

Members present: Allen R. Phillips Christopher A. Rucho
John B. DiPietro, Sr. Kevin M. McCormick
Members absent: Valmore H. Pruneau

Mr. Phillips convened the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Mr. Phillips recognized Brandon Buono, Joel Sylvester, James Masse, John Sylvester and Mike Vignaly, members of Boy Scout Troop 151, who are working on their Citizenship in the Community Badge. Each of the scouts was given a copy of the Board's agenda and following the meeting they will discuss an issue of importance to them. Scout Joel Sylvester led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Read and acceptance of Minutes from Previous Meeting:

Motion Mr. McCormick to approve the open session meeting minutes of March 12, 2009, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

Motion Mr. McCormick to approve the open session meeting minutes of March 18, 2009, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

Cemetery Commissioners

Cemetery Commissioners John F. McCormick, III, Aaron Goodale, III and Peter Rotando, joined the Board. Commissioner McCormick explained that they need to expand the Mount Vernon Cemetery as they have already sold half of the section they opened up five years ago and only 45 lots remain. As of February 28, 2009, they have a balance of \$153,481.31 in their Sale of Lots Account. Each time they sell a lot half of the proceeds go into this account and the other half goes into the Perpetual Care Account. They are able to spend this with town meeting approval and would like to include an article on the warrant to transfer \$153,000 from the Sale of Lots Account to a Cemetery Expansion Account for the purpose of paying all the costs relative to the expansion of the Mount Vernon Cemetery.

Mr. McCormick reported that the Commissioners are working with the architectural firm of Fay, Spofford & Thorndike who provided them with an estimate of \$276,525 to expand the cemetery 500 more lots to cover the next 32 years. They were able to use \$7,780 of their Perpetual Care Funds to clean the trees and they have loam on site which will eliminate some of the line item costs within the estimated cost to do the expansion. The Commissions feel that by taking those costs out they will be able to do most of the expansion for \$153,000. In the next year the area will need to be graded and seeded as it will take a couple of years for the grass to root.

Selectman McCormick pointed out the fact that this money does not impact the town's budgets and Commission McCormick concurred as the money is already in the Sale of Lots Account and has no bearing on the town's budget. They also plan to level a hill, which abuts the area to be expanded and include drainage. Currently there is a 32-inch pipe in the cemetery, which they will hook into and the plan will mirror the other lot system with all the roads connecting.

Motion Mr. McCormick to include an article on the warrant for town meeting to transfer \$153,000 from the Sale of Lots Account to a Cemetery Expansion Account for the purpose of paying all costs relative to the expansion of the Mount Vernon Cemetery, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

The second article the Cemetery Commissions would like on the warrant is to have the town approve a slop easement and a temporary construction easement on private land abutting the cemetery property. Due to the fact that the grade has a twelve-foot difference from the layout of the road they have asked the abutter if they could go onto their land and give them a 50x200-foot easement. This is a

temporary easement, which will allow them to grade the slope, and they will never have to go back on the land again. The family agreed to the request. This will also be at no cost to the town and Mr. Goodale noted that it will improve the entire area. Town Counsel would like to do a title search and the Cemetery Trustees intend to pay for those costs.

Motion Mr. McCormick to include a second article on the warrant to approve a slope easement acquisition and temporary construction easement on private land abutting cemetery land, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

Public Hearing: Re, Amending The Annual Inspection Fee Schedule For The Building Department

Mr. Phillips opened the public hearing and read the following notice. Public notice is hereby given, in conformity with the requirements of the General Bylaws of the Town of West Boylston, ARTICLE XXIII - PUBLIC HEARING AND NOTICE, that the Board of Selectmen will meet on Wednesday, April 1, 2009 at 7:15 p.m. for the purpose of amending the annual inspection fee schedule for the Building Department. The meeting will be held in Conference Room #1 of Town Hall, 127 Hartwell Street, West Boylston. For additional information, or to review the proposed changes, please contact the Office of the Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen at 508.835.3490. All interested persons, groups, and agencies are invited to attend. Allen R. Phillips, Chairman, advertised on March 18, 25, 2009.

Mr. Gaumond explained that one of the changes in the 7th Edition of the State Building Code was the elimination of fees for annual type inspections and it created the ability for cities and towns to establish their own fee structure. The Building Inspector recommends we adopt the previous fees structure with no increase in fees. There is no one present to speak on the issue.

