

October 22, 2012

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
OCTOBER 22, 2012**

Present: Thomas Creamer, Chairman
Priscilla Gimas
Mary Blanchard
Mary Dowling
Mary Redetzke
Shaun Suhoski, Town Administrator

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. following the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Service Announcements

M. Blanchard announced that Trick or Treating will be held on October 31, 2012 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Trunk or Treat on the Town Common from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; and the Horribles Parade to the Town Common at 7:00 p.m.

T. Creamer announced that the Board is invited to the Veterans Day flag raising at Crescent Gate at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 11th.

Appointments to Call Fire Department

S. Suhoski said that as had been discussed in recent meetings with Fire Chief Senecal and Captain Marinelli, there was a need to bolster the ranks of the Town's call personnel for the Fire Department. These individuals respond to supplement the full-time professionals when multiple calls come in at the same time, when larger incidents require additional support and to fill weekend shifts to help minimize overtime. He noted that call personnel are only paid when they are summoned to assist the Town.

Four proposed appointments were brought before the Board: (1) Robert Moynagh, and (2) Sean Moynagh, both of Sturbridge, (3) Thomas Giordano, of the Fiskdale section of Sturbridge, and (4) David Hoyt, of Spencer. Candidates #1, #2 and #3 are already Basic EMT certified while candidate #4 is currently training for such certification. The Fire Chief's recommendation memorandum was included in the Board's packets.

MOTION: That the Board of Selectmen ratify the following appointments by the Town Administrator to the Fire Dept.: Robert Moynagh, Sean Moynagh and Thomas Giordano as call department Firefighter/EMT-Basic at a starting hourly rate of \$15.06, and David Hoyt as call department Firefighter at a starting hourly rate of \$13.38 effective immediately, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimas

Vote: Four in favor; P. Gimas abstained.

Spencer WWTF Letter to DEP

T. Creamer had emailed draft language to the Board previously and Judy Knowles made a copy for the Board's meeting packets. The letter was dated October 22, 2012 to MassDEP, with copies to the QQLA, Spencer Board of Selectmen and Spencer Water and Sewer Department. The letter indicated that the Board extended its support for the collaborative and cooperative undertakings by the QQLA in its efforts to promote the highest and safest water quality standards for North Pond.

MOTION: That the Board approve sending the letter to DEP in support of QQLA's request, as revised on October 22, 2012, by M. Blanchard.
2nd: P. Gimás
Vote: All in favor.

Preliminary Discussion re: Harbormaster Regulations

The Board has received comments from the SLAC, Selectman Creamer and Selectman Redetzke to date. It was the consensus of the Board to defer discussion until the next meeting.

Bid Award – No. 2 Heating Oil Bid Award

S. Suhoski informed the Board that this year, the Town participated in a joint consortium through the Central Mass. Regional Planning Commission (including the towns of Dudley, Charlton, Southbridge and Webster as partners) to obtain bids for approximately 120,000 gallons of heating oil. The low bid for FY13 was the sole bid of Peterson Oil Services, Inc.

The bid is for a fixed price of \$3.29 per gallon in FY13 which is \$0.07 per gallon less than the FY12 rate. This rate is for all of the Town's "small" tanks. The Town's "large" tank (3,000 gallon plus) at the Public Safety Complex is under the French River Collaborative price of \$3.21 per gallon for the season.

MOTION: That the Board of Selectmen award the bid for No. 2 heating oil to Peterson Oil Services, Inc. for the fixed price of \$3.29 per gallon through June 30, 2013, by M. Blanchard.
2nd: P. Gimás
Vote: All in favor.

Appointment to Senior Municipal Service Program

Joyce Sinnott, of Lakeshore Dr., Fiskdale, has been qualified to participate in the SMSP. Her services will be utilized at the Library. Staff in the Assessor's office and Judy are coordinating to ensure we do not oversubscribe this program. The following appointment appears to be 28 of 30.

MOTION: That the Board of Selectmen approve the above-named applicant for the Senior Municipal Service Program to be assigned to the Joshua Hyde Library, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Glmas

Vote: All in favor.

Dock Permit Appeal

S. Suhoski was able to receive a copy of the actual dock permit denial appeal submittal to MassDEP on Wednesday, and submitted it to the Board. He received reference material from Chairman Creamer as well. S. Suhoski intends to put together a draft response in the coming week, now that he has the actual material. Upon the Board's review of the appeal, S. Suhoski said that they should feel free to email him any individual suggestions, and he will compile those for the Board's consideration on November 5th.

M. Redetzke said that she had received an email from James Smith regarding property stakes, and will visit the property.

Other Matters

Following are brief updates on other pending matters.

- **Insurance Advisory Committee:** The Board discussed certain issues in Executive Session on October 9. S. Suhoski will keep the Board apprised of any further developments.
- **October 2011 Nor'easter Reimbursement:** MEMA personnel met with S. Suhoski and reviewed files as a tabletop audit on Tuesday. On Friday, he received word from MEMA that they were satisfied with the review and will issue a **\$1.16 million** storm reimbursement (the largest single reimbursement worksheet for any of the disasters in 2011) in the immediate future. The Finance Director is developing a recap of storm costs which will be shared with the Board and the general public as soon as the final loose ends are resolved. S. Suhoski thanked Elissa Splaine at DPW, and Melissa Rozzen in the Police Chief's office, for their excellent work with MEMA and FEMA on the very substantial documentation associated with the Nor'easter.
- **Riverlands Environmental:** Tighe & Bond completed the river sediment collection this week and S. Suhoski anticipates the lab results being available by October 26th. As stated previously, if this final item can be shown to be within the MCP limits the site can be cleared.
- **Municipal Buildings:** (1) The Municipal Building Report has been completed by Lamoureux Pagano Associates in draft format and S. Suhoski provided a couple of

syntax related comments. A copy of the draft was emailed to the Board on October 19th. (2) The installation of “308” above the front doors of Town Hall is complete and both the Town Hall and Center Office Building are properly signed and compliant with the Town’s numbering bylaw. (3) [no change] S. Suhoski retrieved and compiled the files needed to advance the final warranty claims for the Town Hall / Center Office Building project. (4) [no change] The screening of the HVAC units outside Town Hall is a lower priority and remains pending.

