said that there was. She noted that the town of Wales had installed a modular building, which cut costs considerably.

Department Head Monthly Reports

Fire Chief Leonard Senecal read his report to the Board (copy on file). He said that John Marinelli, Matt Roderick and Gordon Holstrom attended an intensive officer training course.

Chief Senecal informed the Board that he has received good positive feedback from the firefighters regarding the new Ambulance #1.

Chief Senecal has applied for the Federal Homeland Security Grant for an Opticom system to run traffic lights in town. With this system, police officers will be able to control the traffic lights from their police vehicles. The system costs \$122,000, and the Town has to pay 10% of that cost. J. Malloy said that the

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Town's share could be paid from the Matching Grant funds line item. Chief Senecal said that devices are being sold on the black market for people to use to control street lights, but they will not be effective with the Opticom system.

Chief Senecal noted that firefighter Nicholas DaDalt will be awarded the Lifesaving Award by the Commonwealth of Mass. Dept. of State Police for his assistance to the state police in resuscitating an elderly man on December 24, 2004. The elderly man survived his heart attack as a result of Nicholas DaDalt's efforts. The date has not yet been set for the award ceremony. H. White suggested sending congratulatory letters to Nicholas DaDalt, Sean Lewis, Robert Wright and Matthew Roderick.

Paul Donahue read his report to the Board (copy on file). He said that the sampling and testing has been completed, and the Wastewater Treatment Plant is in 100% compliance. Three grinder pumps have been replaced, and six others repaired.

USDA Well #4 Grant/Loan

J. Malloy informed the Board that David Tuttle, State Director for the USDA Rural Development Program has announced that Sturbridge has been awarded a \$630,000 grant and \$2,178,500 low interest loan through the same program as the Big Alum Sewer Project. He requested that the Board vote to authorize the acceptance of the grant/loan.

MOTION: To approve the resolution as stated in the loan resolution (copy on file) from the USDA RD Program for the development of Well #4, by H. White.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To authorize the Town Administrator to execute any and all documents necessary for the grant and loan as required by the USDA RD Program for the development of Well #4, by H. White.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

Peace Officers' Memorial Day

MOTION: To recognize May 15th as Peace Officers' Memorial Day as stated in the resolution (copy on file), and to authorize A.Wilson to sign the proclamation, by H. White.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

Antique Sales License

MOTION: To approve the Antique Sales Licenses for Showcase Antique Center and Showcase Auctioneers and Appraisers, by D. Sosik.

2nd: D. Schmida

Vote: All in favor.

**Meserole Restaurant Group, Inc. d/b/a Bin 479 Wine Bar & Restaurant –
New Liquor License and Common Victualler License**

David Meserole appeared before the Board. J. Malloy read the public hearing notice into the record (copy on file). The application was complete.

MOTION: To approve the new restaurant, all alcohol liquor license for Meserole Restaurant Group, Inc. d/b/a Bin 479 Wine Bar and Restaurant, by H. White.

2nd: D. Schmida

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To approve the Common Victualler license for Meserole Restaurant Group, Inc. d/b/a Bin 479 Wine Bar and Restaurant, by H. White.

2nd: D. Schmida

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To close the public hearing, by H. White.

2nd: D. Schmida

Vote: All in favor.

Tighe and Bond -- Well #4 Options

David Healy, President of Tighe and Bond and Omer Dumais, P.E. appeared before the Board. O. Dumais presented recommendations (copy on file), including to proceed with the development of Well #4 and to plan for summer season treatment of Well #1. J. Malloy noted that the Board needs to make a decision soon in order to move ahead on the PWED Grant and to give direction to Tighe and Bond, and he requested a written recommendation from Greg Morse and Paul Donahue. He will meet with Katie Murphy of Mass. Highway Dept. on May 6th.

Bill Gour asked whether additional personnel would be required. O. Dumais said that he was unable to predict whether that would be necessary, since they are looking at it from a conceptual viewpoint at this time.

P. Donahue asked about the status of Well #1. O. Dumais said that they are recommending a central treatment option. J. Malloy said that they are working toward re-use with a seasonal granular activated charcoal system, with the least impact on rate payers as possible.

Marcel Casavant – Logging Permit

Marcel Casavant appeared before the Board. J. Malloy read the public hearing notice into the record (copy on file). The application was for property on Kelly Road owned by Gary Galonek.

MOTION: To approve the forestry application from Marcel Casavant as submitted, subject to the conditions outlined in the 3/28/05 memo from Greg Morse, DPW Director and the 4/14/05 memo from Kelly Doyle, Conservation Agent, by H. White.

