

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

April 6, 2015

Meeting held at Town Hall, 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Robert Merry, Vice Chairman Joseph Perry, Clerk Robert Snow, David Petersen (Town Administrator Deborah Eagan, Assistant Town Administrator Amy Lydon)

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Lawrence White – Finance Committee; Alexander Anderson – Boy Scouts; Justin Flodman – Boy Scouts; Kevin Anderson – Boy Scouts; Jack Grundstrom – Shellfish; Joan Petersen – Citizen; John H. Grundstrom – Shellfish.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Robert Merry called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

6:00 p.m. JOINT MEETING BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Merry called for a motion to open the joint meeting with the Board of Water Commissioners. Bob Snow so moved, Joseph Perry second, all in favor – roll call vote: Robert Snow – aye, Robert Merry – aye, Joseph Perry – aye, David Petersen – aye.

Roy Ricker called for a motion to open the joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen. Stuart L. Dalzell Sr. said no. Roy Ricker said aye. Tim Toomey said no and said he has a statement prepared that he wants entered into the record. Merry said that is not on the agenda. Toomey said it explains why he is not going into executive session and gave the Board his statement. Stuart L. Dalzell Sr. said with all due respect, this is a Water Board matter.

Merry said that the Selectmen can still go into Executive Session, but the Water Board cannot participate. Fair said that is correct, and it is up to the Water Board at this point to determine if they wish to take part in the executive session. Toomey said no. Ricker said this is the first he's heard of this and is unsure of how to proceed. Merry said Commissioners Toomey and Dalzell have said they don't want to participate in the joint meeting.

The joint meeting did not open.

6:00 p.m. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Merry called for a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of considering discipline or dismissal of an employee and to return to open session. Bob Snow so moved, Joseph Perry second, all in favor – roll call vote: Robert Snow – aye,

Robert Merry – aye, Joseph Perry – aye, David Petersen – aye, Tim Toomey - no, Roy Ricker - aye, Stuart L. Dalzell Sr. - no.

Tim Toomey said he would like his statement read into the record and left the room.
Stuart L. Dalzell Sr. left the room.

Executive session opened at 6:09 p.m.

Executive session closed and open session resumed at 7:02 p.m.

PLEDGE

Joseph Perry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Letter from Reverend Bob Hagopian regarding Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant

Chairman Merry read the letter.

7:05 – 7:15 p.m. CITIZEN QUERY

Citizens query opened at 7:05 p.m. and closed at 7:10 p.m. There were no citizens queries.

Chairman Merry announced that the meeting is being audio and video recorded digitally.

GENERAL BUSINESS

2. Letter from Dr. William E. Boylan regarding Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant

Chairman Merry read the letter.

3. Letter from National Wildlife Federation and Ipswich River Watershed Association regarding “Community Resiliency and Adaption Planning” program

Chairman Merry read the following:

The National Wildlife Federation and the Ipswich River Watershed Association as part of the Community Coastal Resiliency and Adaption Planning is forming a regional task force made up of the Towns of Rowley, Ipswich and Essex.

They are asking for the Town to officially join the effort as a project partner by

- 1) *Appointing a “point person” from the Town; and*

2) *Appointing up to six individuals to represent the Town on the EIR task force*

Kirk Baker, James Broderick and Brent Baeslack have had preliminary discussions with the National Wildlife Federation and Ipswich River Watershed Association.

Brent is interested in serving as the point person. He needs to run this by the Conservation Commission. Debbie has spoken with Kirk and he is interested in serving on the Task Force. Because the task force will be identifying and prioritizing municipal assets that are at risk from storms, sea level rise, erosion, flooding and other hazards, REMA Director James Broderick should be the Town's representative on the Task Force.

Eagan said Broderick is fine with this.

Bob Snow made a motion to appoint Brent Baeslack as the point person and coordinator, and Kirk Baker and REMA Director Broderick to this task force, Joseph Perry second, all in favor - aye (4-0).

4. Letter from the Merrimac Board of Selectmen to attend meeting on Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School.

Chairman Merry read the letter. Merry said Pentucket has had the issue, but Whittier has said there is no problem. Merry recused himself since he is a graduate of the predecessor school of Whittier. Perry said he will go to this meeting since he deals with the school related issues.

Bob Snow made a motion send Joseph Perry to this meeting, Dave Petersen second, all in favor - aye (4-0).

APPOINTMENTS AND HEARINGS

7:15 p.m. Appointment – Shellfish Constable Jack Grundstrom to discuss a request to raise the Shellfish Department FY15 Revolving Fund cap

Chairman Merry read the following:

The Shellfish Department's Revolving Account's expenditure cap is set at \$6,000. Jack will be here to discuss this request. This request requires approval from both the Selectmen and Finance Committee.

