

March 18, 2013

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
MARCH 18, 2013**

Present: Thomas Creamer, Chairman
Mary Blanchard
Mary Dowling
Priscilla Gimas
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

T. Creamer recognized Jason Girouard for receiving a video award for his nationwide public safety message for Mothers Against Drunk Drivers.

M. Blanchard announced the Tantasqua Regional School Committee budget meeting to be held on March 27th at 6:00 p.m.

M. Redetzke announced the Library Book Sale to be held on March 23rd from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

P. Gimas announced that on Thursday, March 21st at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall the Fire Department consultant, E. Horn, will be present to hear from the public.

Donate Life Month Proclamation

Robon Lataille appeared before the Board to speak to the importance of organ donations. She will be going to South Africa for World Transplant Games for Team USA.

T. Creamer read the proclamation proclaiming April 2013 as Donate Life Month in the Town of Sturbridge.

MOTION: To approve and sign the proclamation for Donate Life Month, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimas

Vote: All in favor.

Childhood Cancer Awareness Week

T. Creamer read the proclamation declaring the week of April 21 through 27 as Childhood Cancer Awareness Week in the Town of Sturbridge.

MOTION: To approve and sign the proclamation for Childhood Cancer Awareness Week, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimas

Vote: All in favor.

Teddy G's Pub & Grille – Application for Keno License

Ted Gidopoulos had submitted an application to the state for a Keno License for Teddy G's Pub & Grille. The Board had the opportunity to support or reject the proposed license.

MOTION: To support the Keno License for Teddy G's Pub & Grille, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimas

Vote: All in favor.

Thomas and Cheryl Creeden – Dock Permit

S. Suhoski informed the Board that Thomas and Cheryl Creeden of 14 Westwood Drive had submitted a dock permit application for property that they own at 92 McGargle Road. S. Suhoski added a copy of the Vision GIS map showing the area.

S. Suhoski said that in reviewing the application materials, the proposed dock complies with square footage and lake protrusion limits. The location depicted on the plan is at the southwestern corner of the property with minimal set-back illustrated from the neighboring parcel at 90 McGargle Road. S. Suhoski had emailed the property owners at 90 McGargle Road to advise them of the dock permit request. Abutter Daryl-Lynne Gottier had responded to the email with no objection to the dock.

MOTION: To approve the dock permit for premises at 92 McGargle Road as detailed in the application dated March 5, 2013, submitted by Thomas Creeden, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimas

Vote: All in favor.

Sewer Abatement Request (Continuation)

Richard Broughton appeared before the Board as an appeal of a denial of abatement by the Town Administrator, DPW Director and Finance Director. He had requested a sewer abatement for his property at 81 Hall Road and met with the Board on March 11th, at which time the Board had deferred formal action by taking the matter under advisement.

It was determined that the water did pass through the meter, and the charges were correctly assessed. R. Broughton had installed new landscaping at his property which necessitated watering twice daily, which increased the metered usage and ultimate water and sewer use charges. The charges were in conformance with the billing practices of the Town. S. Suhoski noted that it is outside of the authority of Town staff to grant abatements where it appears that the water was in fact utilized.

MOTION: That the Board deny the abatement request for Richard Broughton, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: M. Dowling

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

Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Article 1: Town Reports

MOTION: To place and support Article 1, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimmas

Vote: All in favor.

Article 2: Community Preservation Committee Report

MOTION: To place and support Article 2, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimmas

Vote: All in favor.

Article 4: Community Preservation – Administration

MOTION: To place and support Article 4, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimmas

Vote: All in favor.

Article 5: Community Preservation – North Cemetery

MOTION: To place and support Article 5, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimmas

Vote: All in favor.

Article 8: Sewer Project Debt

MOTION: To place and support Article 8, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimmas

Vote: All in favor.

Article 9: Community Preservation Debt Service

MOTION: To place and support Article 9, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimmas

Vote: All in favor.

