

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 13, 2009**

Members Present: Mark Sullivan, Chairman  
Paul Feeney, Vice Chairman  
Lynda Walsh, Clerk  
Paul Mortenson  
James D. Thrasher

Others Present: Andy Gala, Town Manager  
Dan Murphy, Gillette Stadium VP Business Dev. & Ext. Affairs  
George Bell, Stadium Advisory  
Fire Chief McNamara  
Deputy Police Chief John Chandler  
Representative Jay Barrows  
Attorney Frank Linnehan, "All Meaningful Entertainment TV"  
Roger Hatfield

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mark Sullivan, Chairman  
7:00 – Citizens Input – Paul Mortenson congratulated the Foxborough High School Jazz Band on their being asked to participate in the Inaugural ceremonies for President Elect Barack Obama.

**7:05 – Public Hearing – N.E. Country Music Festival** – Lynda Walsh, Clerk, read the Public Hearing Notice. The purpose of this Public Hearing was to discuss the application for the 2009 New England Country Music Festival concert scheduled for August 15, 2009 at Gillette Stadium.

Dan Murphy, Vice President Development & External Affairs, was present to answer any questions or supply any additional information the BOS might require. He said this is the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual N.E. Country Music Festival; the primary act is Kenny Chesney with other secondary acts. He said the primary event start time is 4:00 p.m. ending at 11:15 p.m. Dan pointed out that this would be an older audience than at other concerts and with one less act than last year. He said notices had been sent out to ticket holders on changes in the parking lots and security policies. He said the same information would be available on the web site and radio stations. He also said the "No Ticket – No Entry" policy would be in place.

A brief discussion was held regarding police presence, opening of parking lots, attendance and sound issues. George Bell, Stadium Advisory Committee Chairman, said the Committee was very impressed with policies and procedures that have been put in place. The Stadium Advisory Committee members would be on hand to observe the event. Stadium Advisory Committee recommended approval for this concert. Assistant Fire Chief Bagley said more reserves would be available for this concert. He plans to have the same action plan for this concert as last year. Deputy Chief Chandler commended the Stadium for taking a very proactive approach to minimize the impact on the community. He pointed

out that it would be a cooperative effort between the Stadium Security, the State Police and the Foxborough Police Department. Andy Gala pointed out that there are a couple of issues but that they would be worked out before the concert. Other issues discussed included the procedures in place for people attending concerts as well as patronizing stores or restaurants either before or after the event, the expected occupation of the hotel under construction and access for concert goers from the North Street entrance.

Motion by Mark Sullivan to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by Lynda Walsh.  
**Vote: 5-0-0**

Motion by Paul Feeney to approve the license application as submitted by NPS LLC for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual New England Country Music Festival scheduled for August 15, 2009. Seconded by Lynda Walsh. **Vote: 5-0-0**

**7:25 – Legislative Update – Representative Jay Barrows** – Representative Barrows and Michael Berry came before the Board to discuss issues of particular interest to the Town of Foxborough. Rep. Barrows said he had attended monthly meetings with Andy Gala and Randy Scollins as well as meetings with Water & Sewer. He reported that he had secured \$75,000 for the regionalization of the sewer district and all three towns have voted to support this project and \$250,000 in the Environmental Bond Bill for dam repairs. He said he has been working with the Police, Schools and parents to establish a task force on Underage Drinking and drug use. There are meetings in Mansfield and Foxborough scheduled to get parents actively involved. He said the progress is slow on the parking lot on County Street; he has been working with the EPA. Jay has asked the EPA for construction plans to see what it would actually cost to abate the hazardous waste. He expects this to “come to fruition” in the next couple of years. He is very concerned with the cuts in the State aid and how that would impact cities and towns across the Commonwealth. He pointed out that the State is dealing with a 2009 budget deficit of over one billion due in part to a decline in capital gains taxes and sales taxes. He said the State is using funds from the stabilization fund to balance the budget and that, he said, is a big problem.

A brief discussion ensued. Jay referred to legislation that he would be filing to expand the sewer system tax credit to help reduce the costs by allowing people to receive a credit if they tie into the municipal sewer system. He said he is looking to ways to get things done for the future and to save taxpayers money in the long run. Other issues discussed included ways to bring in new revenue – increased gas tax, open the State Group Insurance plan to municipalities, the sale of the eleven plazas on the Mass Turnpike, hotel and meals tax increases and casinos. Jay pointed out that Foxborough is in much better shape than neighboring towns due to the leadership and guidance of the administration.

**7:40 – Fire Chief Appointment** – Andy Gala said the process for finding a new Fire Chief started with a Committee in November. The Committee finally agreed on one finalist – Roger Hatfield from Nashua, N.H. Andy pointed out that he had an impressive list of credentials and met all the criteria. Assistant Fire Chief Bagley commented on his strong leadership qualities and good management skills. He felt Mr. Hatfield would meet the

needs of the Department and the community. Randy Scollins also expressed his support. He pointed out that Mr. Hatfield had been with the Nashua Fire Dept. for 28 years and had worked in an environment similar to that of Foxborough.

Mr. Hatfield briefly reviewed his experience and reasons for looking to serve the Town of Foxborough. He said he had been involved in fire service his entire life. He said he feels he can do a good job for this Town. He responded fully to questions put to him by members of the Board. Included were questions on management skills, experience as an EMS and ambulance experience, working with multiple authorities at Gillette Stadium and being responsible to the Town Manager. Members of the Board congratulated Mr. Hatfield on his appointment as Foxborough's new Fire Chief.