Eagan said John Grundstrom is the Shellfish Constable, and Jack Grundstrom is a Shellfish Commissioner. Jack Grundstrom said there is another unexpected expense for over \$1,000 in motor repairs, and he expects the same problems this spring with theft. He said this area is the only area open in the winter to dig. He said there is

\$6,000 in the revolving fund with more to come. Eagan said the request is to raise the cap in FY 15.

Dave Petersen made a motion to increase the spending cap on this revolving fund to \$8,000 in FY 15, Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (4-0).

NEW BUSINESS

1. Review and approve Antique/Junk license renewals

Chairman Merry read the following:

The applicants below have submitted complete Antique Junk license renewals. All taxes, light and water bills have been paid.

*Starr P. Todd
Todd Farm LLC
283 Main Street
Rowley, MA 01969*

*Robert Cianfrocca
Salt Marsh Antiques
224 Main St
Rowley, MA 01969*

*Frank P. Todd
Todd's River View Farm LLC
275 Main Street
Rowley, MA 01969*

Merry said he has done work for all three of these individuals, so he is recusing himself.

Joseph Perry made a motion to approve these Antique/Junk license renewals, Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Bob Merry - RECUSED.

2. Request from T-Mobile to place additional antenna on cell tower.

Chairman Merry read the memo from the Planning Board regarding this request. He said he has reviewed the application and there are no major changes, just the addition of an antenna.

Joseph Perry made a motion to approve and sign the request as Lessor, Dave Petersen second, all in favor - aye (4-0).

Bob Snow declared that he used to work for a telecom company, but he has no stock in T Mobile.

3. Letter from Finance Committee re: establishing a Task Force to review Cemetery finances and operations.

Chairman Merry read the letter from the Finance Committee. Snow said he doesn't think it is a good idea to have Cemetery Commissioners who have a vested interest since they receive funds doing work as Commissioners, and there is a conflict of interest. Merry said if this task force is formed we need to make sure of the following: that a Cemetery Commissioner is available to answer questions, and not necessarily take part in the discussion; look at the conformance to applicable laws and open meeting requirements since these laws have changed; and establish checks and balances since there have been recent issues with the payroll submitted for this department with a 28 hour work day listed. Perry said he agrees with Snow and Merry and we have to do something. Snow volunteered to be the Selectmen's representative on this task force. Petersen said this is being formed to reform the Cemetery as a town department that hires employees, and not operating with the Commissioners doing the work. He said the department should be professionalized. Larry White said we need to make sure they are conforming with the laws, and Dennis Roy volunteered as the Finance Committee representative, which he supports.

Joseph Perry made a motion to establish a Task Force to review Cemetery finances and operations , Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (4-0).

4. Letter from Conservation Commission re: a joint meeting to discuss naming the former Girl Scouts Camp at 390 Wethersfield Street
5. Letter from the Community Preservation Committee re: discuss naming the former Girl Scouts Camp Batchelder Brook Reservation.

Chairman Merry read the letters. Merry said he also has thoughts on the naming of this property and it makes sense to schedule a joint meeting as requested.

Bob Snow made a motion to schedule a joint meeting with the Conservation Commission to discuss naming the former Girl Scouts Camp at 390 Wethersfield Street, Joseph Perry second, all in favor - aye (4-0).

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discuss FY 16 Water Department Budget

Chairman Merry read the following:

Last week we voted to recommend the FY 16 Water Department budget. There has been on slight modification to the budget.

We have debt lines for the Pingree Farm Road project and Prospect Hill project borrowings.

The Board needs to vote to recommend the revised budget with these modifications.

Bob Snow made a motion to approve this revised budget dated March 30, 2015, Joseph Perry second, all in favor - aye (4-0).

2. Review Annual and Special Town Meeting warrant articles

Eagan reviewed the Annual and Special Town Meeting warrant articles. She said there will be a meeting on Thursday morning for the Board to sign these.

3. Discuss and evaluate Lease of Camp Area proposals

Bob Snow recused himself and left for the night at 7:52 p.m.

Perry said he has read through to proposals four times and is very impressed with both. He said it was hard to distinguish between the two; both the YWCA and YMCA have historical backgrounds and excellent proposals. He said it is difficult to make a choice, but using the criteria on pages 8, 9 and 10 his choice would be the YWCA of Newburyport. He said the YWCA included a detailed plan of service, detailed goals and objectives, and a detailed proposal for the fall and winter of 2016. He said the YWCA's proposal is a little more detailed and structured than the YMCA's proposal, but they are both very good.

