

Members present: Kevin M. McCormick Christopher A. Rucho
Valmore H. Pruneau Steven Quist
Allen R. Phillips

Mr. McCormick convened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Motion Mr. Pruneau at 6:30 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 litigation, and the Board will be going back into open session, seconded by Mr. Quist. Roll call vote: Mr. Quist yes, Mr. Pruneau yes, Mr. McCormick yes.

Motion Mr. Phillips at 7:22 p.m. for the Board to come out of executive session return to open session, seconded by Mr. Pruneau. Roll call vote: Mr. Quist yes, Mr. Pruneau yes, Mr. McCormick yes, Mr. Phillips yes and Mr. Rucho yes.

Read and acceptance of Minutes from Previous Meeting:

Motion Mr. Phillips to approve the meeting minutes for the March 25 regular session seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

Motion Mr. Phillips to approve the regular session meeting minutes from April 1, seconded by Mr. Rucho. Vote on the motion – Messrs. McCormick, Phillips, Rucho and Quist yes; Mr. Pruneau abstains.

Motion Mr. Phillips to approve the regular session meeting minutes from April 1, seconded by Mr. Rucho. Vote on the motion – Messrs. McCormick, Phillips, Rucho and Quist yes; Mr. Pruneau abstains.

Motion Mr. Phillips to approve the regular session meeting minutes from April 8, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

Motion Mr. Phillips to approve the regular session meeting minutes from April 9, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

Motion Mr. Phillips to approve the regular session meeting minutes from April 15, seconded by Mr. Pruneau. Vote on the motion – Messrs. Pruneau, Phillips and Quist yes; Messrs. McCormick and Rucho abstain.

Motion Mr. Phillips to approve the executive session meeting minutes from April 15, seconded by Mr. Pruneau. Vote on the motion – Messrs. Pruneau, Phillips and Quist yes; Messrs. McCormick and Rucho abstain.

Motion Mr. Phillips to approve the regular session meeting minutes from April 22, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

Motion Mr. Pruneau to approve the regular session meeting minutes from April 29, seconded by Mr. Phillips, all in favor.

Motion Mr. Phillips to approve the executive session meeting minutes from April 29, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor

Kevin Kennedy, AICP, Sr. Grant Writer, Bay State Grants

Mr. Kennedy joined the Board for discussion. Mr. Gaumond noted that one of the Board's goals was to pursue additional grants and Mr. Kennedy is offering his services to the town at no expense to the town as he is looking for clients. Some grants have stipends associated with them for administrative costs and those funds would go to him on any grants we are successful with. Mr. Kennedy would notify the town of any grant opportunities and department heads would work together with him on the grant. He will be attending the next department head meeting to discuss grant

opportunities with the department heads. Although a lot of grant money is drying up, there are some still available and we will pursue as many as possible. Mr. Kennedy has been successful with his work on grants for greenways. Mr. Gaumond noted that often there is a lot of paperwork and research associated with applying for grants. For somebody who has this ability would greatly help us meet some of those deadlines. Mr. Rucho questioned where the administration fee would go if we file the grant ourselves. According to Mr. Gaumond the funds would be part of what would come in to the town.

Mr. Kennedy noted that a lot of grants have a maximum amount you can put in for and in his experience the administrative funds would go into the General Fund of the town. Mr. Phillips asked what would happen if the grant had no administrative costs associated with it and it would something the town had interest in applying for. Mr. Kennedy stated that there is something about building relationships, and he would help even if he wouldn't get anything from it. He is here to help built the rural character of the town and it deserves to have the small community remain that way with trails and open space acquisitions. He also understands that the town has a lot of infrastructure needs. Mr. Phillips asked if he is working with any other communities in the area. Mr. Kennedy is working on ADA improvement grants with Charlton, however, at this time there are no other communities in Massachusetts. Mr. Quist asked him his batting average. According to Mr. Kennedy he gets about 90% of the grants he applies for and has received over \$1 million dollars worth of grants. Mr. Rucho asked if we had to put this out to bid. Mr. Gaumond indicated that the town could work with anybody they want to as some grant writers have expertise in certain areas and nothing says that Mr. Kennedy could be the only person the town would deal with.