Motion Mr. Rucho to close the public hearing, seconded by Mr. DiPietro, all in favor.

Motion Mr. McCormick to accept the fee schedule outlined in Table 10 for annual inspections, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Concurrence on the appointment of Leonardo Angiulo of 6 Highland Ave. to the Conservation Commission effective April 3, 2009 for a term to expire on April 30, 2011

Motion Mr. Rucho to concur with the appointment, seconded by Mr. McCormick. Mr. Gaumond reported that he met with Attorney Angiulo who has a strong background and interest in conservation. In accordance with the Board's goal, he is also a new resident who does not serve on any other boards. Vote on the motion – all in favor.

2. Vote to approve the April Annual Appointments of the Board of Selectmen

Motion Mr. McCormick to concur with the appointment of Charles Witkus and Linda Isgro to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term of five years, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

Motion Mr. Rucho to concur with the appointment of Gregory Zarkarian and David Mercurio to the Bylaws Committee for a term of one year, seconded by Mr. McCormick, all in favor.

Mr. Gaumond announced that we have an opening on the Bylaws Committee and encouraged residents who might be interested to notify the Board of Selectmen in writing.

3. Concurrence on the April annual appointments of the Town Administrator

Motion Mr. McCormick to concur with the following appointments of the Town Administrator:

MEETING**BOARD OF SELECTMEN****APRIL 1, 2009**

BOARD OF ASSESSORS:	James J. Swalec	3 yrs.
BOARD OF HEALTH:	Robert J. Barrell	3 yrs.
	Mary-Isabel Luddy	3 yrs.
VETERANS AGENT:	Neil Norum	1 yr.
CULTURAL COUNCIL:	Winifred Hesemeyer	1 yr.
	Patricia Barrie	1 yr.
	Judith Fortin	1 yr.
	Pauline McCormick	1 yr.
	Andrew Feland	1 yr.
	Heather Feland	1 yr.
	Ellen K. Philbin	1 yr.
ASSIST. ANIMAL INSPEC.:	Steven Jones	1 yr.
ASSIST. ANIMAL INSPEC.:	Robert Barrell	1 yr.
INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS:	Charles Witkus	1 yr.
HISTORICAL CMSN.:	Neil Norum	3 yrs.
	Gregory Zakarian	3 yrs.
PARKS COMMISSIONER :	Patrick W. Inderwish	3 yrs.
	Peter Desy (school)	3 yrs.
INSURANCE ADV. CMTE.:	Michael J. Kittredge, III	1 yr. Sts. & Pks.
	Sandra Ivins	1 yr. School Teachers
	Marcia Cairns	1 yr. Gen. Gvt.
	Paula Menendez	1 yr. alt School Teachers
	David Richardson	1 yr. Police
	Cande Kristoff	1 yr. School Administrative
	Barbara Deschenes	1 yr. Retirees
	John McCormick	1 yr. alt Retirees
	Patricia Fanning	1 yr. MLP
CONSTABLE:	Peter Rotando	1 yr.
	Robert Rosenlund	1 yr.
	Dennis Minnich	1 yr.
	Thomas M. Balvin	1 yr.
	Matthew Saunders	1 yr.
	Francis Glynn	1 yr.
	Anthony Papandrea	1 yr.
MATRON:	Mary E. Almstrom	1 yr.
	Abbi E. Parkinson	1 yr.
PEG PROGRAM		
CO-ORDINATOR:	Charles F. Greenough	1 yr.
TOWN COUNSEL:	Leonard Kopelman	1 yr.
TOWN COMMON & BANDSTAND USE ADVISORY CMTE.:	M. Patricia Barrie	1 yr.
	John F. McCormick	1 yr.
ASST. BUILDING INSPECTOR:	Richard Breagy	1 yr.
WIRING INSPECTOR:	Michael J. Capone	1 yr.
ASSISTANT WIRING INSP.:	Dennis E. Smith	1 yr.
PLUMBING/GAS INSP:	Todd Raymond	1 yr.

