

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

Mr. McCormick convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**Read and acceptance of Minutes from Previous Meeting:**

Motion Mr. Phillips to approve the meeting minutes for the January 6, 2010 regular session, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

Motion Mr. Pruneau to approve the meeting minutes for the January 13, 2010 regular session, seconded by Mr. Phillips, all in favor.

Motion Mr. Pruneau to approve the executive session meeting minutes for the January 6, 2010 regular session, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor

**Public Hearing: Linda Isgro, Zoning Board Of Appeals Complaint**

Mr. McCormick opened the public hearing and read the following notice. Public notice is hereby given, in conformity with the requirements of the General Law c. 40A, §12, that the Board of Selectmen will meet on Wednesday, January 20, 2010, at 7:05 p.m. in Conference Room #1 of the Municipal Office Building, 127 Hartwell Street, West Boylston, MA for the purpose of hearing complaints about members of the Zoning Board of Appeals. All interested persons, groups, and agencies are invited to attend. Kevin McCormick, Chairman, January 6, 2010.

At the last meeting of the Board, the Board voted in favor of the request from Ms. Isgro to continue the hearing until February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Phillips questioned how the Board should handle the request Ms. Isgro filed to amend the complaint. Upon Town Counsel's advice, Mr. Gaumond has forwarded the materials to Mr. Chevalier. The Board could accept the materials as written.

Motion Mr. Phillips to continue the public hearing until February 3, 2010 at 7:05 p.m. and accept the materials to amend the complaint, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

**Andrew Beardsley – Authorization To Hang Advertising Banners On Light Poles As A Fund Raising Campaign For The Goodale Park Renovation Project**

Mr. Beardsley joined the Board and displayed a sample of an advertising banner, which he would like permission to hang on light poles throughout the town as part of a fund raising campaign to support the Goodale Park renovation project. One side of the banner would advertise the business and the other side would celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Municipal Light Plant. He hopes to continue what the Bicentennial Committee did with the banners, which will be on display from April through October. The Light Plant has already agreed to hang the banners, as soon as permission is granted. The Building Inspector instructed Mr. Beardsley to get approval from the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Gaumond spoke with the Building Inspector, and he has no issue with the request, however, it is slightly different than what the bylaws allow him to approval. He has no objection. Mr. Phillips asked if the banners which will be used are those that businesses did not want. Mr. Pruneau indicated that he delivered some of the banners to the sponsors, however, some didn't want them. Should a Bicentennial sponsor wish to donate their banner to the fund raising campaign they could, and if needed, more banners will be purchased. The cost of the banner has not yet been determined.

Motion Mr. Phillips to approve the installation of the banners, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

Mr. Rucho would like to give the Building Inspector the authority to approve these types of requests.

Motion Mr. Phillips at 7:15 p.m. for the Board to enter executive session under the provisions of MGL Chapter 39, Section 23b, Parts 3 and 6 to discuss strategy with respect to union negotiations and to consider the lease of real property and the Board will be going back into 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.

Motion Mr. Phillips at 7:20 p.m. for the Board to come out of executive session and return to open session, seconded by Mr. Rucho. Roll call vote: Mr. Quist yes, Mr. Pruneau yes, Mr. McCormick yes, Mr. Phillips yes and Mr. Rucho yes.

**Public Hearing: Philippe Chevalier, Zoning Board Of Appeals Complaint**

Mr. McCormick opened the public hearing and read the following notice. Public notice is hereby given, in conformity with the requirements of the General Law c. 40A, §12, that the Board of Selectmen will meet on Wednesday, January 20, 2010, at 7:25 p.m. in Conference Room #1 of the Municipal Office Building, 127 Hartwell Street, West Boylston, MA for the purpose of hearing complaints about members of the Zoning Board of Appeals. All interested persons, groups, and agencies are invited to attend. Kevin McCormick, Chairman, January 6, 2010.