Mr. Phillips asked to get copies of all the grants they will be working on.

David Dziczek, 105 Woodland Street, Applicant For Personnel Board

Mr. Gaumond explained that the Personnel Board is one of the few boards the Selectmen has the responsibility of appointing.

Motion Mr. Rucho to appoint Mr. Dziczek to the Personnel Board, seconded by Mr. Phillips. Mr. Quist asked him what his qualifications were. Mr. Dziczek indicated that he has negotiation and arbitration experience. Mr. Quist asked him what he did for work. Mr. Dziczek is a test engineer for Raytheon. Vote on the motion – all in favor.

Raymond Bricault – Request For Letter Of Support For Mass Academy

Mr. Bricault joined the Board. He explained that the Mass Academy of Math and Science is a state-funded public high school, which has been funded for the last 15 to 18 years. With the Governor's original budget it was funded, however, after the House budget came out it was removed. There is a grass roots campaign to restore that funding in the budget. It is a regional school for gifted students, who have to be academically qualified. It does not cost the town for the students to attend, and it averages three to four West Boylston students per year. Attendance is from Central Mass communities and it is a resource the schools can use to pass off some of the higher end students. He is requesting the Board write a letter of support to Senator Chandler and the Senator President indicating support for funding of the Academy. The School Committee has agreed to write a letter as well.

Mr. Philips asked if this does not get funded, would the students return to West Boylston schools. Mr. Bricault feels it is unclear at this point as they might choose to pay tuition at a college. Mr. Bricault explained that the students apply as sophomores, attend the college in their junior year and their senior year is spent at Worcester Polytechnical Institute. The students have the option of returning to West Boylston to play sports and graduate with their graduating class. During their junior

year they are in class from 7:30 to 4:00. Mr. Rucho voiced concern that should the funds be reinserted into the budget there would be a need to cut elsewhere.

Motion Mr. Phillips to send a letter of support for Mass Academy to Senator Chandler and Senate President, seconded by Mr. Quist, all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Request for a Common Victualler's License for Top Dogs, Inc. 340 West Boylston Street

Mr. McCormick recused himself. Herbert Campbell joined the Board. He intends to open a basic hot dog and sausage restaurant with some outside seating next to the building and will be opened Sunday to Saturday from 9:00 to 11:00 p.m. All departments have responded favorably to the request of whether or not the business is in compliance with them.

Motion Mr. Phillips to grant the license, seconded by Mr. Quist, all in favor. Mr. McCormick returned.

2. Concurrence on the appointment of Frank Perla, 335 Lancaster Street to the Agricultural Commission effective May 8, 2009 for a term to expire on April 30, 2010 (tentative)

Motion Mr. Phillips to concur with the appointment, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

3. Concurrence on the appointment of Janice Ash, 145 Maple Street to the Council on Aging effective May 8, 2009 for a term to expire on April 30, 2012

Motion Mr. Phillips to concur with the appointment, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

4. Concurrence on the appointment of Charles Hudson, 87 Maple Street, Apt. 7C to the Council on Aging effective May 8, 2009 for a term to expire on April 30, 2012

Motion Mr. Phillips to concur with the appointment, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

5. Concurrence on the appointment of Jason Kunst, 515 Prospect Street to the Sustainability Committee effective May 8, 2009 for a term to expire on April 30, 2011

Motion Mr. Phillips to concur with the appointment, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

6. Concurrence on the appointment of Brenda Bowman, 18 Crescent Street to the Sustainability Committee effective May 8, 2009 for a term to expire on April 30, 2011

Motion Mr. Phillips to concur with the appointment, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

7. Concurrence on the reappointment of Robert Barrell, 13 Bowen Street to the Earth Removal Board as the Board of Health Designee effective May 8, 2009 for a term to expire on April 30, 2010

Motion Mr. Phillips to concur with the appointment, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

8. Concurrence the reappointment of Robert Ash, 145 Maple Street to the Earth Removal Board as the Water District's Designee effective May 8, 2009 for a term to expire on April 30, 2010

Motion Mr. Phillips to concur with the appointment, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

9. Vote to accept donations and gifts in the amount of \$175. on behalf of the Memorial Day Donation Account

Motion Mr. Phillips to accept donations and gifts in the amount of \$175. on behalf of the Memorial Day Donation Account, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

10. Vote to accept donations and gifts in the amount of \$442.01 on behalf of the Beaman Memorial Public Library

Mr. Pruneau recused himself. Motion Mr. Phillips to accept donations and gifts in the amount of \$442.01 on behalf of the Beaman Memorial Public Library, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor. Mr. Pruneau returned.

