

**Westborough Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes  
April 14, 2015**

**6:30 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.**

Present: Chairman Barrette, Vice Chairman Drewry, Dodd (arrived at 6:52 p.m.), Goldblatt and Johnson

Also Present: Jim Malloy, Town Manager, Kristi Williams, Assistant Town Manager/HR Director

**Open Forum**

Selectman Drewry recognized Howard “Pete” K. Fay, Jr. who recently passed away and acknowledged his service to our country and the Town.

**Consent Agenda**

Approval of March 24, 2015 Meeting Minutes.

Registrar of Voters Reappointment – A. Gibbs Mitchell

Liquor License Change of Manager for Ruby Tuesday – Jack Thierren

Selectman Johnson’s motion that the Board approve the consent agenda was seconded by Selectman Drewry. Discussion: Selectman Johnson noted that Selectman Dodd was not in attendance for the March 24 meeting. Vote: 4-0

**Public Hearing for a Wine & Malt Package Store License for Nouria Energy Retail, Inc. d/b/a Turnpike Rd. Shell #04044, 128 Turnpike Road / Tony El-Nemr**

Selectman Johnson’s motion to open the public hearing for the Wine & Malt Package Store License was seconded by Selectman Drewry. Vote: 4-0

Attorney Marshall Gould and Mr. El-Nemr came before the Board. Attorney Gould explained that as part of the Shell Station’s renovations they have eliminated the vehicle servicing and tire sales and are providing food service. Mr. El-Nemr also decided to pursue the available wine and malt license, has experience with other operations that he owns and his retail sales manager and store manager have several years of experience.

Selectman Johnson’s motion to approve the New Wine and Malt License for Nouria Energy Retail, Inc. d/b/a Turnpike Road Shell #04044 at 128 Turnpike Road and naming Zack Zorombo as the Manager of Record, as per their application was seconded by Selectman Goldblatt. Vote: 4-0

Selectman Johnson’s motion to close the public hearing was seconded by Selectman Goldblatt. Vote: 4-0

**Request to Approve the Spring Festival 5K Road Race on May 3, 2015 / Jessica Thomas, Rotary Club**

Ms. Thomas came before the Board and reviewed the various events and road race that are part of the Spring Festival.

Selectman Goldblatt's motion to approve the Rotary Club's Spring Festival 5K on Sunday, May 3, 2015, subject to any requirements of the Police and Fire Chiefs was seconded by Selectman Johnson. Discussion: The Police and Fire Chiefs have no issues. Vote: 4-0

**Public Hearing for a Site Plan Review for Landscape Designing, Inc., 218 Flanders Road / Doug Curtiss**

Selectman Drewry's motion to open the public hearing for the site plan review for Landscape Designing, Inc., 218 Flanders Road was seconded by Selectman Goldblatt. Vote: 4-0

Mr. Malloy reviewed the process for a site plan review before it can be approved by the Board. The responses from the applicant were received last Thursday which was not sufficient time for the departments to review for tonight's meeting.

Garrett and Phil Curtiss came before the Board. Garrett Curtiss noted that they have been in business for approximately 30 years and are planning to relocate from Southborough to Westborough. Their plan is to purchase the 2 acre lot on Flanders Road and build a 5,000 square foot facility for office space and equipment storage. Mr. Curtiss reviewed the site plan and proposed layout. They will obtain their fuel elsewhere and carry only 5 gallons on the trucks.

Selectman Drewry's motion to continue the public hearing until 6:40 p.m. on April 28, 2015 was seconded by Selectman Johnson. Vote: 5-0

**Request to Approve the Little League Parade on April 25, 2015 / Robert Nagi**

Mr. Nagi came before the Board.

Selectman Johnson's motion to approve the Little League Parade on April 25, 2015 at 10 AM, subject to any requirements of the Police and Fire Chiefs was seconded by Selectman Goldblatt. Discussion: Mr. Nagi reviewed the details of the parade and the route and asked for permission to close the roads. Chief Gordon has no issues. Vote: 5-0

**Request to Approve Job Descriptions / Assistant Town Manager/HR Director**

Ms. Williams had provided the Board with the job descriptions at the last meeting for their review and approval at this meeting. She noted that one minor change was made to the Part-time Building Inspector.

Selectman Drewry's motion to approve the job descriptions for DPW union positions, the Youth Activities Coordinator, Part Time Assistant Health Inspector, Field Lister, Administrative Assistant/Secretary for Con Com, Board Administrative Assistant, GIS Administrator, Part Time Building Inspector, Librarian II (Teen Services), and Full Time Economic Development Coordinator as presented was seconded by Selectman Johnson. Discussion: Selectman Goldblatt requested the Full Time Economic Development Coordinator position be removed from the motion in order to make minor changes to the description and bring them before the EDC for their approval. The Board will approve the job description at the next meeting. Selectman Drewry amended the original motion by withdrawing the Full Time Economic Development Coordinator position and it was seconded by Selectman Johnson. Vote: 4-0

**Request to Award Bid to Peregrine Energy Group/Bay State Consultants for Municipal Electric Aggregation / Town Manager**

Mr. Malloy explained that an RFP was issued as approved at Town Meeting to pursue municipal electric aggregation in order to get a lower rate for residential and business users in Town. The

State's Department of Energy Resources (DOER) is involved in the process and each town that goes through the process hires a consultant. Two responses were received, they were interviewed and their references were checked. The bids were the same at \$0.001 per kWh and Peregrine was chosen as there will be public meetings and they had better presentation and public relation skills.