**8:00 – “All Meaningful Entertainment TV”** - Attorney Frank Linnehan came before the Board to present a proposal for a new cable TV network and to ask for the support of the Board. He gave a brief outline of how he plans to bring alternative cable TV to the area. He said he is interested in State owned land of about 500 acres for the site of the studio. He would anticipate creating about three thousand new jobs for the area. He said this would be 100% privately financed but the business leaders in the community have to pull together on this plan. He pointed out that this type of venture requires a large amount of capital right up front.

A brief discussion was held. Members of the Board thanked Mr. Linnehan for appearing before the Board. It was pointed out that the Board of Selectmen is not the appropriate place to be seeking support at this point in the development of his idea. Paul Feeney said it is not clear what Linnehan is trying to achieve. He said it is difficult to support the idea as this is the first time this has been brought before the Board. He suggested Mr. Linnehan get more broad based support and suggested that he go before the Chamber of Commerce and other business groups and then come again before the Board. Jim Thrasher said that this is not something Town government gets involved with as it is a private business development venture. Mark Sullivan suggested a return visit before the Board but with a more definitive plan.

**ACTION:**

**Minutes:** The Minutes for the Board of Selectmen's Meeting of December 23 and 30, 2008 were reviewed.

Motion by Jim Thrasher to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of December 23, 2008 as submitted. Seconded by Paul Mortenson. **Vote: 5-0-0**

Motion by Jim Thrasher to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of December 30, 2008 as submitted. Seconded by Paul Mortenson. **Vote: 5-0-0**

**Legal Invoices** – Received from Deutsch/Williams an invoice in the amount of \$4,083.33 for retainer fees per agreement.

Motion by Lynda Walsh to approve the Invoice from Deutsch/Williams in the amount of \$4,083.33 as submitted. Seconded by Paul Mortenson. **Vote: 5-0-0**

Received from Attorney Peter J. Epstein an invoice in the amount of \$1,520.00 for services rendered in the month of December, 2008.

Motion by Lynda Walsh to approve the Invoice in the amount of \$1,520.00 from Attorney Peter J. Epstein as submitted. Seconded by Paul Mortenson.

**Vote: 5-0-0**

**Invitation** – Received from Representative Jay Barrows an invitation to a presentation by “Operation Lifesaver”, January 20, 2009, at the Mansfield Public Library. The purpose of this forum is to highlight the importance of rail safety education. This is a forum open to all.

**National AMBER Alert Day** – Received a notice from the Department of State Police of the Second Annual National AMBER Alert Day Child Safety Fair to be held at the Patriot’s Hall of Fame scheduled for January 13, 2009. This event will focus on AMBER Alert awareness, abduction prevention education and the preparation of child identification kits.

**Street Name Request** – Received from Christopher Cunniff a request to name a street at the end of Twilight Drive, Staniland Road. The request noted that the name was on the original subdivision plan.

Motion by Lynda Walsh to approve the request submitted by Christopher Cunniff to name a street at the end of Twilight Drive, Staniland Road. Seconded by Paul Mortenson. **Vote: 5-0-0**

**Two One-Day Beer & Wine Licenses** – Received from Jeanne Weldon on behalf of Weldon Event & Destination Management an application for two (2) One-Day Beer & Wine Licenses. The event will be held at Brigham & Women’s and Mass General Healthcare Center at Patriot Place, scheduled for January 26 and February 9, 2009. A brief discussion was held.

Motion by Lynda Walsh to approve the request for two (2) One-Day Beer & Wine Licenses as submitted on Jeanne Weldon on behalf of Brigham & Women’s and Mass General Hospital Healthcare Center at Patriot Place. The events scheduled for January 26 and February 9, 2009 as outlined in the letter dated January 9, 2009. Seconded by Paul Mortenson. **Vote: 5-0-0**

**Appointment** – Received a request to appoint Marc Resnick, Town Planner, to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council.

Motion by Lynda Walsh to approve the appointment of Marc Resnick to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council; the appointment expiring February 14, 2012. Seconded by Paul Mortenson. **Vote: 5-0-0**

**Annual Reports Due** – Andy Gala reminded the Board that the Annual Report for the BOS is due by Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Jim Thrasher to appoint Mark Sullivan to do the write up for the Annual Report, assisted by Lynda Walsh. Seconded by Paul Feeney. **Vote: 5-0-0**

**NEW/OLD BUSINESS –**

A brief discussion was held regarding the question about a rotary on North Street. Andy Gala said there are still a couple of things that are incomplete; if it is put out to bid, the Town would have to pay at State wage rates. Jim Thrasher asked who had the authority to move ahead with this, the BOS or the Planning Board; does the Board have the authority to direct the Town Manager to ask for additional funds. Paul Mortenson said he felt it would be the prerogative of the Board. Jim Thrasher feels the Town should get the maximum value and that whatever the costs to the Town might be that is what the Town is entitled to. He was not convinced that it is within the authority of the Board to do that.

Motion by Mark Sullivan to go into Executive Session to discuss Police Department Grievance and to exit from Executive Session for the sole purpose of adjournment. Seconded by Paul Feeney.

<b>Vote: 5-0-0</b>	Mark Sullivan, Chairman	Yes
	Paul Feeney, Vice chairman	Yes
	Lynda Walsh, Clerk	Yes
	Paul Mortenson	Yes
	Jim Thrasher	Yes

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

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Lynda Walsh, Clerk