ASSIST. PLUMBING INSP.:	George W. Mioglionico	1 yr.
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS CMTE.		
	Valmore H. Pruneau	1 yr.
	John B. DiPietro, Jr.	1 yr.
	Roger W. Hall, Jr.	1 yr.
	Michael Vignaly, Sr.	1 yr.
	Bruce Peterson	1 yr.
	Allen R. Phillips	1 yr.
	Kevin M. McCormick	1 yr.
	Christopher Rucho	1 yr.
	John Hadley	1 yr.
	James Dugan	1 yr.
	Michael Maljanian	1 yr.
TRANSPORTATION CMTE.:	Charles F. Greenough	3 yr.
	Michelle Harris	3 yr.
	John B. DiPietro, Sr.	3 yr.
	Larry Salate	3 yr.
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CMTE	3-yr appts.	
	Christopher Rucho	3 yr.
	Barbara Wyatt	3 yr.
	John Hadley	3 yr.
	Maryann Schelin	3 yr.
	Robert Matthews	3 yr.

Motion seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor. Mr. Phillips recused himself and turned the meeting over to Mr. DiPietro.

Motion Mr. Rucho to concur with the following Town Administrator appointments:

CONSERVATION CMSN.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:	Allen Phillips	3 yrs.
	Ryan Killman	3 yrs.

HAZARDOUS WASTE

CO-ORDINATOR:	Richard J. Pauley, Jr.	1 yr.
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ASST. HAZARDOUS WASTE

CO-ORDINATOR:	Allen R. Phillips	1 yr.
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FIRE REP. CENTRAL MASS

REPRESENTATIVE:	Dr. Andrew Garrett	1 yr.
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GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE TO

C.M.E.M.S.C.:	Christian Koppetsch	1 yr.
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AMBULANCE REP TO

CMEMSC:	Dean Kochanowski	1 yr.
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EMERGENCY MGMT.

DIRECTOR:	Richard J. Pauley, Jr.	1 yr.
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ASSIST EMERGENCY MGMT.

DIRECTOR.:	Allen R. Phillips	1 yr.
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CERT COORDINATOR:	Matthew Schircliff	1 yr.
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RIGHT-TO-KNOW

COORDINATOR:	Richard J. Pauley, Jr.	1 yr.
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FOREST WARDEN: Richard J. Pauley, Jr. 1 yr.

Motion seconded by Mr. McCormick, all in favor. Mr. Phillips returned to the meeting.

Public Hearing: Be-Ar Holding Corp, 164 Shrewsbury Street Application To Amend An Existing License To Store Flammables, Combustibles Or Explosives

Mr. Phillips opened the public hearing and read the following notice. In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 148 of the Mass General Laws, The Board of Selectmen of the Town of West Boylston will hold a public hearing on the application of BE-AR Holding Corp, 164 Shrewsbury Street to amend their existing license to store to allow the storage of 6,200 gallons of flammable liquids and 510,000 gallons of combustible liquids. The hearing will be held on Wednesday, April 1, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in Conference Room #1 of the Municipal Office Building, 127 Hartwell Street, West Boylston. All interested persons, groups, and agencies are invited to attend. Allen R. Phillips, Chairman, advertised on March 25, 2009.

Fire Chief Richard Pauley joined the Board with Bob and Bud Schultz owners of BE-AR Holding Corp. The request is to amend the license which was originally issued in 1987. Bud Schultz explained that the original license provided for the underground and above-ground tanks, and this year following an inspection by the Fire Department, it was brought to their attention that the lubricants were also subject to licensing. Chief Pauley stated that this is not uncommon and something he often saw while working at the State Fire Marshall's Office in the mid 1980's. The initial license was issued and there may have been a disconnect between the Fire Department, the business and town hall as the amount of combustible liquids have been on the site since 1987. This will correct what has always been there and has his full concurrence.

Mr. DiPietro asked Mr. Schultz if he was previously located on West Boylston Street. Mr. Schultz indicated that he had. Mr. DiPietro complimented him on their excellent record in the town. Should the Board grant the amendment, Chief Pauley will issue a new license reflective of what is on site.

Mr. Phillips opened the hearing up to public comment. David Eckhardt, licensed PE in Massachusetts asked if they had checked to see if they fall under PSM 191019 and whether they meet DEP regulations on underground storage tanks. Mr. Schultz indicated that they are. Chief Pauley noted that this is not an underground storage tank issue and they are in full compliance with 537CMR both with testing and requirements. Mr. Schultz noted that they had several meetings with DEP to ensure they got everything right at their site. Mr. Eckhardt is reassured to hear that and asked him to address his first question in due course. The certified mailing return receipt cards were provided by Mr. Schultz as proof that abutters were notified of the hearing.

