

Westborough Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2008
7:00 p.m. – 8:25 p.m.

Members Present: Chairman Thompson, Vice Chairman Emery, Selectman Lydia Goldblatt, Selectmen Dodd and Jane´

Also, Present: Henry Danis, Town Coordinator; Maryanne Bilodeau, Assistant Town Coordinator, Gregory B. Franks, Town Counsel

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Thompson. Town and School payroll and expense warrants were approved and signed.

Pledge of Allegiance/Open Forum

Len Mead, 130 Milk Street, voice his concerns of higher taxes being incurred by the residents of Westborough due to the teacher's contract settlement and requested strongly that the Board not place a proposition 2½ on the special town meeting warrant or on the election ballot this fall. The Board thanked Mr. Mead for voicing his concerns.

The following committee vacancies were announced to the public by Chairman Thompson. Anyone interested in serving may submit a letter of interest to Nidia Ruberti, Town Hall, Selectmen's Office, 34 West Main Street:

Open Space Preservation Committee (2) 1-Non Voting Associate
Sandra Pond Conservation Area Wardens (2)

Approval of the Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes (continued from 8/19/08 meeting)

- July 15, 2008
- July 30, 2008

Vice Chairman Emery moved to approve the Board of Selectmen's meeting minutes of July 15, 2008. Selectman Goldblatt seconded. 5-0

Selectman Goldblatt moved to approve the Board of Selectmen's meeting minutes of July 30, 2008. Selectman Dodd seconded. 5-0

Request for an All Alcohol Restaurant License/Sapporo, Inc (Request to postpone by the proponent)

Vice Chairman Emery moved to postpone the Request for an All Alcohol Restaurant License to Sapporo, Inc., to the Board's September 23rd meeting, per the proponent's request. Selectman Jane´ seconded. 5-0

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1.

Request to Hold Denim Day/Town Treasurer/Collector

Ms. Savignac requested that the Board approve Denim Day to be held on Friday, October 3, 2008 for breast cancer awareness. She said that the fundraiser is strictly on a volunteer basis and that individuals who are interested may come to the Treasurer/Collector's office to purchase a breast cancer awareness pin for \$5.

Selectman Goldblatt moved to approve Friday, October 3, 2008 as Denim Day to be held in all town offices. Vice Chairman Emery seconded. 5-0

Request for a Temporary Trailer Permit (1)/4 Valente Drive/Cutler Associates, Inc/Michelle Guertin

Vice Chairman Emery moved to approve a Temporary Trailer Permit (1) for Cutler Associates, Inc., to be located at 4 Valente Drive from September 9, 2008 thru January 30, 2009. Selectman Jane' seconded. 5-0

Request to Waive Water and Sewer Fees/The Great Escape/Attorney Bloom

Attorney Bloom requested that the Board waive a portion of the water and sewer privilege fees for The Great Escape to be located at the Westborough Shopping Center in the amount of \$7,500; \$5,000 for sewer and \$2,500 for water as recommended by John Walden, DPW Manager's letter of September 4, 2008. He said that the business is a recreational play area for children and will have an attached coffee bar for parents to socialize and to observe their children in a supervised play environment. Attorney Bloom said that there will be no over the counter food sales only the brewing of coffee, tea and the sale of other products brought from outside vendors.

Vice Chairman Emery moved to set a portion of the water and sewer privileges in the amount of \$7,500; \$5,000 for sewer and \$2,500 for water as recommended by John Walden, DPW Manager's letter of September 4, 2008. Selectman Goldblatt seconded. 5-0

Request to Appoint a Non-Voting Member to the Country Club Operating Committee/Jim Willwerth, Chairman

Mr. Willwerth requested that the Board appoint Mr. Earl Storey to the Country Club Operating Committee as a Non-Voting Associate with a term ending of June 30, 2009.