Selectman Johnson's motion to award the consulting services bid to Peregrine Energy Group and to authorize the Town Manager to execute any agreements related to this program was seconded by Selectman Goldblatt. Discussion: Mr. Malloy noted that it will take about a year to go through the process with the DOER. Selectman Johnson questioned if Peregrine and Bay State Consultants are the same company and Mr. Malloy explained that Peregrine will hire Bay State Consultants as they both have different skill sets. There will be at least two public meetings and direct mailings to residents. Once the program is in place residents will have the ability to contact the Town and the consultant as well with questions. Vote: 5-0

### **Town Meeting Review/Spurr House Committee Update / Town Moderator**

Mr. Arnold came before the Board and commented on the Town Meeting process.

Comments from the Board:

- There were comments from the public regarding the number times of people spoke. The Moderator does keep a list and abides by the bylaw.
- It was disappointing that people made personal comments. The Moderator is looking into techniques to address this issue.
- The request to continue and through the 5:00 dinner break to address an Article so that people do not have to come back.
- Commended the Moderator on handling the issue of those who do not know the background of some of the Articles and explaining the public process that goes on all year.

Mr. Arnold informed the Board that he received twelve applicants for the Spurr House Committee and plans to have the committee appointed by the end of the week. He reviewed the process the committee will go through, their charge, and that they will bring a recommendation to Fall Town Meeting.

### **Town Manager Report**

Mr. Malloy informed the Board that he received the insurance renewals from MIIA and pointed out that cost per year of property/casualty, special liability, and workers compensation is \$630,000. Approximately \$77,000 to \$78,000 is credited back due to the 4% discount for paying invoices within 30 days and the MIIA Rewards Program, which the Town departments participate in. He noted the significant cost reduction and the importance of continued participation in the rewards program. Mr. Malloy thanked the Town Departments for their cooperation and participation.

As a result of the vote at Town Meeting on the Gibbons School Project and its increased cost the Board had asked Mr. Malloy to prepare a presentation on the financial impact of keeping the Forbes Municipal Building (FMB) project on schedule versus a 2-year delay. He reviewed the presentation which is included in the Board's packets. The projected 10-year tax increase with the current projects is 3.1%; with the FMB project on schedule it is 3.8%; and with a 2-year delay it would be 3.6%. Mr. Malloy noted that the Town would not come near the Proposition 2 ½ debt cap nor would it be close to the 2 ½ levy limit in any of the three scenarios.

Mr. Malloy pointed out that the School Department and Recreation are working together regarding the facility use needs for school programs and sports. He reviewed the rental cost that the travel basketball teams pay the School Dept. for gym use versus the cost to operate a recreation center. The option for the travel teams to rent other court space giving the Recreation Department higher priority for school gym use is being explored by the Superintendent. He noted that a new recreation center and possibly senior center could be looked at more seriously when the High School/Mill Pond debt is paid in 2025. Mr. Malloy stated that the Town could move forward with the FMB renovation either way and that there is not much to gain by waiting 2 years except for a minor decrease in the property tax increase for a 2 year period.

Selectman Barrette noted that the Municipal Building Committee feels strongly that the FMB renovation needs to be done sooner rather than later and that it should not be tied in with a new Recreation Center. He commended the Superintendent and School Department for their efforts and cooperation in working with the Recreation Dept. to replace the use of FMB gym. Selectman Dodd agreed and stressed the importance of maintaining the Town buildings as well as the schools, balancing the needs of the Town. He suggested looking at the Community Preservation Act and that it might be a worthwhile discussion to have in the future as it would provide assistance with such as historical preservation. Mr. Malloy explained that the impact of adopting the Act and will bring forward the presentation that he did a couple of years ago for discussion again. Selectman Johnson stressed that the public should be kept informed regarding any proposed changes to the travel basketball program and that the State Hospital property is considered as a potential site for Town facilities.

### **Issues and Correspondence of the Selectmen**

Selectman Johnson noted that the program “Burroughs Plus” will have forums regarding way that towns can work better together and encouraged the Board to attend as it is also a chance to network with other town officials.

Selectman Goldblatt asked about the road issue on East Main Street and Mr. Malloy noted that the DPW is addressing it.

Selectman Drewry pointed out that the new electronic sign is difficult to read and Mr. Malloy will have the background and font changed. Boston will become a Purple Heart City on Marathon Monday and Selectman Drewry will attend the ceremony.

### **Executive Session**

Selectman Drewry’s motion to enter into Executive Session under MGL Chapter 30A, §21-4 to discuss the deployment or strategy regarding strategy or personnel or devices was seconded by Selectman Dodd.

A Roll Call Vote was taken: Selectman Dodd – yes; Selectman Johnson – yes; Selectman Goldblatt – yes; Selectman Barrette – yes; Selectman Drewry – yes.

*Submitted by Paula M. Covino*

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Chairman Barrette

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Vice Chairman Drewry

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Selectman Goldblatt

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Selectman Dodd

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Selectman Johnson