

MINUTES OF MEETING OF SELECTMEN/SEWER COMMISSIONERS

#14.3-07

Date of Meeting: May 7, 2007

Date of Transcription: May 11, 2007

Transcribed by: Kelly Barrasso

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN

Chairman Eckstrom called the meeting to order at 6:15 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Selectmen Present: Brenda Eckstrom, Chairman
Jim Potter, Clerk
John Cronan
Jane Donahue
Bruce Sauvageau (Arrived at 6:30 P.M.)

Absent: John Foster, Interim Town Administrator

III. CONSENT AGENDA (NONE)

IV. TOWN BUSINESS

A. Discuss Town Meeting Articles.
(NONE)

B. Discuss date for workshop meeting.

Chairman Eckstrom stated that tomorrow night the Board was supposed to meet w/ CDM, but a representative cannot meet. The next date CDM is available is 5/29/07. Discussion ensued re: this being a long weekend & many will not be in attendance. The Board concurred to have CDM come before the Board for a workshop meeting in June.

C. Any other Town business.

1. Executive Session Meeting.

Chairman Eckstrom stated on Thursday, there would be an Executive Session meeting at 6:00 P.M. w/ Ms. Messmer & then Mr. Kobayashi relative to the Town Administrator search. There are seven to ten recommendations. Brief discussion ensued.

2. Expense Budget.

Chairman Eckstrom discussed an issue of the library GED tutor being paid out of the expense budget. She has requested attachments of invoices for Warrants the Board signs. Discussion ensued re: payment for \$9,000 for the YMCA & what this is for.

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NOTE: Selectman Sauvageau arrived at this time.

Discussion ensued re: the accuracy of the payroll warrants.

3. Benches.

Selectman Potter stated there is an issue of too many people donating benches in Onset & there are getting to be too many benches. The Board had approved two styles of benches. He doesn't know why some of the benches are being placed where they are.

Chairman Eckstrom asked if the Interim Town Administrator is approving these benches. Selectman Potter stated it has to go through someone, but it's not the Board. He stated the correct style of benches the Board approved is being put in, but there are too many.

Selectman Sauvageau stated the Board had only discussed design standards, not caps. The Board can change this policy & adopt a new one. This can be placed on a future agenda for discussion & in the mean time, direct Municipal Maintenance to not install any more benches until further notice.

MOTION: Selectman Donahue moved the Board direct Municipal Maintenance to suspend installing donated benches in Onset until further notice. Selectman Cronan seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous (5-0-0)

4. Onset Bathhouse.

Selectman Potter stated there is a group of volunteers that have offered to clean up the bathhouse in Onset. They wish to come before the Board for permission. Selectman Sauvageau stated this group would need insurance.

Chairman Eckstrom stated when Barbara Ford, Board Administrative Assistant told her about this offer, the group stated they would come before the Board during Citizens Participation on 5/15/07. Selectman Sauvageau stated the only problem w/ this is that if the group is not on the agenda, the Board cannot vote on it. Selectman Potter stated he told the group this as well, but they wish to come before the Board during Citizens Participation to ask permission. Selectman Sauvageau stated this is fine, but again stated that the Board can't vote. He stated if the group were to conduct this activity, other parties would need to be notified, such as police.

5. Tiger's football field.

Mr. Cronan stated that Lopes Co. has offered to clear land that the YMCA doesn't want for a Tiger's football field. He would hate to lose a gift to the Town such as this. He asked Barbara Ford to look into the land issue, but he has not received a response. As he understands, the land could be turned back to the Town. He would like to give Lopes Co. the go ahead to clear the land. He doesn't know if the field should be actually "given" to the football group, but they would be able to utilize it. Discussion ensued. Selectman Sauvageau stated that there could be a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding w/ the football group.

Discussion ensued re: the fields at the Westfield site. Selectman Potter stated many groups were promised fields at the site, but they don't want them. He feels the Town invested a lot of money

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into these fields. Chairman Eckstrom stated some of the groups said up front they didn't want a field at the site, but it was done anyway.

Chairman Eckstrom stated she would obtain the information tomorrow that Selectman Cronan is seeking. Selectman Cronan would like to know how this land is deeded, how it would be given back, & how this would all work. Selectman Sauvageau discussed the procedure of how it would work. He stated once the information on the land is obtained, it should be placed on the Board's agenda ASAP. He feels this is a municipal asset. Discussion again ensued re: how to proceed w/ this matter. Selectman Donahue stated there is a need to make sure there is paperwork backing all this up.

6. Town Meeting.

Discussion ensued re: what the Board could have done to improve on at Town Meeting.

7. Taxes.

Selectman Donahue stated that the School Committee Chair told here that those who can't afford to pay taxes don't have to pay, in reference to those with low incomes in Wareham and any proposals for increased taxes. Discussion ensued.

V. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Selectman Potter moved to adjourn the meeting to Town Meeting at 6:55 P.M. Selectman Cronan seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous (5-0-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Barrasso, Transcriptionist

The Board of Selectmen/Sewer Commissioners approved the foregoing minutes on: 6/19/07

Attest: *Jim Potter*, Clerk

BOARD OF SELECTMEN/SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Date signed 6/19/07

Date copy sent to Wareham Free Library: 6/22/07