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Present: Laila J. Michaud, Joseph E. Flanagan, and Wayne R. Walker

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Michaud called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Selectmen’s Office at Town Hall. She announced that the meeting was being broadcast live and recorded by Ashburnham Westminster Community Access TV. She also announced that she had been notified of a video recording of the meeting being taken by Bill Goodwin and an audio recording of the meeting being taken by Kerry O’Brien of the Gardner News.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Michaud announced that the Board is looking for volunteers for the Cable Advisory Committee. If interested contact Town Administrator Karen Murphy at 978-874-7400 and the Economic Development Committee. If interested contact Town Planner Steve Wallace at 978-874-7414.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS/MINUTES

Mr. Walker moved that the Board approve the regular session minutes of March 12, 2012 as printed. Mr. Flanagan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Board members reviewed and approved the following warrants:

March 16, 2012	Deduction #55D	\$146,745.61
March 19, 2012	Accounts Payable #56	\$156,770.06
	Payroll #57	\$ 1,344.00

PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST

Mr. Flanagan moved that the Board approve a payroll authorization request for an Animal Inspector which was appointed by the Board of Health. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD DISCUSSION RE REQUEST TO DISBAND CROCKER POND RECREATION AREA COMMITTEE

The Board agreed that they had all the information needed to respond to the request to disband the Crocker Pond Recreation Area Committee and would not entertain public comment.

Ms. Michaud stated that at a Special Town Meeting was held in 2004 the town authorized the Board of Selectmen to purchase a 101 acre parcel located off South Ashburnham Road. She also mentioned that the Town’s future short-term plans for the property

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included swimming, kayaking, canoeing, fishing, walking and hiking, picnics and barbeques, basketball, horse shoes. Future activities could include summer camps, nature trails for science and biology classes, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and possible future development of playing fields for little league, soccer and football. A definitive long-term plan for the property was promised to be developed and presented for voter approval following acquisition of the property and would be phased in over a period of time.

The Board agreed to form a Resource Management Plan Committee to develop and oversee a plan which would include definitive long term plans for the Crocker Pond area.

Ms. Michaud moved that the Board approve the formation of a seven member Resource Management Plan Committee. The Committee would be comprised of one Citizen at Large, and a representative from the Crocker Pond Committee, Board of Selectmen, Parks & Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission, Planning Board, and Montachusett Regional Vocational School. Mr. Flanagan seconded the motion for discussion.

Mr. Flanagan questioned whether the committee should be formed now or wait until the NOI has been reviewed by DEP. The Board agreed to proceed with the formation of the Resource Management Plan Committee.

The motion to form the Committee passed unanimously.

It was noted that anyone interested in volunteering should submit a letter of interest addressed to Town Administrator Karen Murphy.

Ms. Michaud moved that the Board take the letter regarding the disbanding of the Crocker Pond Committee under advisement. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Walker clarified that the Board has no intention of disbanding the Crocker Pond Committee.

**FY2013 BUDGET REVIEW – Forbush Memorial Library**

Library Trustee Walter Haney was on hand to review the Forbush Memorial Library’s FY13 budget.

**BUDGET OVERVIEW**

Advisory Board and Capital Planning Member Keith Harding was on hand to review the recommendations of the Advisory Board for the FY 13 budgets and articles. He also reviewed the Capital Expenditure recommendations of the Capital Planning Committee.

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The Board commended the Advisory Board for all their hard work in reviewing the FY13 budgets.

**BOS MEETING**

The Board agreed to schedule a meeting for Monday, April 2, 2012.

**7:15 PM ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Flanagan moved that the Board adjourn. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne R. Walker, Clerk  
(Prepared by B. Kazan)