

Present: John F. Fairbanks, Laila J. Michaud, Joseph E. Flanagan

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Fairbanks called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Office at Town Hall. Mr. Fairbanks stated that this meeting was being broadcast live and recorded by Ashburnham Westminster Community Access TV and confirmed with those present that no other party was taking an audio or video recording of the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment. Selectman Joseph Flanagan made a clarification on the rules and regulations for Crocker Pond. Currently mountain biking is not allowed.

ONGOING BUSINESS

Senior Center Grant Application

Shelly Hatch of Montachusett Regional Planning Commission gave an overview of the grant application process. The program requirements and target areas were discussed. The Selectmen discussed amending the Article for the appropriations related to the Senior Center Property to expand the scope of the article to allow for construction activity.

HEARINGS / OTHER SCHEDULED MATTERS

Reverse 911 Service

Fire Chief Brent MacAloney proposed alternative R911 systems. The current system has been in use since 2005 and the cost to maintain it has increased each year. The Chief discussed advantages and disadvantages to the current system, Nixle, and the County Sheriff R911 system. Board members expressed support for maintaining the current system, as well as utilizing the two other options. This will be an article for the fall Town Meeting.

Dog Complaint Hearing

John Fairbanks opened the Dog Complaint Hearing for Dozer owned by Thomas Williams of 137 Narrows Road at 7:40 p.m. The Chairman administered oaths to all parties giving testimony. Susan Williams spoke on behalf of Dozer, a 3 year old dog. Lori Ann Brammer of 81 Narrows Road stated that she has complained to the police and to the Animal Control Officer on many occasions that this dog is very aggressive and she fears for her safety and the safety of her dog. Both the police and the Animal Control Officer have spoken with Mr. and Mrs. Williams regarding the Town's Bylaw (Chapter 71, section 11). Eula Bradley, the Animal Control Officer, would like to work with the Williams to keep the dogs restrained on their property. Kerry Lemerise of 155 Narrows Road reported that she had witnessed the Williams' dogs running free at 7:30 a.m. today. Police Chief Albert recommended that the dogs be confined to the property or be given

up to a more responsible owner. John Fairbanks moved to give the owners thirty days to install an invisible fence, a dog kennel, a fenced-in area, or a dog run to keep the dog from becoming a public nuisance and running at large or give up the dog. Police Chief Albert will report back in 30 days. Upon second by Laila Michaud, the motion passed unanimously.

Fundraising Event at the Gazebo on Academy Hill

Reverend Gary Collette of the Bread of Life Church has applied for use of the gazebo for a fundraising event for the Ryan Jones Foundation on Saturday, July 17th. The Selectmen unanimously voted to approve this request from 9:00 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, July 17, 2010.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES / WARRANTS

Ms. Michaud moved that the Board approve the minutes of June 30, 2010 as printed. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Board members reviewed and approved the following warrants for payment:

6/30/2010	Accounts Payable	#80	\$ 39,318.04
6/30/2010	Payroll FY10	#79	\$147,065.22
6/30/2010	Accounts Payable	#81	\$264,115.05
7/6/2010	Payroll FY11	#2	\$ 26,416.13
7/8/2010	Deductions	#2D	\$156,051.06

NEW BUSINESS

End of Year Appropriation Transfer Requests

The following end of year appropriation transfer requests were unanimously approved:

1. Personnel Department –Dept. 152
Transfer \$203.93 from line 5114 (part-time personnel) to line 5303 (data processing)
2. Town Clerk – Dept. 161
Transfer 25.80 from line 5721 (conferences) to line 5301 (ZBA advertising)
3. Other Insurance – Dept. 945
Transfer \$5,715.00 from line 5742 (property & vehicle insurance) to line 5174 (Unemployment)
4. Animal Control – Dept. 292
Transfer \$946 from Personnel Services to Expenses

Continuation of Article Requested by the Historical Commission

The Historical Commission requested the Board vote to approve to continue Article #18 of the May 1, 2007 Annual Town Meeting. This article provides grant writing services for the Historical Commission. Ms. Michaud moved that the Board grant the request. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

The Chairman stated that Article 2 on the Special Town Meeting Warrant for Thursday, July 22, 2010 would be discussed in open session. Article 1 would be discussed in executive session as discussion in open session may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Town.

Article 2

Ms. Michaud moved that the Board accept the donation of property currently owned by Eino Jarvenpaa, Jr. and Alice Jarvenpaa at no cost to the Town. Upon discussion, Advisory Board members raised concerns with maintenance, upkeep, liability, right of way to the land, and the status of a lease that was previously held on the property and cell tower. The motion was duly seconded. It was agreed to continue discussion next week, after obtaining additional information.

Westminster Business Park Hearing

Ms. Michaud moved that the Board vote to change the date of the hearing for the extension of the Business Park's earth removal permit from July 19th to July 26, 2010. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously.

Old Town Hall

Ms. Michaud moved that a thank you letter be sent to Betsy Hannula, Darlene Johnson, and other volunteers who helped to scrape, paint, and replace the roof of the portico at the Old Town Hall. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously.

8:20 p.m. EXECUTIVE SESSION

John Fairbanks moved that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing negotiations with nonunion personnel and collective bargaining. The Chair declared that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Town. It was noted that the Board would adjourn directly from executive session. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned from executive session at 9:40 p.m.

Joseph E. Flanagan, Clerk
(prepared by S. Kalagher)