Motion Mr. McCormick to close the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

Motion Mr. McCormick to approve the amendment to the license, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Review and consider voting to approve draft Agreement between DCR and the Town of West Boylston for Wachusett Earthday Project

Mr. Phillips requested tabling this agenda item until their meeting of April 8 to allow sufficient time to review the amended agreement which was just provided to the Board. Members are in agreement.

NEW BUSINESS (cont.)

4. Review and approve RFP for Computer Network Administration with Stillwater Computer Services, LLC

Motion Mr. McCormick to accept the proposal and allow the Town Administrator to begin contract negotiations for the services, seconded by Mr. DiPietro, all in favor.

5. Review and approve Adoption of Street Acceptance Procedures

The Board's agenda package contains a draft Street Acceptance Procedure which was a joint effort of a representative of the Planning Board, the Town Administrator and John Westerling to bring order to what could be considered very confusing. Town Counsel has reviewed the information and provided comments, which have been incorporated into the document. The Planning Board has approved the procedures and if the Board of Selectmen agrees, it will be put on the town's web site to give clear guidelines and deadlines for street acceptances. In the past we have had the warrant article ready to go and the developer was not ready to go. This will give clear direction to this issue. Mr. Westerling stated that he thinks it is a very good procedure and credited the Planning Board.

Mr. DiPietro asked Mr. Westerling if he objected to something does it have to go back to the Planning Board. Mr. Westerling replied no, he would generate a punch list which would need be completed. Mr. DiPietro questioned whether it would be easier to have the Planning Board take care of everything and their engineer could forward a letter to the DPW Director. Mr. Westerling explained that the engineer inspects during construction and once everything is completely constructed the DPW will check things such as man holes and detention basin to insure nothing will get accepted until it is all in compliance. Mr. DiPietro indicated that he understands where Mr. Westerling is coming from.

Motion Mr. McCormick to approve the Street Acceptance Procedures as presented, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor. Mr. Gaumond will work with the Planning Board to make sure the information is posted on the web site under the Planning Board and the DPW.

Anthony Casella – Recycle Bank

Mr. Casella joined the Board to discuss Recycle Bank. He explained that he is a trash and recycling person by trade and was in the business for 18 years. However, Recycle Bank is not a trash company. They are an American Express Rewards Company and the key is they want to reward those households who recycle. They generate revenue by selling the recyclables and avoiding landfill tipping fees. They use single-stream recycling with everything going into one container. Recycle Bank does not haul the materials. The trucks are retrofitted by Recycle Bank and a RFID chip identifies the households and tracks how much the container weights full and empty. The resident signs onto their web page and everyone has a home page on which you can see how many trees you have saved. Recycle Bank does not sell any of our information and they increase recycling by rewarding people. Pay-as-you-throw is more of a tax on the households. Should a resident not want their rewards Recycle Bank will set up a program to donate the rewards to schools or the library. Local businesses make up half of their rewards.

Mr. Gaumond asked how the rewards come from the local businesses. Mr. Casella explained that Recycle Bank creates the rewards and the money off is paid by the businesses themselves. The reason why a local business such as a restaurant would want to participate is for increased traffic. He noted that CVS and Stop and Shop are their top rewards. They also come into the school system to explain the system and get involved with the local chamber to get businesses involved. Mr. DiPietro asked if most of the businesses will carry our trash bags. Mr. Casella does not know and he stated that Recycle Bank does not want to get involved with anything that goes to a burn facility. He feels our recycling rate should be at 40%. Mr. DiPietro was told that you could cash in the points from Recycle Bank for pay-as-you-throw bags. Mr. Casella explained that Recycle Bank does not want to get

involved with anything going to the landfill. He feels that pay-as-you-throw does a great job doing what they do, however, he thinks they need to do this together.

Mr. Castella explained that 20% of the rewards can be printed out on line. Currently Recycle Bank is in Everett, Revere, Southbridge and Hartford, Connecticut. The reporting allows you to know which streets are recycling and which are not. In Everett they have a lot of small local markets and 60% of the redemption rate is for those local markets. Mr. DiPietro asked if they had started the program in any town in Massachusetts and had to pull out. Mr. Casella replied no. Once you retrofit the trucks and give the town the carts it is difficult to get out.