11. Vote to accept donations and gifts in the amount of \$150.00 on behalf of the Memorial Day Donation Account

Motion Mr. Phillips to accept donations and gifts in the amount of \$150.00 on behalf of the Memorial Day Donation Account, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

12. Vote to allow the expenditure of \$300 from the Memorial Day Account for the purpose of buying geraniums

Motion Mr. Phillips to allow the expenditure of \$300 from the Memorial Day Account for the purpose of buying geraniums, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

13. Consider concurring with the recommendation of the Insurance Advisory Committee regarding co-pay changes on the town's health insurance

The Insurance Advisory Committee is recommending two changes in health insurance co-pays. The first is office visits will go from \$10 to \$15 and the other is Emergency Room charges from \$50 to \$100.

Motion Mr. Phillips to concur with the recommendations, seconded by Mr. Quist, all in favor.

14. Review and approve town meeting mailer (will be available for mtg.)

The mailer will be two sided, one side will be the customary letter and the other will have information on pay-as-you-throw. Mr. Phillips recommends including verbiage on the bottom of each side instructing the reader to see the reverse side.

Motion Mr. Phillips to approve the letter with the additional verbiage, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

15. Assign Motions for May 18, 2009 Town Meeting

Motions were assigned as follows. Mr. Rucho will read the motions for Articles 1, 18, 23, 31, 37, and 42; Mr. Phillips will read the motions for Articles 2, 19, 24, 32, 38 and 43 Mr. McCormick will read the motions to combine the revolving accounts under Articles 3-15, the motion to approve Articles 3-15, and Articles 20, 25, 30, 33, 34, 39 and 44; Mr. Pruneau will read the motions for Articles 16, 21, 26, 35, and 40; Mr. Quist will read the motions for Articles 17, 22, 27, 36, and 41.

16. Review and approve contract with Stillwater Computer Services, LLC

The Board requested Mr. Gaumond prepare a contract to continue the process of outsourcing our IT department. Town Counsel has reviewed and approved the contract as to form, which level funds for the fourth year the hourly rate we have with the consultant.

Motion Mr. Phillips to sign the contract with Stillwater Computers and send them a letter of thanks for keeping this at level funded in our time of financial hardship, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

17. Review information on Volunteer Coordinator position

Mr. Gaumond believes the Board is looking for a volunteer person who will be responsible for soliciting volunteers and volunteer opportunities in the town and matching the volunteer with the opportunity. He previously worked with town counsel on this issue and they jointly developed a volunteer release form as there are certain liability issues we need to be aware of. Mr. Gaumond also put a request on the Town Manager's web site asking if other communities had a similar position. Part of his concern is how we could get a volunteer coordinator to serve the town as a volunteer. He also questions if a volunteer person with no real knowledge of the various departments is the best person to oversee the work and this process. He has a sample job description for a Senior Center Volunteer Coordinator, which could be modified to accomplish what we are looking to do. He also feels that having seen the senior work program administered in the town that the department managers currently have a system in place to ask for and receive volunteers. To him he feels that the department managers are probably in a better position to supervise and seek appropriate volunteers and he stands ready to help in anyway the Board would like. The agenda package includes back up information from other communities in Arizona and Wisconsin.

Mr. Phillips stated that we do not know if somebody might be interested in doing this as many people may be out of work and want to donate their time to do. Mr. Rucho feels this could take a couple of days a month, and he feels we need to have a general release form, which the supervisory would ensure is filled out. He also feels the department that needs the volunteer would control it themselves. Mr. Quist suggested posting something on the web site. Mr. Phillips feels one person could coordinate this and they could try to find out if people are interested in volunteering.