Selectman Goldblatt moved to appoint Earl Storey as a Non-Voting Associate with a term ending of June 30, 2009. Selectman Dodd seconded. 5-0

Request to Appoint a Reserve Intermittent Police Officer/Police Chief

Police Chief Gordon requested that the Board appoint Thomas Rock as a Reserve-Intermittent Police Officer.

Selectman Goldblatt moved to appoint Thomas Rock as a Reserve-Intermittent Police Officer. Vice Chairman Emery seconded. 5-0

Request to Appoint a Finance Committee Member to the Town Manager Search Committee/Town Coordinator

Mr. Danis informed the Board that the Advisory Finance Committee has nominated Judy Lucas as the committee's representative to the Town Manager Search Committee and requested that Judy Lucas be appointed to the Town Manager Search Committee.

Selectman Jane moved to appoint Judy Lucas, as the Advisory Finance Committee Representative, to the Town Manager Search Committee, Ad, hoc. Vice Chairman Emery seconded. 5-0

Request to Appoint Members to the Government Study Committee II/Town Coordinator

Selectman Dodd requested that the Board appoint the following individuals to the Government Study Committee II, Ad hoc:

- Tim Dodd, Selectmen Representative
- John Arnold, Advisory Finance Committee Representative
- Christine Gundling, Personnel Board Representative
- Maryanne Bilodeau, Assistant Town Coordinator/HR Director
- Susan Abladian-Member at large

Selectman Dodd noted that the town has advertised for two members at large with Human Resources experience and encouraged anyone who is interested in volunteering their time to this committee to send in a letter of interest.

Vice Chairman Emery moved to appoint the following individuals to the Government Study Committee II, Ad hoc:

- Tim Dodd, Selectmen Representative
- John Arnold, Advisory Finance Committee Representative
- Christine Gundling, Personnel Board Representative
- Maryanne Bilodeau, Assistant Town Coordinator/HR Director
- Susan Abladian-Member at large

Selectman Goldblatt moved. 5-0

Selectman Dodd requested that the Board approve the mission statement for the Government Study Committee II.

Selectman Goldblatt moved to approve the Government Study Committee II mission statement, as presented (mission statement attached). Vice Chairman Emery seconded. 5-0

Request to Update the Alcohol Awareness Training/Police Chief and Assistant Town Coordinator

Ms. Bilodeau and Police Chief Gordon requested that the Board approve the following changes to the Town's Alcohol Awareness Training Requirements:

- No online training
- All Managers must be trained
- New employees must be trained within 45 days of their hire date. Previously it was 90 days.

Police Chief Gordon informed the Board that he does not feel that on-line alcohol training is an acceptable means of training along that all managers must be trained and that new employees must be trained within 45 days of their hire date instead of 90 days. Ms. Bilodeau echoed the same comments that Police Chief Gordon said and also voiced her concerns with the on-line training and the discovery that not all of the managers are trained in the alcohol awareness program along with her consent to the decrease of training days for new hires (revised letter attached).

Selectman Jane' moved to amend the Town's Alcohol Awareness Training Requirements, as presented. Selectman Goldblatt seconded. 5-0

Lee Property Signage Request/Selectman Dodd

Police Chief Gordon and Selectman Dodd requested that the Board approve the following signage language to be placed at the Lee Property:

Town of Westborough Open from Dawn to Dusk

- No Motorized Vehicles
- No Golfing
- No Alcohol
- No Fires/No Cooking
- Pick Up After Pets
- Police Take Notice

Per Order of the Board of Selectmen

Selectman Dodd said that the signage is needed for liability purposes and also noted that the sign expenses will be paid by the Recreation Department. Selectman Dodd announced that Earl Storey has done a tremendous job at the Lee Property and thanked him for all his work and continued efforts at the site. The Board thanked Mr. DeSiata for absorbing the cost of the signage and Early Storey for a great job done. 5-0

Discussion on the Economic Development Committee/Selectman Jane'

Selectman Jane requested the Board's support and approval of the Economic Development Committee draft Article (article attached). He said that he is bringing this request up tonight because Vice Chairman Emery will not be in attendance at the Board's September 23rd meeting and would like a full Board's vote.

