

**Wellfleet Board of Selectmen
Minutes of the Meeting of September 25, 2012
Council On Aging Building, 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Chair Berta Bruinooge, John Morrissey, Dennis Murphy, Paul Pilcher; Town Administrator Paul Sieloff, Assistant Town Administrator Timothy King

Regrets: Jerry Houk

Chair Berta Bruinooge called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and announced that tomorrow is Town Administrator Paul Sieloff's last day here. She thanked him for his service to Wellfleet. She also reported on the condition of Jerry Houk, who had suffered a heart attack after the last Board of Selectmen's meeting.

Announcements, Open Session and Public Comment

- Police Chief Ronald Fisette announced the Drug Drop Off program that will be held Saturday, September 29, 2012.
- Lydia Vivante announced the first Community Paper Shredding Day to be held October 6, 2012 and the children's Halloween costume exchange will be held the same day.

Appointments

Fire Chief Daniel Silverman introduced Matthew Burns, a new call member to the Wellfleet Fire Department.

Motion 12-0333: Pilcher moved to approve the appointment of Matthew Burns as new call member of the Wellfleet Fire Department. Murphy seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

Motion 12-0334: Pilcher moved to appoint Martha R. Wilson to the Marina Advisory Committee with a term ending June 30, 2015. Morrissey seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

There were five appointments to the Comprehensive Wastewater Ad Hoc Committee with all terms ending February 28, 2013. Janet Drohan from the Board of Health, Ned Hitchcock of the Comprehensive Wastewater Planning Committee, Alfred Pickard from the Planning Board, Edward Simpson from the Conservation Commission and Ronald Zeffiro from the Building and Needs Assessment Committee were the candidates to serve on the committee

Motion 12-0335: Murphy moved to approve the appointment of Janet Drohan, Ned Hitchcock, Alfred Picard, Edward Simpson and Ronald Zeffiro to the Comprehensive Wastewater Ad Hoc Committee for a term ending February 28, 2013. Morrissey seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

Use of Town Property

Police Chief Ronald Fisette and Fire Chief Daniel Silverman spoke against the request for use of Cahoon Hollow Beach on October 13 and 14, 2012. They both said it would be difficult to cover any emergency at the film shoot because it is scheduled on the OysterFest weekend. The Selectmen noted that Ms. Roulette was not present to explain why she had requested those dates.

Motion 12-0336: Pilcher moved to not approve a request for the use of Town property by Christina Roulette of Emerson College for the use of Cahoon Hollow Beach on Saturday and Sunday, October 13 and 14, 2012 from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. to film a BA Capstone Thesis Film. Murphy seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

Selectmen's Name Stamps

Suzanne Grout Thomas introduced a proposal to allow the Principal Clerk to use the Board of Selectmen name stamps on contracts to be issued by Social and Human Services Committee.

Motion 12-0337: Morrissey moved to allow the Principal Clerk to use the BOS name stamps on contracts for the Social and Human Service Committee. Murphy seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

Barnstable County IT Report

John Morse of the Barnstable County Information Technology Department presented a three-month progress report¹ of their services to Wellfleet. Paul Sieloff also reported on positive feedback from Town departments heads regarding BCIT service for the Town.

Public Hearings (7:15 p.m.)

Chair Bruinooge opened the public hearing for discussion of local public tax levy for Fiscal Year 2013. Assessor Nancy Vail came forward to explain that the Board of Assessors recommended a single tax rate.

Motion 12-0338: Pilcher moved to approve the Residential Factor with a numeric value of 1. Murphy seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Vail explained three other options.² The Residential Exemption, a provision in state law that allows exemptions up to 20% for domiciled tax payers. The Board of Assessors does not recommend this option. The next option is the Open Space Exemption. The Board of Assessors recommends no action. Option three is an exemption for small businesses. BOS recommends no action.

Nancy Vail said that as a part of setting the tax rate, the actual property tax levy will be about \$180,000 less than the levy limit.

The second public hearing was held to consider removing Philip Allain's name from Shellfish Grant License #733.

Berta Bruinooge recused herself and Vice-Chair Paul Pilcher assumed chairmanship.

Shellfish Constable Andrew Koch came forward to explain his recommendation to remove Philip Allain's name from the grant because Mr. Allain no longer resides in Wellfleet.

