

December 5, 2011

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES  
DECEMBER 5, 2011**

Present: Thomas Chamberland, Chairman  
Mary Dowling  
Mary Blanchard  
Angeline Ellison  
Priscilla Gimas  
Shaun Suhoski, Town Administrator

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., prior to the Special Town Meeting.

**Pre-Town Meeting Discussion**

T. Creamer opened by stating that although he would abstain from voting on the article specific to the Shepard Parcel as he believed that the Town was not in compliance with state law requiring the proper procedure for an Article 97, he was nonetheless convinced that said article would pass and that due to the acrimony it had created and concern that some residents had expressed in terms of the Board of Selectmen following through on the vote, he believed it important to demonstrate the Board's full intention to comply – consistent with its responsibilities under the Town Charter. Thus he made the following motion:

**MOTION: Contingent upon a successful vote specific to Article 48 Shepard Parcel Use at Town Meeting, the Board directed the Town Administrator to immediately undertake all efforts to prepare and submit the appropriate documents to the State Legislature, so as to ensure immediate compliance with the will of the Legislative Branch at Town Meeting, by T. Creamer.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>: P. Gimas**  
**Vote: Two in favor; A. Ellison, M. Dowling and M. Blanchard opposed.**

**MOTION: That the Board reconsider the Article #52 vote, by T. Creamer.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>: P. Gimas**  
**Vote: All in favor.**

T. Creamer stated that upon a detailed review of the Stretch Code, he would now be voting and speaking in opposition to it, despite his previous position in support of said article. He provided a list of concerns specific to the Stretch Code based upon his research, and stated his belief that it may not be in the best interests of the Town to accept it. He requested a new vote on the stretch code.

**MOTION: That the Board support Article #52, by T. Creamer.**

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**2<sup>nd</sup>: P. Gimás**

**Vote: Three in favor; T. Creamer and P. Gimás opposed.**

M. Dowling read a statement into the record regarding Article #48.

**MOTION: That the Board support M. Dowling's statement, by M. Blanchard.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: P. Gimás**

**Vote: Three in favor; T. Creamer and P. Gimás abstained.**

**General Business**

The Board asked about the status of the Walker Pond Engineering Study. S. Suhoski said that it was upcoming in 60 days.

There was a brief discussion regarding a complaint by residents of Sturbridge Hills about noise at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. S. Suhoski said that he was aware of it, and the project engineer and DPW Director are looking for solutions.

**MOTION: To adjourn, by M. Blanchard.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: P. Gimás**

**Vote: All in favor.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knowles

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BOS Clerk

Date