Selectman Goldblatt moved to approve and support the draft article language for the Economic Development Committee to be presented at the Special Town Meeting. Vice Chairman Emery seconded.

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Selectman Jane´ read the draft article language and the mission statement of the committee.

Vice Chairman Emery suggested that a bullet be added, under the roles & responsibilities of the mission statement for the committee to look into filling vacant business spaces around town. After a brief discussion, Selectman Jane´ agreed to add a sub point bullet under the roles & responsibilities of the mission statement to look into filling vacant business spaces as requested by Vice Chairman Emery. 5-0

Town Counsel Report

Town Coordinator Report

Mr. Danis requested that the Board vote to hold a Special Town Meeting on Monday, October 20, 2008 and to open the warrant for articles.

Selectman Dodd moved to hold a Special Town Meeting on October 20, 2008 and to open the warrant for articles. Selectman Goldblatt seconded. 5-0

Mr. Danis noted that the Municipal Building Committee will come before the Board at its September 23rd meeting to discuss their article.

Mr. Danis noted that there will be a Financial Team meeting tomorrow and will have a report for the Board to review on September 23rd.

Mr. Danis said that there will be some more information regarding the Bay State Park to be discussed at the September 23rd meeting. He said that there are issues involving the deed and a punch list.

Mr. Danis suggested that the Board cancel their meetings for November 11th and 25th and December 9th and 23rd and to reschedule them to November 4th and 18th and December 16th.

Selectman Jane moved to cancel the Board's meetings of November 11th and 25th, December 9th and 23rd and to reschedule them to November 4th and 18th and December 16th. Selectman Goldblatt seconded. 5-0

Issues and Correspondence of the Selectmen

Selectman Dodd noted that he would like to bring up the Customer Initiative Service Program sometime in October for an update.

Vice Chairman Emery thanked Anna Tortora for filming the Board's meeting tonight and also noted that she witnessed the flooding that occurred on Saturday night on Warren Street and asked Mr. Danis as to when will the consultant be hired. Mr. Danis said that he needs to speak with John Walden, DPW Manager, and will let her know.

Selectman Jane' congratulated the School Committee and the Westborough Teacher's Association for reaching a contract settlement and thinks that everyone was well served. Selectman Jane' noted that the first meeting of the Town Manager Search Committee will be on September 16th at 3:00 p.m. in Room 24. Selectman Jane' also announced that the Westborough Little League 10 year olds all star team raised \$14,000 for the Jimmy Fund and also congratulated them. Selectman Goldblatt noted that all of the Police Chief's evaluations have been submitted and requested that his review be completed as soon as possible. Selectman Goldblatt requested that Alma DeManche and a couple of the Council on Aging members come before the Board at their September 23rd meeting to speak about what community options are available to help our senior citizens for the upcoming winter months in view of the rising cost of food and utilities. Mr. Danis acknowledge the request. Selectman Goldblatt announced that this Thursday will be the seventh anniversary of September 11th and requested that we take a moment of silence to remember all those affected by this world wide tragedy. Selectman Goldblatt also requested that we continue to remember and pray for our servicemen and women overseas.

Chairman Thompson echoed Selectman Jane's School Committee and the Westborough Teacher's Association comments and also took a moment to sincerely thank all of the town employees who serve the town so well and unselfishly and noted that the Town is very fortunate to have very dedicated and hard working employees.

Adjourn Open Session

Vice Chairman Emery moved to adjourn the Board of Selectmen meeting at 8:30 p.m. Selectman Jane' seconded. 5-0

Submitted by Nidia L. Ruberti

Chairman George Thompson Vice Chairman Leigh Emery Selectman Lydia Goldblatt

Selectman Timothy A. Dodd

Selectman Rod Jane'