Mr. Phillips asked who pays to retrofit the trucks. According to Mr. Casella, Recycle Bank retrofits the trucks, provides welcome kits and does the first initial mailing. They do not purchase the carts. Every time items are recycled and not brought to the landfill, Recycle Bank gets half of that savings for their payment. Mr. Phillips asked Mr. Westerling what the town gets back from Waste Management for our recycled materials. According to Mr. Westerling the recycling is free of charge and Waste Management owns the recycling.

Mr. Casella explained that their program would never change even if the value of the recycling goods go down. The carts can be paid for in three years with an RFP. It costs \$55 for a 96-gallon cart and the next thing you will be able to recycle is styrofoam. You also have the option of doing a lease to own program for the carts. They are guaranteed for ten years and with this option you own them after five to seven years. Mr. DiPietro asked if we would have to hire additional help. Mr. Casella explained that anything through the Recycle Bank Program they manage. Waste Management will end up having more recycling on the street and less trips to the landfill. The only negative aspects is getting involved in the middle of a contract and the other is older trucks do not compact.

Mr. DiPietro asked about condominium units with 25 units. According to Mr. Casella, contamination is really high with condominium units, it's tough to see who is recycling, and it does not always work well as it gets sticky trying to get carts upstairs. Street level units would work. Mr. Rucho asked if the Board were to move forward with this tomorrow, what do we need for money. Mr. Casella explained that only thing is purchasing the carts and he recommends a lease to own with the town getting a monthly bill. They retro fit the trucks, set up the on-line system and web page. He estimates saving \$36,368. The revenue from the bags will go down. He thinks pay-as-you-throw can work well with Recycle Bank but the revenue stream will go down.

Mr. Westerling noted that DEP thought this would be a challenge because we are in the middle of our contract with Allied Waste and questioned how that would work. Mr. Casella would like to sit down with Allied Waste and Mr. Westerling as Recycle Bank has a National Agreement with them. He noted that we need the haulers to be very involved and our first interest is increase recycling. Mr. DiPietro can envision a problem because of the language in Item 26 in the Waste Management contract which allows the contract the right to increase what he charges if we recycling more and the trash hauler is picking up less. Mr. DiPietro questioned how the hauler would get his money. According to Mr. Casella the agreement should state something about price points and they do not want to lose the business. He thinks everyone would like to see themselves as a better recycler.

Mr. Rucho asked Mr. Casella if he spoke with the Solid Waste Advisory Team. Mr. Casella has not, but is willing to. The Board agreed to continue their discussion on this at their meeting on March 9th. Mr. Rucho would like to get answers from the current hauler prior to the meeting and he also thinks single-stream people would be interested in this. Mr. Westerling will contact Allied Waste to get answers to the questions.

OLD BUSINESS (cont.)

2. Review Selectmen's Recommended FY10 Budget Reductions

At the last meeting of the Board, we discussed the Town Administrator's proposed budget. At that time the Board recommended additional cuts and since that time Mr. Gaumond has reviewed their suggestions and received input from those who would be impacted.

The first recommendation was eliminating elected salaries. As an appointed official Mr. Gaumond does not feel comfortable lowering salaries for elected positions but the Board of Selectmen has the ability to do so. He thinks it would be beneficial for the Board to discuss this with those elected officials who would be impacted. Initially he thought the impact could be as much as \$2,250. However, due to the fact that the Municipal Light Board's \$900 is not within our budget and the Planning Board does not take their stipend, the potential savings is only \$850.00.

Eliminating stipends for appointed Boards. Some boards do receive stipends, including the Parks Commission, Board of Health and Board of Assessors. The Town Clerk also gets \$1,000 for posting information on the web site. There is a potential savings of \$2,300. By vote of the Board of Selectmen he could direct the Finance Director to reject those payments. He cautioned that the downside might be the individuals may not wish to do the job any longer and we would be faced with finding qualified people for the positions. Mr. Rucho noted that the Parks Commission stipends come from the revolving fund and thus would not reduce the budget. Mr. McCormick suggested decreasing the stipends by \$500. According to Mr. Rucho the Parks Commission discussed eliminating their stipends.

Moderator's Budget. With regard to the Moderator's budget, Mr. Gaumond spoke to him and he could reduce his budget \$190-\$220. Mr. McCormick recommends writing a letter to the elected boards and asking them not to take their stipends.