Motion Mr. Phillips to have Mr. Gaumond see if anybody is interested in being the Volunteer Coordinator for the Town, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

18. Update on Brush Clean Up

Mr. Gaumond reported that the Selectmen met on Monday and voted to rescind their vote on signing the joint agreement with DCR for brush removal. He is trying to find other options to deal with the brush. There have been articles in the newspaper outlining the issues facing this contract and the Board asked him not to move forward with that contract. Congressman McGovern's Office and the Lieutenant Governor's Office are intervening to try to keep that as a viable option and tomorrow there will be a meeting to try to find a solution to the problem of dealing with the brush calculation. We will know very soon as to whether or not this is a viable option. Right now we are monitoring this and he is working on a different option in the event that the town does not want to go with the DCR option. He has a draft bid for storm debris removal and chipping services. Mr. Quist asked if the town could do this themselves, and suggested putting a team together. He also noted that should this occur again, who says the town has to pick up the brush. Mr. Phillips feels another option is use the state bid list. Mr. Gaumond noted that we also need to comply with the requirements of the Asian Longhorn Beetle.

Mr. Phillips also read the article in the newspaper and not everyone is supporting this option with DCR. He also questioned whether DCR has to re-bid this. The town is responsible for everything over the FEMA's \$20.00 reimbursement rate. Should we take the other route, the town does not have to be on the hook. According to Mr. Gaumond, West Boylston, Boylston, Shrewsbury, Holden and Worcester were given the offer. Boylston is doing their own pick up and Shrewsbury is also picking up their debris as they were not as impacted as our town. At this point, there are three people still in the mix. Mr. Gaumond is speaking with Brian Bullock in Holden about a joint bid for the two towns.

Mr. McCormick voiced frustration that we have been discussing how to deal with the brush clean up for a month and a half and the residents are very upset. He thinks that if it is not resolved by Friday we need to move forward. He would like to make a decision.

Motion Mr. Phillips, not to go forward with DCR at this time and to go out to bid ourselves or with Holden as to him anything you have to ask you Congressman to get involved in between the state and federal government is not a good thing, seconded by Mr. Pruneau. Mr. Rucho agrees with the motion to go out to bid. Mr. McCormick would like this resolved soon. Mr. Quist questioned whether we would get FEMA reimbursement if the town went out to bid. Mr. Phillips noted that there is a performance period and we would have to apply for an extension. Mr. Gaumond indicated that he has already applied for an extension. Mr. Gaumond will continue to work on this and update the Board with all options available. If Holden is willing, he will work with Brian Bullock. Mr. Gaumond noted the benefit of going with DCR is they will upfront the funds. Should the DCR option fail, Mr. McCormick feels we could go with Plan B. Mr. Rucho suggested calling Shrewsbury to see what they received for bids. Mr. Gaumond noted that Shrewsbury parted ways with the low bidder, however, he will look into that as well. Vote on the motion – all in favor.

MEETINGS, INVITATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. May 4-10, 2009 – Public Service Recognition Week. Mr. Gaumond recognizes this week each year and he intends to recognize employees with five year incremental anniversaries.
2. May 11, 2009 – 8-1p.m. Brush Dump will be open
3. May 13, 2009-7 p.m., Planning Board Meeting on Site Plan Review by Surabian Realty, Wachusett Plaza
4. May 18, 2009 –7 p.m. Semi-Annual Town Mtg. Middle/High School
5. Consider joining the Coalition for Jobs and Growth and receive the most up-to-date information on the debate around casino gaming in Massachusetts. The Board is being invited to join the Coalition for Jobs and Growth, which is a non-profit organization. There is no cost to join the organization and it would be to take a stand on whether or not we support casinos in Massachusetts. Mr. Phillips asked to put this off to another meeting. Mr. Rucho would rather not do anything on this.

Motion Mr. Quist to table this item, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

6. Response from Silver Star Families of American for issuing Proclamation supporting Silver Star Families. We received an email which indicated that they received 1,225 proclamations and they wanted the Board to know that they appreciated their support.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No one has any agenda items for this evening.

With no further business to come before the Board, motion Mr. Rucho at 8:40 p.m. to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy E. Lucier

Approved: May 20, 2009

Kevin M. McCormick, Chairman

Valmore Pruneau, Vice Chairman

Allen R. Phillips, Clerk

Christopher A. Rucho, Selectman

Steven Quist, Selectman