

**Board of Selectmen Minutes-Regular Session
February 12, 2007**

The following persons were present: Chairman Julie Woods, Vice Chair Arthur DuBois, Clerk Dan Stack, Sel. Jim Dwyer, Sel. Kevin Kuros, Town Manager Jill Myers, and BOS Assistant Joseph Smith.

CALL TO ORDER

Chm. Woods called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Announcements

Blackstone Valley Youth Leadership Academy Fundraising Event on 3/6/07 at Pizzeria Uno's in Millbury; Position available on the Planning Board; 3rd Annual Superintendent's Gala coming up on March 30th at the Pleasant Valley Country Club. Police Chief Scott Freitas presented Officer Gregory Bach with a Department Citation Bar for graduating with the highest scores of all the recruits in the academy class that graduated on 1/19/07.

Citizen's Forum

Chm. Woods opened Citizen's Forum at 7:07 p.m.

Peter Baghdasarian, Johnson Road, expressed criticism of the RFP for the Douglas Street property and asked the Board to withdraw the RFP solicitation.

Cecelia Boatman, 9 Griswold Court, noted Mike Potaski's recent resignation from the Board of Registrars, staffing and deadline concerns due to the vacancy of the part-time clerical position in the Town Clerk's office.

John Higgins appeared as co-chair of the School Building Committee and questioned the status of the land purchase for the proposed high school in Town, and the charge of the Committee. Chm. Woods noted that this acquisition continues to be a top priority for the Board of Selectmen.

Chm. Woods closed Citizen's Forum at 7:20 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/APPOINTMENTS

Common Victualler's License-Meadowview Tavern at Blissful Meadows

- o **MSDV by Sel. Stack, seconded by Sel. Dwyer to approve a Common Victualler's license for Meadowview Tavern at Blissful Meadows.**

Joint Meeting with the School Committee: Appointment of new School Committee Member

At 7:25 p.m. the School Committee Chairman Ernie Esposito called the Joint meeting of the School Committee to order with the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Esposito indicated that Mr. James Gornall withdrew his interest in being appointed to the School Committee in favor of Mrs. Jane Keegan. Mr. Gornall will continue to look into volunteer opportunities with the Town. The Board thanked him for his interest in serving the Town. The Board interviewed Mrs. Jane Keegan for the position as the sole remaining applicant to fill the unexpired term of Nancy Lyle. Mrs. Keegan stated her reasoning for wanting to join the School Committee including her recent history working with a youth organization.

- o **MSDV by Sel. DuBois, seconded by Sel. Stack to appoint Jane Keegan to the School Committee until the election in May, 2007. The motion passed unanimously.**

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- **MSDV by Sel. DuBois, seconded by Sel. Kuros to recess the meeting of the Board of Selectmen and reconvene after the meeting of the Water & Sewer Commissioners. The motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting of the Water & Sewer Commissioners

At 7:40 p.m. Chm. Woods called for the opening of the meeting of the Water & Sewer Commissioners.

- **MSDV by Sel. DuBois, seconded by Sel. Kuros to open the meeting of the Water & Sewer Commissioners. The motion passed unanimously.**

See separate minutes for the Water & Sewer Commissioners

At 8:20 p.m. the Water and Sewer Commissioners concluded the meeting of the Water & Sewer Commission and resumed the remainder of the BOS agenda.

- **MSDV by Sel. DuBois, seconded by Sel. Dwyer to close the meeting of the Water & Sewer Commission and reconvene the meeting of the Board of Selectmen. The motion passed unanimously.**

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

The report is attached to these minutes

ACTION ITEM: Occupancy permit report from the Building department

OLD BUSINESS

Douglas Street RFP:

Sel. Dwyer questioned RFP that was approved for release by the Board on January 8, 2007. Sel. DuBois stated that the Town directed the Board to act and he feels that the Board has acted consistent with that direction by putting out the RFP.

Chm. Woods took an opportunity between agenda items to discuss the comments made by Mr. John Higgins during Citizen's Forum relating to the status of the School Building Committee. Chm. Woods made a suggestion that the School Superintendent review the charge of the School Building Committee as the property purchase for a proposed school site is now coming to a close.

NEW BUSINESS

Board of Registrar Resignation

Chm. Woods recognized Mr. Michael Potaski who reviewed the resignation letter and his reasons for stepping down from the Board of Registrars. Mr. Potaski stated that his time on the Board has been very interesting with a lot of action in recent months and he stated his appreciation for having the opportunity to serve the Town. Chm. Woods noted the comments made earlier by Ms. Boatman and added that she met with the Town Clerk earlier in the day and that he (Town Clerk) does not feel that an emergency appointment to the BOR is needed at this time and stated that he feels he can accomplish the work to be done within the necessary time constraints. Sel. Kuros, speaking as chairman of the Republican Town

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Committee, indicated that a replacement on the Board for the opening left by Karen Pascucci can be handled at the next meeting of the Board. He requested that a letter be drafted to the Republican Town Committee requesting another slate of candidates to fill the opening left by Mr. Potaski.