Motion Mr. McCormick to contact the elected Boards that get stipends, request that they not take the stipends, eliminate the Selectmen's stipend and ask the Municipal Light Plant for their \$900 to be added to the payment-in-lieu-of-taxes they will be sending us, seconded by Mr. DiPietro. Mr. Phillips recommends the Board outreach to all the departments in town and ask them for voluntary cut backs as they may say no, but we will never know unless we ask them. Mr. Gaumond noted that there are no pay increases built into this budget. Mr. Gaumond asked Mr. Phillips if he wants him to include that in his negotiation discussions. Mr. Phillips feels the question should be asked. Mr. McCormick stated that he is not going to ask people to take a pay cut. Mr. Phillips has read a lot of articles about people voluntarily taking time off to help others out. Mr. Rucho thinks that would be another issue. Mr. McCormick also thinks it is a separate issue as members of the Board are part-time volunteers. Mr. McCormick offered to contact the other Boards regarding their stipends. Vote on the motion – all in favor.

Motion Mr. McCormick to have Mr. Gaumond craft a letter, which he offered to sign, asking appointed Boards who get stipends not to take them, seconded by Mr. Rucho. Mr. Rucho voiced concern we are not sure what the dollar amount would be as we do not know who actually takes the stipends. He feels the only one we know for sure is the \$1,000 for the Town Clerk. Mr. DiPietro offered to sign the letter with Mr. McCormick. Vote on the motion – all in favor.

The Moderator will be reduced by \$170.

Selectmen's Other Expenses. The Board asked to remove expenses to attend MMA. Mr. Gaumond noted that this line item covers expenses associated with postage and advertising. At this time he recommends a reduction of only \$850, not the \$1,000 the Board suggested.

Motion Mr. McCormick to reduce the line item by \$850, seconded by Mr. Rucho. Mr. Gaumond noted that the advertising requirement is due to a bylaw and we could change the bylaw to allow for postings on the web rather than in a newspaper. Vote on the motion – all in favor.

Reserve Fund. Mr. Gaumond explained that the Reserve Fund is our safety net for unforeseen expenses. The good news is we have not yet spent anything out of that fund. He also noted that we do have an October town meeting and should we find ourselves draining funds from that account we could amend it at that time assuming we have money available. The line item was originally at \$50,000 and then reduced to \$45,000. Mr. Phillips' recommends reducing it to \$30,000.

Motion Mr., McCormick to fund the Reserve Fund at \$40,000, seconded by Mr. Rucho. Mr. Phillips stressed the need to make hard decisions and doesn't think we will get anywhere with small cuts. Vote on the motion- Messrs. DiPietro, McCormick and Rucho yes; Mr. Phillips no.

Town Counsel. Mr. Gaumond feels any additional cuts to Town Counsel could put the town in a very difficult position to defend itself. Mr. Phillips pointed out that the Reserve Fund could be used for Town Counsel, if needed. He feels we need to make tough decisions and we should be more prudent when we use Town Counsel. As of the end of January we have used 57% of the \$85,000 appropriation with a balance of \$36,000. Mr. Gaumond noted that some of our legal costs associated with the mandatory sewer connection have been given to Mr. Westerling to pay. The file containing all the invoices for town counsel is on the Board's signature table for their review. He noted that no board has carte blanche to town counsel. Mr. Phillips thinks sometimes we should say 'no.' Mr. Gaumond's goal is to return as much money as possible.

Motion Mr. McCormick to lower Town Counsel to \$70,500, seconded by Mr. Phillips. Vote on the motion – Messrs. Phillips, DiPietro and McCormick yes; Mr. Rucho no.

Data Processing. The request was to take out another \$3,200. He asked for an impact statement from our computer consultant. She reports that by January of 2010 we will have 12 systems out of warranty and over 5 years old. The current budget includes \$5,500 to replace any of those 12. It also includes \$1,000 for a total of \$6,500 for all our hardware needs including switches, router, printers that are reaching their life expectancies and hardware we will need to replace ourselves on our out of warranty elder systems. These systems are used by all the offices. There is also a \$1,600 buffer for any new software and to cover unexpected increases in prices from our current vendors in addition to our Dell warranties. Another possibility is to give up our Symantic anti-virus license and use a free program such as AVG-free.