- **Walker Pond Drainage:** The Board received an update from the DPW Director at his last report. Tighe & Bond is expected to complete baseline survey this week or next. The baseline design will ensure correct elevations as phases of the system are developed. As the project develops, S. Suhoski will seek potential grant funds for portions of the work including a long-shot effort at a FEMA “Hazard Mitigation Grant.”
- **MassDOT Response re: Rt. 131 Sidewalks:** S. Suhoski submitted to the Board MassDOT’s response to the July 2nd correspondence requesting a review of “spalling” sidewalks. The letter indicates that MassDOT did a further field review and finds that the damage is aesthetic and not structural, thus requiring no action at this time. The state indicates that they will continue to monitor the sidewalks and include appropriate action in future contracts if “significant deterioration is observed and replacement is warranted.” S. Suhoski said that he would consider this item closed.
- **Other Meetings / Miscellaneous:** In addition to the Board’s meeting, S. Suhoski also: completed a draft Invitation For Bids for the water meter replacement project (the team will review this Monday); met with MEMA regarding Nor’easter documentation and reimbursements as reported above; met with the DPW Director and Tree Warden regarding the tornado reimbursement grant; had easements and plans for new roads recorded at Worcester District Registry of Deeds; attended quarterly manager’s meeting and Legislative Affairs Committee meeting at CMRPC; completed additional zoning / signage file reviews and correspondence; and attended MMA legislative breakfast to discuss budget priorities and legislation.



Old Business

M. Blanchard asked about the building study by Lamoureux-Pagano Associates. S. Suhski said he thought he had emailed it on Friday, but would send the draft after the meeting.

M. Dowling inquired about the reference to a potential Reserve Fund Transfer or use of CPA funds for Riverlands environmental. S. Suhoski stated that he is awaiting the final

estimate on costs, and that either source of funds may be utilized to complete the environmental review. There is a \$3,500 cost to file the Response Action Outcome statement plus a \$1,200 filing fee to MassDEP. This question will be answered once the testing of the river sediment is completed in the coming week.

M. Redetzke thanked the Town Administrator for following up and receiving the Honor Roll brick maintenance specifications and forwarding same to the DPW. She said this item can come off of the old business list.

P. Gimas asked whether Jim Mazik of Pioneer Valley Planning Commission had completed drafting language for the Community Development Block Grant petition of support. S. Suhoski said yes, and that the Town Administrator was added as an additional contact name. T. Creamer said that he had also reviewed the language and suggested having a Town contact person in addition to Mr. Mazik. T. Creamer read the language into the record.

New Business

M. Blanchard requested an updated list of committee vacancies be distributed and advertised.

M. Dowling requested a work session be scheduled with the Sturbridge Lakes Advisory Committee to review the proposed updated to the Harbormaster Regulations. T. Creamer said that he was thinking the same thing. He polled the Board and said that a preliminary Board review would occur at the November 5th meeting with a work session and then a public hearing to be scheduled in the December to January 2013 timeframe.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes of March 26, 2012 as amended, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimas

Vote: Four in favor; M. Redetzke abstained.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of October 9, 2012 as amended, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimas

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of October 15, 2012 as amended, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimas

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To approve the executive session minutes of October 9, 2012 as written, to remain confidential, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimas
Vote: All in favor.

Ask the Selectmen/Citizens' Forum

Jan Chiaretto, Breakneck Road, thanked the Board for their hard work on the budget. She praised the Government Services Study Committee, the workload of the Town Planner and efforts of the Town Administrator.

Linda Seguin, 35 South Shore Drive, said that she liked the letter regarding QQLA. She also stated that in response to inaccurate comments which she had been aware of made by a neighbor, Mr. Gary Allard, alleging friendship, and favoritism on her behalf by Mr. Creamer; that she did not know T. Creamer prior to making a call concerning an abutter issue, and that they have never had any type of friendship or communication beyond an abutter issue. She asked for a copy of the MassDEP appeal by G. Allard, and S. Suhoski said that he would provide it after the meeting.

L. Seguin asked if S. Suhoski had received a legal opinion regarding the dock issues. S. Suhoski said he had taken that off of the priority issues, given that the Board is not considering any dock issues until 2013. T. Creamer said that – given the Harbormaster Regulation update – the Town Administrator should expedite Town Counsel's review. S. Suhoski stated that legal counsel's guidance would be general and not specific to particular abutter beach rights or issues. T. Creamer agreed, and said that counsel should review and advise of the Board's authority to consider deeded beach rights as relates to abutter rights within the Harbormaster Regulations.

MOTION: To adjourn, by M. Blanchard.
2nd: P. Gimas
Vote: All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knowles

BOS Clerk

Date