The Board discussed whether or not there was a need to wait to appoint Mr. Lanny Remillard, the top candidate on the list of names submitted by the Republican Town Committee, to replace the seat vacated by Karen Pascucci. The Board decided by consensus that an appointment could be made with this evening's business as Mr. Remillard had previously been interviewed by the Board the night that Ms. Pascucci was appointed.. Chairman Woods noted the definition of "emergency" as provide in the Charter for items not on the BOS agenda. Discussion ensued. Ms. Myers reviewed the staffing of the Town Clerk's office and indicated that Mr. Kaplan is reviewing the department operations and he is willing to put in the time needed to get the work done.

Sel. Kuros indicated that if the position of the part-time clerical position is pulled from the Town Clerk's office then the previous stipend for the Board of Registrar members should be re-funded as it was removed from the budget in FY06 to allow for the funding of a part-time clerk in the Town Clerk's office to help with duties related to the Board of Registrar's. Sel. DuBois added that it is the responsibility of the Board to ensure that the work of the Registrar's goes forward. He added that there have been too many contentious issues surrounding the Registrar's and voting in Uxbridge.

- **MSDV by Sel. DuBois, seconded by Sel. Stack to appoint Lanny Remillard to fill the un-expired term of Karen Pascucci on the Board of Registrars. Mr. Remillard's appointment will expire on 3/31/2009. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **MSDV by Sel. DuBois, seconded by Sel. Dwyer to send a letter to the Republican Town Committee, per M.G.L. to request they suggest a replacement Registrar to the Board for consideration to fill the un-expired term of Michael Potaski. The motion passed unanimously.**

Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Ms. Myers reviewed the draft warrant for the STM and noted the closing date of March 9, 2007 for submission of articles to appear on the warrant. Ms. Myers asked for feedback on the content of the articles on warrant as they begin the process of preparing for the STM. BOS sponsored articles will need to be voted by 2/26/07, unless a special BOS meeting is called before 3/9/07.

Gravel Pit Discussion

Chm. Woods recognized Sel. Dwyer who asked to revisit this topic on the agenda. Sel. Dwyer noted that the Board has argued in the Martinson case and in the Vecchione case that gravel pits are required to have approval by the Zoning Board and the Building Inspector. Sel. Dwyer indicated that the Board cannot approve a permit that violates a provision of the Town Charter or the Town By-laws. Any future renewal of a gravel permit going forward should note that compliance is necessary with the provisions set forth by the Charter and the By-law, and have an occupancy permit. Chm. Woods provided the Board with additional information regarding the legal cases noted by Sel. Dwyer. The Board moved this matter until the next agenda to give them time to review all of the information provided.

OTHER BUSINESS

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ACTION ITEM: Update from the Assessors office relative to the 61A report provided.

ACTION ITEM: Letter to the IG's office regarding UCAT.

Meeting Minutes

December 27, 2006

- **MSDV by Sel. Dwyer, seconded by Sel. Stack to approve the meeting minutes as amended.
The motion passed unanimously.**

January 8, 2007

- **MSDV by Sel. Dwyer, seconded by Sel. Stack to approve the meeting minutes as amended.
The motion passed unanimously.**

January 22, 2007

- **MSDV by Sel. Dwyer, seconded by Sel. Stack to approve the meeting minutes as amended.
The motion passed unanimously.**

Correspondence

ACTION ITEM: Formal letter of congratulations to Officer Bach on his accomplishments.

ACTION ITEM: TM to note the recognition of Bob Harris

Sel. Stack commented on his visit to the new Veteran's Office in Northbridge for Veteran's services.

Adjournment

At 9:50 p.m. the Board moved into Executive Session for the purposes noted with no other regular business to follow:

- **MSDV by Sel. Dwyer, seconded by Sel. Stack to enter into Executive #3-To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining, non-contractual employee negotiations, or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the governmental body; and #6-Consider the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if such discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the governmental body. RCV: Dwyer-aye, Stack-aye, Woods-aye, Kuros-aye, DuBois-aye.**

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*Minutes respectfully submitted by,
Joseph Smith, Assistant to the Board of Selectmen*

Minutes approved by Board of Selectmen:

Chairman Julie A. Woods

Sel. James F. Dwyer

V. Chairman Arthur O. DuBois

Sel. Kevin J. Kuros

Clerk Daniel P. Stack

*MSDV: Moved, Seconded, Discussed & Voted
RCV: Roll Call Vote*