

Kevin Geraghty, Chairman
Michael Chizy, Vice Chairman
Ryan Fattman, Clerk
John L. Hebert
Michael Frustaci



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James A. Smith, Town Administrator
Debbie Jacques, Administrative Assistant

TOWN OF SUTTON BOARD OF SELECTMAN

Meeting Minutes

Minutes Accepted and Filed with the Town Clerk on 5/06/08 by a vote of 5-0

7:00 p.m. – April 22, 2008

Sutton Town Hall, Selectmen's Meeting Room

Members in Attendance:

Kevin Geraghty, Chairman
Michael Chizy, Vice-Chairman
Ryan Fattman, Clerk
John Hebert
Michael Frustaci

Also in Attendance:

James Smith, Town Administrator
Debbie Jacques, Administrative Assistant

Chairman Geraghty calls the meeting to order at 7:00 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Selectman Chizy motions to approve as presented, minutes from the April 8, 2008 Board of Selectmen meeting, Selectman Hebert seconds the motion, all in favor Passes 5-0

Selectman Chizy motions to approve but not release, minutes from the April 8, 2008 Executive Session, Selectman Fattman seconds the motion, all in favor, Passes 5-0

Proclamations:

Arbor Day Proclamation (May 2, 2008), read by Selectman Fattman

Sutton Youth Baseball & Softball Day Proclamation (May 4, 2008), read by Selectman Fattman

Capital Stabilization Authorization: TA Smith requested the BOS to vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to add to the capital stabilization fund an additional 2.5% tax increase to the Fy08 override figure of \$475,000. Selectman Hebert feels this is prudent management style, Fattman feels this is good long term planning, Selectman Geraghty agrees with all comments. Selectman Fattman motions to authorize the Board of Assessors to add to the Capital Stabilization fund an additional 2.5% tax increase to the FY2008 override amount of \$475,000., Selectman Chizy seconds the motion, All in Favor Passes 5-0

Budget Transfers to cover deficits for FY08: The two largest accounts showing deficits are the Snow & Ice account and the Veterans Benefit account. The Veterans account is reimbursed 75% by the State. The increase in the Veterans benefits are signs of the rising economy. Tim Harrison, Town Accountant is present and informs BOS that he will run an up to date list for the day of Town Meeting to have an actual up to date figure. Tim says the positive side of this is health insurance is not on the list this year. This is in part to Cathy VanDyne doing a fantastic job keeping everyone up to date on insurance payments as well as only offering Blue Cross to town employees. Selectman Fattman asks if plowing the private roads is what added to the snow and ice removal deficit. TA Smith replied that after discussions with Highway Superintendent Mark Brigham, plowing the private roads cost around \$10,000.00. Selectman Geraghty questioned the Transfer Station as it has historically shown a

deficit. Tim Harrison said that is an enterprise fund which is not included in these figures. TA Smith did say that the Transfer Station is running closer to budget with some of the budget cuts Mark Brigham has put in place as well as the recycling.

Approve and sign Town Meeting Warrant: Selectman Geraghty asks if there have been any significant changes to the 26 Articles on the warrant. TA Smith replies no, but he would like to make some clarification on Article 16; Village Center Zoning, Jim informs BOS that he has had discussions with the Historical Commission, the Planning Board and the petitioner Bill Connor. All parties are in agreement to reduce the original size of acreage requested from approx. 20 acres to around 7 acres. TA Smith tells BOS that Jen Hager (Town Planner) spoke to the Attorney Generals Office and by lowering the acreage; it would not signify spot zoning. Kopelman and Paige were also contacted and they have suggested leaving the Warrant Article intact and making amendments on the Town Meeting floor. Selectman Fattman would like to see all meetings televised, this would allow residents to be better informed and would answer questions prior to town meeting. Article 13 (appropriation to borrow/transfer funds for a feasibility study for the Sutton High/Middle School) TA Smith heard back from the MSBA and the amount that will be requested is approximately \$695,000.00. After a discussion with an official at MSBA, TA Smith revealed the formula for this project to show how they arrived at this figure. The estimated cost of this project is said to be \$43 million. Out of the \$695,000.00, \$50,000.00 will be put towards an Owner Project Manager (OPM), who will follow the project from design thru construction. This helps to eliminate issues before they happen. TA Smith says that the MSBA requires 3 design scenarios: partial renovations, new construction of high school/renovation to middle school and total new construction. A positive feature of the new designs will include the possibility of town water and sewer; this was not the case in the Flansburg report done in 2005. The BOS are asking for clarification on the process from the beginning to end. Selectman Chizy has questions about borrowing methods and would like clarification prior to town meeting. Selectman Frustaci would like residents to see what is rolling off of debt service. TA Smith says that Sutton is 1 of 49 communities the State is willing to fund at some level. Selectman Frustaci motions to approve Town Warrant as presented, Selectman Chizy seconds, all in favor passes 5-0

Annual Town Election Warrant: Selectman Fattman reads the Election Warrant to be signed and posted. Selectman Chizy motions to approve as presented, Selectman Fattman seconds all in favor passes 5-0

Reverse 911 Memorandum of Understanding: TA Smith discusses with BOS a proposal sponsored by Worcester Sheriffs office and the Federal Dept. of Homeland Security. It would allow the Town to receive free Reverse 911 thru 2010 at which point the town would continue at a cost or decline the services. Sutton Safety officials along with TA Smith met with the Sheriffs office and are recommending the Town take advantage of this opportunity. TA Smith feels this would have been useful in September when there was a chemical overfeed at Wilks. Water and the fire dept. went door to door notifying residents. A 6 hour project could have been handled with 1 phone call. Selectman Chizy feels in this day and age it is a good way to send out a message to a large number of residents. Selectman Hebert feels it is a tool for public safety and it is a must to go forward. Selectman Chizy motions to approve the signing of the Reverse 911 Memorandum of Understanding, Selectmen Fattman seconds, all in favor passes 5-0

Old Business:

B&C Automotive + Sales, Inc signing of Class II license. BOS voted at last meeting to approve contingent upon receipt of bond. The bond was received board will sign license.

TA Update:

- Sutton School open meeting re: proposed building/renovation project April 30th @ 7:00
- 11 Town Selectmen Economic Development @ BVT April 30th @ 700
- Fin Com completed public hearings
- Hatchery Road sign ordered
- Parade dates (Little League and Memorial Day)
- AFG Grant letter of support from Congressman Neal

Selectman Chizy motions to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Selectman Fattman seconds All in favor passé 5-0

