

August 1, 2005

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
AUGUST 1, 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. A.Wilson called for a moment of silence in memoriam of Leo Minette, who had served as Assessor for 30 years.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes of July 18, 2005 as amended, by D. Sosik.
 2nd: W. Emrich
 Vote: All in favor.

Tantasqua Regional School Committee Appointment

A.Wilson asked the Sturbridge members of the Tantasqua Regional School Committee to come forward.

Francis Simanski appeared before the Board and Committee. He said that he has been a resident of Sturbridge for 21 years; for 15 years he was the principal of the high school; for six years he served as a high school teacher. He is now retired. He expressed his commitment to the schools. He has attended Tantasqua Regional School Committee meetings in support of the school district. He is familiar with policies, budget, personnel, and how committees work. He stated that he is committed to quality educational opportunities and fiscal responsibilities to the taxpayers of Sturbridge. His background is in education and educational administration.

William Haggerty appeared before the Board and Committee. He served as Assistant Principal at Quabog High School and as Superintendent; he retired last year. He expressed concern about the issues surrounding Tantasqua in the spring. He has been involved in a regional school district for 29 years, and has a good understanding of how it works. He said that he would bring objectivity to the committee, and is familiar with funding formulas and the mission statement, and noted the importance of good communication and collaboration with the community.

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Michele Fitzgerald appeared before the Board and the Committee. She is a lawyer with Mirick and O'Connell, and has spent a lot of time on town issues, school committees, and has worked with the Connecticut teachers' union. She noted that Sturbridge has socio economic diversity and the benefits of a diverse curriculum and diverse student body. Her job skills include knowing when to be an advocate and when to compromise, and she has been involved in negotiations on many different matters. She said that the Tantasqua School District issue should be decided at the court level.

MOTION: To nominate William Haggerty, by .

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: Four in favor; seven opposed.

The motion was defeated.

MOTION: To nominate Francis Simanski, by H. White.

2nd: William Emrich

Vote: All in favor.

Pilot Travel Center – New Liquor License

J. Malloy read the legal ad (copy on file). Jason Bragler represented Pilot Travel Center. He explained that their personnel take the CAST (Certified Alcohol Sales Training) course.

MOTION: To approve the new liquor license application for Pilot Travel Center as attached, 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.

Applebee's – Change of Manager on Liquor License

Barry Gerstein was present to represent Applebee's, along with the manager of record. Their application was in order.

MOTION: To approve the change of manager to Garrett DiStefano for Applebee's at the Center at Hobbs Brook, by H. White.

2nd: D. Schmida

Vote: All in favor.

Appointments

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MOTION: To approve the Town Administrator's appointment of Leslie Wong as the Building Inspector's Secretary, effective August 2, 2005 at a starting rate of \$13.33 per hour, by H. White.

2nd: D. Schmida

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To appoint Wynn Duvernay to the Cultural Council, by H. White.

2nd: D. Schmida

Vote: All in favor.

Common Victualler Application

MOTION: To approve the Common Victualler application for Hot Corner LLC d/b/a Subway at Wal-Mart at the Center at Hobbs Brook, by H. White.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

Ambulance Rates

MOTION: To amend the Town's fee schedule to increase the BLS ambulance rate from \$350 to \$400 and ambulance mileage rate from \$12/\$13 to \$15, effective August 2, 2005, by D. Sosik.

2nd: W. Emrich

Vote: All in favor.

George A. Sladdin Liquor License – Transfer of Stock and New Officer/Director

Tania Sladdin appeared before the Board. J. Malloy read the legal ad into the record (copy on file).

MOTION: To approve the Transfer of Stock and New Officer/Director license application for George A. Sladdin, by H. White.

2nd: D. Schmida

Vote: All in favor.

Mileage Rate

MOTION: That the Town change its reimbursement mileage rate for Town employees to \$0.405 per mile, by H. White.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

Correspondence

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J. Malloy noted that he had received a letter of interest from Ronald Komar to serve as Constable for the Town of Sturbridge.

MOTION: To appoint Ronald Komar to the position of Constable, to fill the vacancy until the next election, by D. Sosik.

2nd: W. Emrich

Vote: All in favor.

Old Business

H. White asked whether there had been any feedback regarding the DEP site inspection of 51 Holland Road. J. Malloy said that it could be a number of months before he hears back from DEP.

H. White said that relative to the email regarding Beverly Sheppard, Old Sturbridge Village, he suggested adding PWED to that, and recommended setting it up. J. Malloy said that he would do that.

A. Wilson announced that there is a hearing coming up on Old Sturbridge Village's request to rezone the area. J. Malloy said that he thought that it had already been passed by the Planning Board at their last meeting.

W. Emrich asked whether there had been a member of the teaching staff on the Tantasqua High School Building Committee. J. Malloy said that he would get a list of who had served on that Committee.

New Business

A. Wilson noted that the latest MMA Action requested contacting legislators relative to the crisis in municipal health costs. He did not recommend that the Board take action relative to this tactic, since the percentage of health care is part of the bargaining process with unions.

A. Wilson asked the members of the Board to review the liaison assignments.

A. Wilson asked the Board for permission to direct the Town Administrator to proceed with the survey of the land on Stallion Hill, and to pay CME \$1800 out of the Lucent fund.

MOTION: To authorize the Town Administrator to proceed with the survey at a cost not to exceed \$1800, by A. Wilson

2nd: W. Emrich

Vote: All in favor.

Ask the Selectmen

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Mary Blanchard called to inform the Board that the Planning Board has scheduled a hearing on Tuesday, August 9th on rezoning of the OSV parcel. She also noted that there were no voting teachers or administrators on the Tantasqua Building Committee.

MOTION: To adjourn, by H. White.

2nd: D. Schmida

Vote: All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knowles

BOS Clerk

Date