

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2007**

CALL TO ORDER: Chm. Woods called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. The following persons were present: Chm. Julie Woods, Vice Chair Kevin Kuros, Clerk Michael Potaski, Sel. Jim Dwyer, Sel. Dan Stack, and BOS Assistant Tracy Leavitt. Town Manager Jill Myers was not present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: In recognition of the anniversary of 9/11, the BOS had a moment of silence. Chm. Woods asked the Board to pause for a moment in remembrance of William Robbins.

CITIZEN'S FORUM: Mr. Phillip Bouley of 93 Centennial Court spoke on behalf of the Senior Center's services, healthy meals and transportation. Ms. Merl Lawler of 1 Old Canal Way stated that the Senior Center and the Library are the "heart and soul" of the community. Ms. Harolyn Thiemke addressed the BOS for her mother Ms. Anita Lighthiser of 20 Hitching Post Lane and stated that the Senior Center is a lifeline and basic necessity for Uxbridge Seniors. Ms. Dorothy Munhall of 42 Centennial Court informed the Board that she has had many happy days at the Senior Center. Ms. Helen Gallagher of 99 Country Squire Road spoke in support of the Senior Center. Ms. Shirley Maynard of 175 West Hartford Avenue stated she is deeply concerned that people will be neglected when most vulnerable. Ms. June Hadley of 10 Calumet Court said that she depends on the Senior Center. Chm. Woods thanked all the citizens for their comments and reminded the public that it is very early in the budgetary process and there is no immediate plan to close the Senior Center or Library. She ended by apologizing for any distress this misunderstanding may have caused.

Mr. Howard Fortner addressed the Board on behalf of the First Holiday Night Committee and their Event of Remembrance on Tuesday, September 12th.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS:

One Day Alcohol License - Our Lady of the Valley:

MSDV by Sel. Stack, seconded by Sel. Dwyer, to approve the one day alcohol license. The motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of Affordable Housing Committee Member - Wendy Innis: Chm. Woods read the talent bank form and Ms. Innis introduced herself.

MSDV by Sel. Dwyer, seconded by Sel. Stack, to appoint Wendy Innis to the Affordable Housing Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEM: Send Wendy Innis a letter and notify the Town Clerk.

Appointment of Poll Worker - Yvette Strom: Chm. Woods read the talent bank form and Ms. Strom introduced herself.

MSDV by Sel. Dwyer, seconded by Sel. Stack, to appoint Yvette Strom as a poll worker. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEM: Send Yvette Strom a letter and notify the Town Clerk.

OLD BUSINESS:

Assessment of Gravel Pits – Assessor David Utakis: Mr. Utakis reviewed his memo. Chm. Woods asked him to define income approach. Mr. Utakis responded by saying State certification guidelines require us to use at least two of the three approaches to value to estimate commercial and industrial value. He went to say that we adhere to that by using whatever approaches are available for each property and this will vary. Mr. Utakis informed the board that income approach is what the capacity is of a property to generate income. Sel. Kuros said using an

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income approach is like taking a second bite of an apple; taxing potential earnings and taxing again when earnings are made. Sel. Dwyer feels the tax income approach is the correct approach to use.

Proposed Letter Addressing Concerns of Fiscal Operations: The BOS agreed to table this item.

BOS/Town Manager Goals: The BOS agreed to table this item.

Fall Annual Town Meeting (FATM) Warrant – Draft Articles: Finance Director David Genereux informed the Board that they are still in the process of refining the warrant. Mr. Genereux went on to list a few potential articles: borrowing authorization if needed for up to \$175,000.00 for the Bernat Mill; Rosenfeld Well; Sewer Division roof/HVAC; capital request for Fire Department; and by-law amendment (change date of May 2008 election). Sel. Potaski asked if the Town has authorization to borrow \$175,000.00 and what the actual expenses are. Mr. Genereux informed the Board he is not sure of the exact number but it is very close to \$175,000.00 when he went to the State Finance Board in August with the Town Manager, and town meeting is the authorizing body, but staff would seek BOS approval before proceeding.

ACTION ITEM: Continue discussion 9/24.

Budget Summits - Priorities: Chm. Woods announced that Budget Summits are scheduled to take place on 9/19, 10/10 and 11/7. Sel. Kuros asked the Board to not lose sight of having a fourth meeting closer to Town Meeting.

Group Insurance Commission (GIC): Discussion: Sel. Stack asked Mr. Genereux if retirees incur any additional costs. Mr. Genereux said it would be the same as if we were to accept Section 18 Medicare Part B: the cost is on average \$94 per person depending on the plan. Sel. Stack asked if members of the Retired Municipal Teachers program could change back to their previous program if after 3 years they decide to not continue with the GIC. Mr. Genereux stated that a meeting is scheduled for tomorrow morning and after that meeting he will be better able to answer questions. Sel. Stack mentioned that on the school side, many employees do not use hospitals in MA. He asked if they would have to pay a 1-time admission fee of \$750 to enter a hospital not on plan. He ended by asking if all members choose a family plan, will this plan still save the town money. Mr. Genereux stated that in the beginning, he looked at what plans people are currently enrolled in and compared that to what the GIC offers. He did agree that if all members chose a family plan then the Town would not save any money, however, he does not see that as the case and is looking to stabilize health insurance costs. Chm. Woods reminded all that it is very early in the process and there is plenty of time for opportunity and input.

NEW BUSINESS:

Consider Road Closing Requests: Chief Peter Ostroskey:

- Court Street 9/12, 6pm – 8:30 p.m., for 9/11 Remembrance
- 12/1/07 First Holiday Night

Chief Ostroskey explained that the Public Safety Committee is not scheduled to meet until later in the week and that is why they have not presented a formal recommendation for the 9/12 road closure. He went on to explain that the committee is aware of this request and there seems to be no concerns among them.

MSDV by Sel. Dwyer, seconded by Sel. Stack, to approve the road closing requests. The motion passed unanimously.

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CONSENT ITEMS:

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes from 8/27 Regular Session:

MSDV by Sel. Kuros, seconded by Sel. Dwyer, to approve the meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER BUSINESS:

Consider Letter of Congratulations to Jan Reitsma: Chm. Woods informed the Board that Mr. Jan Reitsma has been name the Executive Director of the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor and the Roger Williams National Memorial in Providence, Rhode Island. She asked the Board for their support to send a letter of Congratulations to Mr. Reitsma. The Board agreed.

ACTION ITEM: Send Mr. Reitsma a letter

ADJOURNMENT: With no other business before them, at 8:43 p.m.,

MSDV by Sel. Dwyer, seconded by Sel. Stack, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by,
Tracy Leavitt, Assistant to the Board of Selectmen*

Minutes approved by Board of Selectmen:

Chairman Julie A. Woods

Sel. James F. Dwyer

V. Chairman Kevin J. Kuros

Sel. Dan Stack

Clerk Michael Potaski

MSDV: Moved, Seconded, Discussed & Voted

RCV: Roll Call Vote