2nd: D. Schmida

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To close the public hearing, by H. White.

2nd: D. Schmida

Vote: All in favor.

Kelly Road Sewer Privilege Fee

Mary Berry of the Sturbridge Retirement Co-op and Attorney Michael Morrill appeared before the Board. M. Berry requested that their sewer privilege fee be calculated according to water usage. J. Malloy had submitted to the Board Town Counsel's opinion (copy on file) which indicated that section of the bylaw about capacity, not sewer privilege fee. M. Morrill disagreed with Town Counsel's opinion, and said that they would file a petition to ask the Superior Court for an interpretation of the two sections of bylaw. He noted that it does not address the proposed expansion, only the existing units. M. Morrill requested a colloquy with Town Counsel; J. Malloy said that he would look into it. It was the consensus of the Board to take the matter under advisement.

Public Safety Complex HVAC & Roof

At the December Special Town Meeting, the Town voted to have a review done of the HVAC system and roof at the Public Safety Complex. J. Malloy submitted to the Board a copy of the report prepared by Reinhardt Associates (copy on file) which explains the work that needs to be undertaken on the HVAC system and replacement of the roof. The total estimated cost is approximately \$255,000. J. Malloy recommended that the Board hold the report and plan on placing a question before voters at the next Special Town Meeting to fund the repairs.

Miscellaneous

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Virginia Belforte had been invited to meet with the Board. A.Wilson said that the Board had rescinded all of the appointments because the deadline as published in the newspaper was April 29, 2005. A.Wilson said that the results of the Dialogue for the Future Strategic Plan indicate that Design Review's sign and design bylaws should be strengthened. He noted that back in 1999 V. Belforte had been opposed to it. V. Belforte said that at that time the Design Review Committee did not take a formal vote, but it was their consensus to oppose it because they had no clerical support. She said that to fulfill the duties suggested, they would need secretarial help. She noted that their job is to be the advisor to the Building Inspector.

Bob Briere appeared before the Board, and noted that his appointment to the Community Preservation Committee had been put on hold. He said that he had talked to three prospective land sellers, whom he has known for many years. He asked to be reappointed to the Committee.

Old Business

Len Jalbert, P.E. and Ginny Roscioli of Rom's Restaurant appeared before the Board. H. White recused himself from the Board. L. Jalbert said that he was under the impression that the Board would take a vote on their sewer connections this evening. He noted that it would be premature to vote on the curb cuts, since they don't know where the houses will be situated on the site.

D. Schmida suggested that there be no more than six homes on that property. W. Emrich suggested that the Board be given more time to review the matter. D. Sosik agreed, indicating that she was not prepared to vote on it, since she did not attend the last meeting. L. Jalbert said that the lateral was installed on Farquhar Road, and the three lots off Farquhar could be connected; the two lots adjacent to Rt. 131 could be approved by Greg Morse. The other lot would require Board of Selectmen approval. All six lots were approved by the Planning Board. J. Malloy read a section of the Sewer Service Area Bylaw. . . "are entitled to only one single family lot." It was the consensus of the Board to take the matter up at the next meeting. H. White returned to the Board.

New Business

A.Wilson noted that Town Meeting had approved the formation of a School Building Committee, and he recommended a minimum of seven members. D. Sosik suggested that two members of the School Committee serve on that committee. It was the consensus of the Board to take it up at the next meeting.

A.Wilson noted that the Planning Board will join the Board of Selectmen at the next work session to formulate a subcommittee to keep the changes going forward.

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Joe Clouatre, 96 Mashapaug Road, said that there are no street lights or speed limit signs on his section of Mashapaug Road, and complained about people speeding. J. Malloy informed him that there is a Traffic Safety Committee to deal with these issues and a Street Light Committee that makes recommendations to Town Meeting regarding the funding of new street lights. He said that he would contact both of those committees regarding these issues.

Chip Silvestri noted that Mary Berry is related to Doris Sosik, and asked whether she should have recused herself from that discussion. D. Sosik said that she had called the Board of Ethics and explained the issue. They informed her that the situation was not a conflict of interest, since it would not result in financial gain for Mrs. Berry. She explained that Mrs. Berry is her brother's wife, not her husband's sister.

Ask the Selectmen

H. White took a call regarding the status of the annual appointments. The caller asked when the terms would expire. J. Malloy said that the Charter is vague on when appointments expire. They expire when a new person is appointed.

MOTION: To adjourn, by D. Schmida
2nd: A. Wilson
Vote: All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knowles

BOS Clerk

Date