Motion Mr. Pruneau to continue the public hearing until February 3, 2010 at 7:25 p.m., seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

**Alexander Bartholomew, 21 Lost Oak Road – Finance Committee Applicant**

Mr. Bartholomew is interested in serving on the Finance Committee and has no questions for the Board. He has been in contact with Chris Berglund, Chairman of the Finance Committee and they will be meeting before the meeting on January 28.

Motion Mr. Phillips to appoint Alexander Bartholomew to the Finance Committee, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor. Mr. Bartholomew will be provided with a copy of the Finance Committee Handbook and our current budget.

**Joseph Evangelista, 152 Worcester Street**

Mr. Evangelista joined the Board with DPW Director John Westerling. He is requesting a temporary waiver of Section 4.4 of the Sewer Connection Regulations. Mr. Evangelista is working on a project at 152 Worcester Street and the existing lateral serves 150 Worcester Street. He would like to be allowed to share that connection with four-unit development until the 150 Worcester Street site is redeveloped or for a period for three years, whichever is less. By doing so, it will avoid disturbing the road for the sewer connection, each site will have its own independent connection after the projects are completed, it is not a permanent situation and has an expiration date and they have paid for four sewer connections and betterment fees. The capacity of the six-inch line would not be impacted. He will also abandon the house at the same time and redevelop it with something similar to what he is doing at 152 Worcester Street.

Mr. Westerling thinks this is a win/win for both parties and agrees with the three-year time period.

Motion Mr. Phillips to allow for the temporary waiver of Section 4.4 of the Sewer Connection Regulations for up to three years, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

**Snow & Ice Budget**

Mr. Westerling has spent \$82,377 of the \$104,324 appropriated for Snow and Ice expenditures. He also has invoices, which he has yet to process for supplies and the next payroll will include the

snow storm over the holiday weekend. He is requesting an open-ended approval with spending updates provided to the Selectmen.

Motion Mr. Phillips to authorize an open-ended emergency snow and ice expenditure, as allowed under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 31D, for the FY10 Snow and Ice Removal Accounts, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor. With future spending reports, Mr. Phillips requested Mr. Westerling include a spending through date for each line item.

The Board signed the Sewer Commitment.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Texting Policy Information**

It was agreed to table this item until the February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **2. Discussion on Retiree Health Insurance**

Messrs. McCormick and Pruneau recused themselves. At the last meeting the Board requested a breakdown on retirees' health insurance. Using the same reductions, as approved for non-union employees, the shift in savings for FY10 would be \$15,427, in FY11 it would be \$80,000 and FY12 it would be \$108,000. The agenda package also contains information on what other towns do with their retirees. Most are at the 50/50. The last question the Board had was if you retire at a certain rate, what happens. Mr. Gaumond spoke with Ken Lombardi and he said it depends on what the Board of Selectmen decides to do. They could leave the retirees as they are or change to the same formula.

Mr. Rucho feels the rate for the retirees also has to change. Mr. Phillips asked if when someone retires do they get cost of living adjustments. Mr. Gaumond believes there maybe increases on a periodic basis, but not a regular increase. Mr. Phillips noted that when the Board changes health insurance benefits with the union they bargain that out. If we change retirees we are not giving them anything for that change as we will with the other people.

Motion Mr. Rucho to change the retiree contribution to the same formula as we did for municipal employees. For those health care plans presently (as of June 30, 2009) at 90% (town) and 10% (employee) contribution rate split, the contribution rate shall change to 85% (town) and 15% (employee) effective March 1, 2010, 82% (Town) and 18% (employee) effective July 1, 2010, and 80% (town) and 20% (employee) effective July 1, 2011. For those health care plans presently (as of June 30, 2009) at 75% (town) and 25% (employee) contribution rate split, the contribution rate shall change to 70% (town) and 30% (employee) effective March 1, 2010, 65% (Town) and 35% (employee) effective July 1, 2010, and 60% (town) and 40% (employee) effective July 1, 2011, seconded by Mr. Quist. Mr. Phillips stated that he understands the need, however, he also understands when we did it with anybody else we bargained it out. He thinks it is unfair because we do not give them anything. Vote on the motion – Messrs. Rucho and Quist yes; Mr. Phillips no. Messrs. McCormick and Pruneau rejoined the discussion.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Approve Selectmen Goals For 2010**

