

January 23, 2012

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
JANUARY 23, 2012**

Present: Thomas Creamer, 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. following the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sturbridge Hills Condo Association – Wastewater Treatment Plant Noise

Ian Catlow of Tighe & Bond made a powerpoint presentation to the Board outlining the proposed noise mitigation measures for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He reviewed the sound measurements, decibels and “pure tones,” with the proposal to limit the speed on the blowers and construct a penthouse around the blower intakes to absorb noise and deflect fugitive noise away from the condos. He noted that the anticipated cost would be \$26,500, with a lead time of three to four weeks. G. Morse said that the \$26,500 could come from contingency.

Ian Catlow stated that other communities had utilized this approach with success and that he believed it would be a good approach. P. Gimas suggested that additional calls be made to the references to ensure the examples. T. Creamer agreed to call the references and follow up with the communities who served as the basis for Mr. Catlow’s review and asked that the information on those communities be provided to him as soon as possible. P. Gimas stated that she would provide whatever assistance T. Creamer wanted on this approach.

MOTION: That the Board support the noise mitigation plan of Tighe & Bond as presented on January 23, 2012, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimas

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To convene in executive session under MGL Chapter 30A, §21, Paragraph #1: To discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or discuss the discipline or dismissal of or complaints or charges against a public officer, employee, staff member or individual; and to reconvene in open session, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimas

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Roll call vote: M. Dowling in favor; T. Creamer in favor; A. Ellison in favor; P. Gimas in favor; M. Blanchard in favor.

The Board convened in executive session at 8:00 p.m.

The Board reconvened in open session at 8:20 p.m.

T. Creamer expressed concern about the debris on Route 15 and Route 20. He had spoken with MEMA and the DPW Director about the issue, and was concerned that despite six private conversations with Mr. Suhoski wherein he committed to having it removed well before winter, in addition to numerous weekly updates by Mr. Suhoski and several public inquiries relative to same, that the issue has still not been brought to closure.

S. Suhoski stated that yes, he had committed to having it removed prior to winter, but that he had been in a state of analysis paralysis regarding the issue and simply should have done what he knew was right in the very beginning. S. Suhoski further stated that it would be rectified immediately. S. Suhoski provided the Board with an update regarding the invitation for bids for debris removal.

It was the consensus of the Board to schedule the Town Administrator's Merit Pay discussion for February 6, 2012.

MOTION: To sign and post the Presidential Election warrant, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimas

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To adjourn, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimas

Vote: All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knowles

BOS Clerk

Date