Mr. Phillips stated that in the second line of the email it doesn't say that the systems have to be replaced. Mr. Gaumond has told our consultant that none of the systems are going to be placed, however, just last week his computer died. Mr. Phillips' concern is the budget contains \$5,500 in case a system breaks and they may not break. Mr. DiPietro questioned whether important records would be lost should a computer go down. Mr. Gaumond explained that although our systems are backed up, we lost the ability to do the job as our customer service is based in the virtual world.

Mr. Phillips questioned how many units we would expect to break this year. Mr. Gaumond feels that \$5,500 would probably replace four or five. Mr. Phillips thinks we could rely on the Reserve Fund as he would have a hard time leaving these funds on the table.

Motion Mr. McCormick to reduce the budget for Data Processing by another \$1,500, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

Planning Board. The Board requested an additional cut of \$1,050 from the Planning Board. Chairman Pat Halpin was contacted and indicated that they will do their part as building projects have slowed down. They may have to restrict their meetings to once per month which would seriously impact the timeliness of their approval process. She also noted that they are proud of their approval process which is far short of the time required by 40D expedited permitting process.

Motion Mr. McCormick to reduce the Planning Board by \$1,050, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

Building Inspector. The Building Inspector's budget will be reduced by \$800.00.

Motion Mr. McCormick to accept the \$800 cut in the Building Inspector's budget, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

Emergency Management. Mr. Phillips recused himself. The recommendation was to reduce the line item to \$1,000. The Fire Chief's response is that it will severely impact his ability to perform the functions to meet the responsibilities of the position. He noted that it wasn't four months ago that we faced the largest weather related natural disaster seen in Worcester County for 30 years. We have still not completed the necessary cleanup activities tasks and projects related to the December ice storm. He feels the budget should be funded at a minimum of \$10,000 plus each year to be able to make progress in this area. There are a number of Emergency Management related functions that need to be addresses and improved including an update and re-write of the Town's Comprehensive Emergency management Plan, we have no ability to set up a real emergency operations center when needed in times of crisis and a good portion of the Emergency Management Operating Budget helps to offset the cost of Nextel phones and direct connect communication equipment which is absolutely needed due to our inadequate radio communications equipment.

The original budget was \$5,500 and Mr. Gaumond recommends \$4,900.

Motion Mr. McCormick to reduce the budget to \$3,500, seconded by Mr. Rucho. Mr. McCormick noted that should extra funds become available he would like to replenish the line item. Vote on the motion- Mr. McCormick yes; Messrs. DiPietro and Rucho no; Mr. Phillips returned to the meeting.

Street Lights. The Manager of the Municipal Light Plant is still working on putting the information together relative to locations and cost per light location. Mr. McCormick suggested voting on the decrease and then decide which lights should be eliminated once the Board receives the list. Mr. Phillips pointed out the fact that some towns are eliminating all street lighting. Mr. Rucho's preference is to know what \$30,000 would do. The Board agreed to hold off taking any action until they receive the information.

Trash. The difference between the budget and the override number is \$120,000. Mr. Rucho questioned how we use the bag fees. The \$120,000 would be the bag fees and we will pay tipping fees via bag sales. The Board agreed to hold off taking any action until after the public hearing on pay-as-you-throw scheduled for April 9.

Celebrations. This line item will be cut by \$1,540 as the funds will be raised through private fund raising.

Motion Mr. McCormick to cut Celebrations by \$1,540, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

The total in cuts is \$23,110, a possible \$30,000 for Street Lights and \$120,000 from trash for a grand total of \$173,110. Mr. Gaumond reported the current funding for the Library is \$10,449 and they requested \$280,000. The Parks Commission would like \$14,000 to \$15,000, the Police Department could use an additional \$30,000 and the Treasurer/Tax Collector needs \$4,000, which he has asked Mr. Westerling to see if he could absorb in his Sewer Budget. We will know by the end of the fiscal year what can use to rebalance the budget.

MEETINGS, INVITATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Announce that the Town of West Boylston received the E-Government Award with Distinction from Common Cause

Mr. Gaumond presented the Board with the award and noted that we are one of 46 communities in the state to receive the E-Government Award with Distinction from Common Cause.