Motion 12-0339: Murphy moved to remove Philip Allain's name from Shellfish Grant License #733. Morrissey seconded, and the motion carried 3-0.

Berta Bruinooge returned and resumed chairmanship of the meeting.

Residents' Tax Exemption Program

John Morrissey explained the proposal to offer a residents' tax exemption for Fiscal Year 2014.³ He distributed charts that detailed the increases to non-resident tax payers and the tax decreases for residents. Chair Bruinooge said she would allow twenty minutes for comments from the public, who lined up to speak. Nine speakers expressed opposition to the plan. Residents Janet Drohan, John Wolfe and Steven Verney agreed with non-residents Dan Hagan, Charles Rutz, Peter Eisinger, John Murray, David Shackman and Laura Ronka that the proposal was *unfair, divisive and inequitable*.

Selectman Dennis Murphy said he was not supportive of the proposal. He said he did not consider it fair. Paul Pilcher said the BOS did not have to make a decision at this time. He suggested following the example of Truro, where the Assessor researched further options for the taxes. He suggested scheduling workshops and seminars next spring and summer when more non-residents are in town. John Morrissey addressed the fairness issue, saying that millions of Americans enjoy a tax exemption, and he would like to see it offered in Wellfleet. Berta Bruinooge discussed Wellfleet's efforts to keep taxes as low as possible.

Harbor Dredging Project

Marina Advisory Committee representative Ned Hitchcock and Harbormaster Michael Flanagan had prepared a presentation of harbor dredging issues and possible federal anchorage designation for the Wellfleet Marina. Mr. Hitchcock exhibited PowerPoint slides and said the project would be ongoing for a number of years. Harbormaster Michael Flanagan, Joseph Aberdale and Mr. Hitchcock answered some of the Selectmen questions on funding.

FY 2012 Budget

Selectmen reviewed the proposed Budget Schedule and Policy for Fiscal Year 2012. Berta Bruinooge read the statement for the record.⁴

Motion 12-0340: Murphy moved to accept the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Schedule and Policy. Pilcher seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

Recruitment Process for TA and Fire Chief

Paul Sieloff presented an update on the recruitment process for the Fire Chief and Town Administrator.⁵ Paul Pilcher had questions on process and scheduling of special meetings for the BOS.

Pay-As-You Throw Committee

John Morrissey reported that the Pay-As-You Throw Committee had been dissolved. He said that the committee had accomplished its task after reporting to the Selectmen.

Motion 12-0341: Morrissey moved to dissolve the Pay-As-You Throw Committee. Murphy seconded the motion and it carried 4-0.

Designers Road Purchase

Assistant Town Administrator Timothy King explained the acceptance of the land purchase proposal for 65 Designers Road.

Town Administrator's Report

Paul Sieloff gave his report to the Selectmen. He said that there was material provided by Karl Barrio. Selectmen will schedule a discussion of the situation at the October meeting. Sieloff also said that Articles for Annual Town Meeting will begin to come before the BOS. He and John Morrissey had attended the September 24, 2012 program on 911 Dispatching modeled on Onondaga County, New York. John Morrissey said it was something that the Town should consider. Paul Sieloff made his farewell comments and assured the Board that he would be available for future consultation. Paul Pilcher commended Paul Sieloff on his hard work for the Town of Wellfleet.

Future Concerns

- Pilcher said he would like to have the Assessor's exemption options put on another BOS agenda.
- Dennis Murphy said that the Building and Needs Committee was ready to meet with the BOS.

Correspondence Report

The Correspondence Report of September 25, 2012 was submitted to the BOS.⁶

Vacancy Report

There are nine committees that need members. Bruinooge noted that the Water Commissioners had not yet recruited a fifth member.

Adjournment

Motion 12-0342: Murphy moved to adjourn the meeting. Morrissey seconded, and the motion carried 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Rogers, Committee Secretary

Public Records Material from Meeting of 9/25/12

- 1.) Barnstable County Information Technology Department a three-month progress report
- 2.) Board of Assessors' Recommendations
- 3.) John Morrissey's Proposal for Resident's Tax Reduction
- 4.) Budget Schedule and Policy for Fiscal Year 2012
- 5.) Memo of 9/19/12 from Tim King on recruitment process
- 6.) Correspondence Report of 9/26/12