Article 14: Ambulance Stabilization Fund

MOTION: To place and support Article 14, by M. Blanchard.
2nd: P. Gimas
Vote: All in favor.

Article 15: OPEB Trust Fund

MOTION: To place and support Article 15, by M. Blanchard.
2nd: P. Gimas
Vote: All in favor.

Article 18: Transfer from Tax Rate Relief Stabilization Fund

MOTION: To place and support Article 18, by M. Blanchard.
2nd: P. Gimas
Vote: All in favor.

Article 19: Proposed Zoning Amendment – Village Gateway

MOTION: To place Article 19, by M. Blanchard.
2nd: P. Gimas
Vote: All in favor.

Article 20: Proposed Zoning Map Amendment – Village Gateway District

MOTION: To place Article 20, by M. Blanchard.
2nd: P. Gimas
Vote: All in favor.

Article 21: Proposed Zoning Amendment – Sign Bylaw

MOTION: To place Article 21, by M. Blanchard.
2nd: P. Gimas
Vote: All in favor.

**Article 22: Proposed Zoning Bylaw – Medical Marijuana Treatment Center
Moratorium**

MOTION: To place and support Article 22, by M. Blanchard.
2nd: P. Gimas
Vote: All in favor.

Budget

A balanced budget proposal of \$27.4 million, funded within the limits of Proposition 2 ½ and showing a \$132,000 surplus has been advanced to the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee.

S. Suhoski submitted to the Board background information regarding various requested Town Meeting articles and a summary sheet that he had developed for planning purposes. He submitted:

1. Town Administrator's FY14 Budget Overview and Information Sheet.

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2. Finance Director's 3/1/13 memo outlining FY14 Sewer Project and Community Preservation Act debt service costs.
3. Emails dated 3/1/13 and 3/13/13 from the Board of Health Agent requesting modifications to BOH Revolving Fund language.
4. Memorandum dated 2/28/13 from Chief of Police providing rationale for requesting rescission of the Town's acceptance of subsections (b) through (k) of MGL Ch. 90, §22B.
5. Copy of correspondence from Tighe & Bond dated 1/14/13 relative to contract costs associated with the Final Environmental Impact Report and Zero Percent Loan application and how they amend the contract for the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan. These items were discussed with the Board in open session. The purpose is to illustrate that \$180,000 (from the original \$197,000 contract price) was utilized for the town-wide CWMP and thus may be considered for a free cash allocation article.
6. Email dated 3/17/13 from Raoul Ricard, representing the Mountainbrook Private Road Association, requesting that the Town place an article to allow betterment financing of drainage and road improvements in that neighborhood. Also, the Notice of Intent form that S. Suhoski provided to the MBPRA to ascertain participation and the overall cost estimate by CME Associates, Inc. which totals nearly \$285,000 exclusive of certain permitting and overall contingency costs.

MOTION: To direct the Town Administrator to undertake an outreach to Senator Brewer, the Governor, Rep. Smola and Congressman Neal, state and federal agencies to determine any level of funding to offset costs of the Champeaux Road Bridge, by T. Creamer.

2nd: M. Blanchard

Vote: All in favor.

Town Administrator's Update

- **Town Administrator Goals Document**

S. Suhoski submitted to the Board a revised document which included his suggested timeline for completion and the additional casino related goal, as directed by the Board at the March 11th meeting.

MOTION: To change the due date of Economic Development goal to 10/28/13; #13 should be "ongoing"; change #15 Champeaux Road due date to 11/30/13; to approve the calendar year goals for the Town Administrator as amended, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimás

Vote: All in favor.

Mountainbrook Road Private Road Association – Drainage Project Update

S. Suhoski said that Raoul Ricard and the MBPRA had met with the Board last year to outline a proposed drainage improvement project to be eligible for Town financing through a betterment to be paid solely by the private property owners within the drainage district.