2. April 8th – Start Walking Day – 10:00 a.m. Rally at Council on Aging – please pre-register

This is part of our Wellness Program

3. April 10th – MORE Legislative Breakfast – 8:30-10:00 a.m. at the Central MA Regional Planning Cmsn. Union Station Office

4. April 13 & 27th - the Shrewsbury Street/Tivnan Drive Yard Waste Recycling center will be open to accept yard waste from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

5. April 26 - Little League Parade begins at 1:00 p.m.

6. May 1 – WB's Got Talent at Major Edwards Stage- questions call Amy Corneliussen at 835.9777 or Pam Frechette at 835.2359

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Rucho voiced concern that one of the dates our yard waste center will be opened is the day after Easter. He suggested getting volunteers to work the site and have it opened on a Saturday. Mr. Gaumond explained that the plan is to offer the service during the week and avoid paying the DPW overtime costs. He feels it might be difficult to get volunteers to run this. Mr. Rucho remembers two or three years ago we tried to look at a volunteer program. Mrs. Lucier will get the information out. Mr. Rucho feels people are willing, but need direction.

Mr. Phillips received an email from a resident concerning the street sweeping. As most of the sand is still covered with the brush could we begin with the main roads and then go to the side roads. Mr. Westerling explained that streets are swept for safety, drainage and flooding and aesthetics. They can put it off until August if that is the Board's wish. Mr. Phillips noted that we are asking people to stack their brush at the side of the road and once the debris is gone the sand will end up in the road again, which will defeat our purpose. Mr. Westerling's sweeping schedule begins in the center of town, then onto the main roads, and they also have homes on them. Mr. Phillips asked Mr. Westerling for his recommendation. Mr. Westerling recommends staying with the schedule for public safety and drainage flow issues. Mr. Phillips questioned the cost to sweep. According to Mr. Westerling it is two men for nine to ten weeks. He suggesting having a sand drop off at the DPW garage, Mr. Phillips suggested having the residents collect the sand in a container and the DPW would pick it up, which Mr. Westerling is amendable to.

Mr. McCormick asked the status of the ice storm brush pick up. Mr. Gaumond advised the Board that we have a couple of legal problems we are trying to resolve. He is hoping that within two to three weeks he will have an answer and the agreement will be before the Board by their next meeting. Mr. McCormick questioned how long the pickup process will take and Mr. Gaumond is unsure of that answer as it depends on how many crews will be working, although the goal is to have the project completed by July 1.

Once the brush has been picked up Mr. Phillips asked the Board if they would be agreeable to having the residents sweep the sand into a five gallon pail and have the DPW pick it up. Mr. McCormick thinks it would be cheaper to have the streets swept again rather than having a man drive around in our truck and pick up large barrels of sand. He recommends sweeping it once and figure what to do after that. Mr. Rucho recommends Mr. Westerling report back with a recommendation on how to fix the issue. Mr. DiPietro noted that last winter he said the sander should go down the center of the street and he was voted down. He thinks the sanders go too close to the gutters.

Mr. Westerling feels there the risk is too high to the town's drainage and public safety to put off the sweeping and recommends sticking to the schedule. The sweeping has already commenced and the brush has not yet been a problem.

Mr. Gaumond asked the Board if they would have any objection to participating in the Annual Saturday coffee with your appointing authority. The Board has no problem participating.

Mr. Rucho asked when the Board would be discussing the brush collection contract with DCR. According to Mr. Gaumond the contract could be available for our meeting on April 8th. Mr. Rucho asked if a dollar amount was included for West Boylston. Mr. Gaumond stated that there was a dollar amount and thinks it was grossly low. Mr. Rucho noted that much of the brush is being burned by the residents.

Mr. McCormick announced that the Boy Scouts will hold their annual Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, April 4 from 8-12 at the Masonic Temple.

Motion Mr. McCormick at 10:00 p.m. for the Board to enter executive session under the provisions of MGL Chapter 39, Section 23b, Part 3 to discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations, and the Board will not be going back into open session, seconded by Mr. Rucho. Roll call vote: Mr. DiPietro yes, Mr. Phillips yes, Mr. McCormick yes, Mr. Rucho yes.

Motion Mr. McCormick at 10:30 p.m. to come out of executive session, seconded by Mr. Rucho. Roll call vote: Mr. DiPietro yes, Mr. McCormick yes, Mr. Phillips yes, Mr. Rucho yes.

With no further business to come before the Board, motion Mr. McCormick at 10:30 p.m. to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: May 6, 2009

Nancy E. Lucier

Allen R. Phillips, Chairman

John B. DiPietro, Sr., Selectman

Kevin M. McCormick, Selectman

Christopher A. Rucho, Selectman