

**BOARD OF  
SELECTMEN  
MEETING  
MINUTES**

**August 6, 2013**

Fire & EMS Headquarters, 20 Church Street , Training Room  
Chairman James Brochu; Selectman Robert J. Fleming; Selectman  
Kenneth Picard; Town Manager, Blythe C. Robinson.

1 The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm. Chairman Brochu opened the meeting and reviewed  
2 the agenda  
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4 The primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss the development of a strategic plan as  
5 proposed by Selectmen Picard as one of his goals for this year. Selectmen Picard reviewed the  
6 draft of the plan he has developed thus far, and its major components. He informed the board  
7 that to date he has attended the Town Manager’s staff meeting to gather input from the staff on  
8 core values, and intends to return to discuss mission, vision and a SWOT exercise. He also  
9 intends to visit with other Town boards and do the same thing, after which the Selectmen could  
10 have another workshop to discuss the progress. He anticipates that the biggest hurdle will be  
11 developing the scoreboard and the appropriate objectives and measures of those.  
12

13 Selectmen Fleming said that his concern was that a strategic plan can be quite comprehensive  
14 and he wanted to know how in depth Selectmen Picard intended to go. Specifically, the project  
15 could go so far as to a value analysis for each job function and he thinks that is too much for our  
16 size organization to take on. Selectmen Picard said that he sees this as a leadership and  
17 communications tool and that we need to have objectives to meet that plan. We need to be able  
18 to articulate our plan and up to this point we’ve been carrying out activities that are strategic  
19 (such as hiring a Town Manager, changing the Town Clerk’s position to appointed from elected)  
20 but we haven’t communicated well our overall plan. Every stakeholder should know what the  
21 mission of the organization is and answer questions about in the same way. Once that happens  
22 we can measure how we’re doing and whether we’re successful or falling short.  
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24 Both Selectmen Fleming and Brochu indicated their concern about the time it will take to do this  
25 project and how to get buy in from the other boards. The board discussed this and decided that  
26 for the best chance of success Selectmen Picard should not go alone to meet with other boards,  
27 another Selectmen should accompany him so as to show that this was a Board of Selectmen  
28 initiative, not just one member.  
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30 After this discussion the board concurred that Selectmen Picard should continue with this  
31 project.  
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33 Ms. Robinson then brought the Board up to speed on concern raised by a resident of Green Lane  
34 regarding the intent of the Land Stewardship Committee to build a walking trail from Green  
35 Lane to Goss Pond on land donated by Mr. Bob Henderson to the Town for this purpose. The  
36 resident is concerned about the impact of this trail on his property, and that the use of the trail  
37 will become more than just walkers (ATV’s dirt bikes), etc. and he would like to attend a BOS  
38 meeting to ask the Selectmen to reconsider. Ms. Robinson said she has heard from a second  
39 neighbor about this as well. She suggested that the Land Stewardship Committee be invited to a  
40 future meeting to discuss their plans and that the neighbors be invited as well. Selectmen  
41 Fleming reminded the Board that the Town Meeting voted to accept the donation of land for this

42 purpose a number of years ago. The Board concurred that the various interested parties should  
43 be heard on this matter and agreed that it could be taken up at the September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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46 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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48 **Motion #1:** At 6:50PM Chairman Brochu motioned to enter into an executive session under  
49 M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section #21, Exception #3 - To discuss strategy with respect to collective  
50 bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or  
51 litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares.

52

53 James Brochu, aye, Robert Fleming, aye, Kenneth Picard, aye.

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55 **Motion #2:** At 7:18pm Chairman Brochu motioned to reconvene the regular meeting.

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57 Second: Selectman Fleming, Unanimous: Selectman Picard.

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59 **ADJOURN MEETING**

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61 **Motion #3** At 7:18pm motion was made by Chairman Brochu to adjourn the regular meeting.

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63 Second: Selectman Fleming, Unanimous: Selectman Picard.

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66 Respectfully submitted,

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68 Blythe Robinson, Town Manager