Chairman Merry said he also read the YWCA's proposal and it seems too good to be true in such a short time frame. He said the YWCA stands for the Young Woman's Christian Association and they tend to focus on that in their opening statements. He said the YWCA doesn't have the funding that the YMCA has. He said the YMCA has been around for a long time, runs many programs and seems to have a greater diversity of programs to offer. Merry said he is in favor of the YMCA.

Petersen said he looked through both and they are well put together. He said he supports the YMCA because they have a number of camps all over the North Shore, they have the resources and the staff, and they have the money to do a fair amount of work to the buildings to bring them up to code. He said they have a better financial background than the YWCA has. He said the YWCA tends to draw people from the communities of Salisbury, Newbury and Newburyport, whereas the YMCA draws a huge crowd from Rowley and Ipswich. He said we would like to encourage Rowley people to use this camp area.

Merry said the YMCA's plan for 2015 is more realistic than the YWCA's plan. Petersen said the YMCA's plan for the upcoming was more realistic. Perry said both proposals are very well done and close, and provide the Town with excellent choices. Merry said if they are compared side by side, the YMCA's proposal has a slight advantage. Petersen said the YMCA is directly next door in Ipswich, so they can send staff fill ins easily if needed.

Joseph Perry made a motion to accept the proposal for the camp lease from the YMCA, Dave Petersen second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Bob Snow - ABSENT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Town has the following vacancies:
 - a) **Fence Viewer**– three positions;
 - b) **Board of Cemetery Commissioner** – one seat open through May 12
 - c) **Wood, Lumber & Bark Inspector**; and
 - d) **Zoning Board of Appeals Associate** – two open seats
 - e) **Historical Commission-Historic District Commission** - two seats
 - f) **Parks and Recreation Committee** - two seats
 - g) **Open Space Committee** is seeking membersFor more information on these positions, please contact the Selectmen's Office at 948-2372
- Rowley Food Pantry is in need of donations. The Food Pantry is open Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Informational Hearing on the Town Meeting Warrant is Monday, April 27, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall
- Town Meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at the Pine Grove School
- Annual Town Election is Tuesday, May 12, 2015 from noon to 8:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Hall
- Check out the Library's website and Rowley Community Media for news on the Rowley Reads Program

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Merry called for a motion to adjourn. Dave Petersen so moved, Joseph Perry second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Bob Snow - ABSENT.

Open meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Lydon
Assistant Town Administrator

ATTACHMENTS

1. Meeting memo regarding 6:00 p.m. Joint Meeting Board of Selectmen and Board of Water Commissioners and 6:00 p.m. Executive Session
2. Letter submitted by Timothy Toomey regarding the executive session
3. Letter from Reverend Bob Hagopian regarding Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant
4. Letter from Dr. William E. Boyland regarding Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant
5. Meeting memo regarding General Business #3: National Wildlife Federation and Ipswich River Watershed Association regarding 'Community Resiliency and Adaption Planning" program.
6. Letter from National Wildlife Federation and Ipswich River Watershed Association regarding 'Community Resiliency and Adaption Planning" program.
7. Letter from the Merrimac Board of Selectmen to attend meeting on Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School.
8. Meeting memo regarding 7:15 Appointment: Shellfish Constable Jack Grundstrom to discuss a request to raise the Shellfish Department FY15 Revolving Fund cap
9. Letter from Shellfish Department to discuss a request to raise the Shellfish Department FY15 Revolving Fund cap.
8. Meeting memo regarding New Business #1: Review and approve Antique/Junk license renewals
9. Letter from Planning Board regarding T Mobile Cell Tower Antenna Upgrade
10. Request for modification of leased cell tower antenna from Crown Castle
11. Letter from Finance Committee requesting a task force be formed to examine Cemetery Department Operations.
12. Letter from Conservation Commission to consider naming the new Town Conservation Area at 390 Wethersfield Street
13. Letter from Curtin Turner, CPAC, regarding renaming the former Girl Scout property as the Batchelder Brook Reservation.
14. Meeting memo regarding Old Business #1: Discuss FY16 Water Department Budget
15. FY16 Water Department Budget - revision #9
16. Meeting memo regarding Old Business #2: Review Annual and Special Town Meeting warrant articles
17. Annual and Special Town Meeting Warrants
18. Meeting memo regarding Old Business #3: Discuss and evaluate Lease of Camp Area proposals
19. Evaluation sheet for proposal evaluations
20. Request for Proposals - Lease of Camp Area dated March 20, 2015
21. Lease of Camp Area proposal of 390 Wethersfield Street submitted by YWCA
22. Lease of Camp Area proposal of 390 Wethersfield Street submitted by YMCA