R. Ricard indicated that he will be meeting with the Association to seek formal, signed statements of intent to participate in hopes of achieving a sufficient threshold of neighborhood support to pay for the improvements. Depending upon the outcome of the Association's meeting, the MBPRA may seek an agenda item on an upcoming Board of Selectmen meeting to gain the Board's support for establishing a formal betterment assessment to complete the project. Ultimately, Town Meeting will also need to approve the boundaries of the drainage district for any project to proceed.

Initial estimates range from approximately \$200,000+/- to \$320,000+/- depending upon the final scope of work selected by the MBPRA. The DPW Director, Finance Director and Town Administrator have and will continue to provide limited technical assistance to the Association per the Town's private road guidance document, or until such time as a decision is rendered by the Board.

Other Matters

The following were brief updates on other pending matters.

- **Riverlands Environmental:** Tighe & Bond will submit an updated price proposal inclusive of survey costs. The package proposal is for work required to clear the Riverlands parcels (140+ acres) from MassDEP environmental oversight through an Activity Use Limitation (AUL).
- **Municipal Buildings:**
 - Library Roof (updated 3/15):*** A baseline proposal from Drummey Rosane Associates (the Burgess architects) was expected, and S. Suhoski had spoken with the architect following Wednesday's Building Committee meeting and he indicated that a proposal would be forthcoming from his partner. There have been no further leaks since the latest repairs under the Town's insurance provider, but the two architects that reviewed the roof did note concerns with flashing and potentially the seal of the skylight system.
 - Center Office Building Front Door (updated 2/15):*** The Lock-Out Locksmith of Webster stated that he will install a commercial grade exterior door handle and lock on the Main Street entrance of the Center Office Building for an estimated cost of \$296 in the coming week. The vendor was in Town today to deliver some keys that were made.

Town Hall (updated 3/15): S. Suhoski expects to receive quotes for remote “panic alarms” that would be operated through the existing alarm panels at Town Hall and the Center Office Building.

Town Hall Roof: The roughly 20’ X 20’ section of membrane roof over the garage bays at the Town Barn that was blown back during the wind and rain storm of January 30th is being repaired under the Town’s insurance coverage.

8 Brookfield Road: Joe Bolduc of ATC/Cardno inspected the boiler room on January 18th. S. Suhoski sent a reminder to Mr. Bolduc two weeks ago. Previously, American Environmental, Inc. reviewed the area and did not note any asbestos from a visual inspection.

- **Other Meetings/Miscellaneous:** Other items include: Met with the Fire Chief regarding operational and personnel matters; met with the Police Chief regarding personnel matters; met with DPW Director and MBPRA representative regarding private road issue; met with the Principal Assessor regarding staffing and budget submittals; participated in Capital Planning Committee meeting; met with MIIA health benefits trust representative and the Finance Director regarding FY14 rates and ongoing Insurance Advisory Committee topics; attended Burgess School Building Committee meeting; met with Selectman Redetzke and intern regarding draft Harbormaster regulations; participated in Betterment Committee meeting; brief appearance at the Finance Committee meeting; met with the Finance Director and FinCom liaison regarding general government budget questions.

Correspondence

M. Blanchard read the correspondence list into the record.

New Business

M. Dowling said that a resident had expressed concern that new business items are being voted on without prior notice. T. Creamer said that it should be brought forward under New Business and placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Executive Session

MOTION: To convene in executive session under MGL Ch. 30A, §21(a), Paragraph #3: To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation; to reconvene in open session, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimás

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

The Board convened in executive session at 9:53 p.m.

The Board reconvened in open session at 10:19 p.m.

MOTION: To reconfirm the Board's vote ratifying the Firefighters' contract, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimas

Vote: Four in favor; M. Redetzke opposed.

MOTION: To adjourn, by M. Blanchard.

2nd: P. Gimas

Vote: All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knowles

BOS Clerk

Date