

April 3, 2006

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
APRIL 3, 2006**

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 announced that the Community Preservation Committee, the Open Space Committee and Old Sturbridge Village will hold a meeting on April 4th at 7:00 p.m. at Sturbridge Town Hall to present a proposal relative to the purchase of 800+ acres from Old Sturbridge Village that will come up at the Annual Town Meeting.

A.Wilson announced that on Thursday, April 6th, J. Malloy and Mike Caplette, Moderator will host an informational meeting relative to the Annual Town Meeting at Burgess Elementary School Cafeteria at 7:00 p.m.

A.Wilson announced that there will be an Open House at Sturbridge Town Hall and the Center School Building on Saturday, April 8th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. to allow the voters to see the condition of the buildings and to realize the need for maintenance and renovation.

A.Wilson announced that Town Election Day is on Monday, April 10th from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Burgess Elementary School.

A.Wilson announced that the Annual Town Meeting will be held on Monday, April 24th at 7:00 p.m. at Tantasqua High School Auditorium.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: To accept the executive session minutes of March 6, 2006, to remain confidential, by D. Sosik.

2nd: W. Emrich

Vote: All in favor.

Sturbridge Host Hotel – Change of Manager on Liquor License

Russell Prentiss of the Sturbridge Host Hotel appeared before the Board. He said that he has been TIPS trained since 1985. The application was in order.

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MOTION: To approve the Change of Manager application naming Russell Prentiss as the Manager of Record for Milestone Hospitality International LLC d/b/a the Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center, by H. White.

2nd: W. Emrich

Vote: All in favor.

Senior Municipal Service Program

MOTION: To approve the Senior Municipal Service Program application of Rita Choquet to earn up to \$750 in total tax credits during FY06 working for the Conservation Commission and Building Inspector, by D. Sosik.

2nd: H. White

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To approve the Senior Municipal Service Program application of Gerald Suprenant to earn up to \$750 in total tax credits during FY06 working for the Council on Aging, by D. Sosik.

2nd: H. White

Vote: All in favor.

Mimeault Dock Permit Application

Peter Mimeault appeared before the Board. He and his wife Rebecca had applied for a dock permit for their property at 76 South Shore Drive (South Pond).

MOTION: To approve the Dock Permit Application of Peter and Rebecca Mimeault at 76 South Shore Drive for a 96 square foot floating dock so that the dock maintains a distance of 22.5 feet from the property lines as shown on the plan included with the application; and that the dock is removed each year prior to December 1st and not placed in the water prior to April 1st, by W. Emrich.

2nd: H. White

Vote: Four in favor; D. Sosik abstained.

Public Safety Complex Roof Bids

Reinhardt Associates had submitted a recommendation on the roof bid to replace the roof at the Public Safety Complex (copy on file). The bid was broken down into a base bid, which was to replace the entire flat part of the roof. Alternate #1 is to re-roof the peaked portion of the roof, and Alternate #2 is to increase the thickness of the underlayment from 72 mils to 90 mils, which is recommended by the architect to provide additional protection on leakage. The bid provides for an

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itemized addition if there is any rotted wood that needs to be removed. The bid was within the amount estimated (\$166,800) for this work. There was only one bid for the HVAC, which was substantially higher than estimated; this work will be re-bid.

MOTION: To award the bid for re-roofing the Public Safety Complex to Pinnacle Roofing, Inc. for a total amount of \$142,500.00 to including the base bid and Alternates #1 and #2, by D. Sosik.
2nd: W. Emrich
Vote: All in favor.

Appointment

MOTION: To confirm the Town Administrator's appointment of Wendie LeBlanc as the Administrative Assistant in the Public Works Department, at a starting rate of \$13.33 per hour, effective immediately, by D. Schmida.
2nd: W. Emrich
Vote: All in favor.

IOD Claim

MOTION: To approve the Injured On Duty Claim for firefighter Bob Wright, by D. Schmida.
2nd: H. White
Vote: All in favor.

Appointment

Police Chief Thomas Button introduced Christopher Lavin to the Board. C. Lavin has over 30 years of experience and is currently Chief of Police of the East Greenbush, NY Police Department. He has a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice from John Jay College and holds many specialized and all necessary certifications for appointment to the position of police officer.

MOTION: To confirm the Town Administrator's appointment of Christopher Lavin as a Police Officer in the Sturbridge Police Department at a starting rate of \$19.31 per hour, effective April 14, 2006, by D. Schmida.
2nd: W. Emrich
Vote: All in favor.

Correspondence

Regarding the 3/28 letter from Rep. Kathi-Anne Reinstein, Rep. Robert Coughlin and Rep. Brian Wallace requesting support for the Mass. House to pass the Live

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Racing Revitalization Act, it was the consensus of the Board to draft a letter to those Reps., Senator Brewer and Rep. Todd Smola suggesting that it be defeated. A.Wilson wondered how much tax revenue from the state goes directly to supporting racing.

Old Business

H. White asked about the status of the budget. J. Malloy said that if Town Meeting voters were to vote what the Board recommended, a Proposition 2 ½ override would probably not be necessary. He said that free cash would be used.

H. White said that in the 3/27 email from Kathleen Reynolds, Superintendent, she mentioned "the number that supports the school." He asked what she was referring to. J. Malloy said that K. Reynolds believes that a portion of all town revenues should be counted toward education costs. He said that he did not understand her rationale for that concept. He said that the state used to have a formula that towns used to break out the tax on schools. He said that the only apples to apples comparison on the state's website for the Dept. of Local Services is a breakdown on what each town spends on each major town service.

A.Wilson said that regarding the use of free cash, the Board of Selectmen had said it would provide a recommendation at Town Meeting. The consensus of the Board was to leave it at that.

H. White asked about the status of Forge Landscaping. J. Malloy said that the Building Inspector had looked at the premises and will provide the Board with a report. He said that Forge is operating a nursery, and Town Counsel's opinion was that it is a nursery, and landscaping is an accessory use. H. White asked if the Building Inspector had looked into the proportion of each. J. Malloy said that he would follow up.

New Business

A.Wilson asked the Board whether they wanted to hold a work session on election day, April 10th. It was the consensus of the Board to not meet on April 10th or 11th.

A.Wilson thanked Doris Sosik and David Schmida for their years of service on the Board of Selectmen.

Ask the Selectmen

There were no calls.

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MOTION: To convene in executive session under MGL Chapter 39, §23B,
Paragraph #3: To discuss strategy with respect to collective
bargaining or litigation, not to reconvene in open session, by
D. Sosik.

2nd: H. White

Roll call vote: All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knowles

BOS Clerk

Date