The goals established by the Board at their goal setting session for 2010 are as follows. Develop a marketing program for West Boylston, Gateway improvement/beautification, Workplace discrimination Training, Organize housing processes in Town, Improve parks & recreation programs, Update the Master Plan, Develop a Housing Production Plan, Renegotiate the trash contract, Explore alternatives for the Town Sewer Department, Work to improve community preparedness at the personal level, Explore options of privatizing more municipal services, and Continue to explore regionalism in all areas of municipal government.

Mr. Quist suggested prioritizing the goals on a scale of one to five. Mr. Gaumond will send the Board a chart of all 12 goals and have them rank them.

2. Consider signing Lease with D&S Realty, Inc. for 127 Hartwell Street

Motion Mr. Phillips to sign the Lease with D&S Realty, Inc. for 127 Hartwell Street, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

3. Goals & Objectives for the Fire Chief

Mr. Phillips recused himself. Annually when it comes time for the Police Chief, Fire Chief and the DPW Director contracts to be done, Mr. Gaumond requests goals the Board would like to see assigned. Mr. Quist believes the Fire Chief should play a critical role in the community preparedness goal. Mr. Gaumond explained that he typically takes the goals designated by the Board and divides them up amongst his department heads. Mr. Pruneau asked if the Chief lives close by now or still in New Hampshire as he would like to know time wise where he is. Mr. Gaumond indicated that he thinks he splits his time between New Hampshire and some place close. He will provide the Board with the Chief's goals from last year and they will forward suggestions to him. Mr. Phillips returned to the discussion.

4. Approve Schedule for May 17, 2010 Town Meeting

Motion Mr. Phillips to approve the schedule, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

### **MEETINGS, INVITATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. January 25, 8:30 a.m. – LEI Meeting – that date works for both Messrs. Pruneau and Quist

2. January 28, 7:00 – Joint Meeting with School Committee at the Middle/High School

3. February 26, 8:00-10:00 a.m. – MMA Legislative Breakfast Meeting in Palmer, Scituate and Westminster – Mr. Gaumond intends to attend the Palmer session and encouraged Board members participation.

4. Announce that residents now have the ability to recycle their old cell phones at town hall.

The town has entered into a new recycling program and we are now able to old cell phones and rechargeable batteries at town hall. People can dispose of these items at no charge and a box will be left in the hallway for that use. Mr. Phillips asked what they do with the cell phones. Mr. Gaumond believes they are deconstructed and they recycle the materials.

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

With regards to the tour of the Library by the Board, Mr. Rucho suggested expanding the tours to our other town buildings as maybe they have similar maintenance needs and we could combine the projects. Discussion ensued with the Board agreeing to ask department heads to submit a list of items which need to be corrected within their buildings and once the lists have been received visits would be scheduled.

Mr. Quist would like to send a letter of congratulations from the Board of Selectmen to Senator elect Scott Brown. Mr. Gaumond offered to prepare a letter on behalf of the Board. Mr. Rucho would like to expand that to any new elected senators or representatives as well. Mr. Gaumond noted that when we have an election he always sends letters of congratulations and he would be willing to also prepare letters from the Board if the wish.

Mr. McCormick wished Mr. Phillips good luck on his trip to Washington DC to work at the National Response Coordinating Center to represent Massachusetts in the Response to Haiti.

With no further business to come before the Board, motion Mr. Phillips at 8:25 p.m. to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Pruneau, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: February 3, 2010

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Nancy E. Lucier

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Kevin M. McCormick, Chairman

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Valmore H. Pruneau, Jr., Vice Chairman

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Allen R. Phillips, Clerk

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Christopher A. Rucho, Selectman

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Steven Quist, Selectman