

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
July 13, 2010

Members Present: Lynda Walsh, Chairman
Larry Harrington, Vice Chairman
Jim DeVellis, Clerk
Lorraine Brue
Paul Mortenson

Others present: Andy Gala, Town Manager
Sue Thibedeau, Animal Control Officer
Juliette Wang-Coombs, 23 Dassance Drive
Anthony Costa, 23 Dassance Drive
Anthony LaChapelle, Chairman and Bob Cutler, Town
Manager Search Committee

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 p.m. by Lynda Walsh, Chairman.

7:30 – Citizens Input – C. Paul Dumas expressed his thoughts on making sure the Town selects the right candidate to fill the position of Veterans Agent. He supports having a full time agent and one who would be a strong advocate for the veterans, their widows and families. Paul referred to Norwood and North Attleboro as having very good programs. Andy Gala advised that the closing date to submit applications was Friday, July 9th. He had received ten resumes. An advisory committee has been appointed to begin the process of reviewing applications and interviewing candidates.

Hector Ballon, 153 North Street, came before the Board to discuss two issues of concern. He pointed out that last year he had requested the Board develop a Code of Ethics. He noted that nothing had been done so far and it has not been discussed this year. He feels there should be a document that each and every Board member should follow. He is concerned about how the meeting time is allocated because many times items are put off for another meeting due to a lack of time for full discussion. He expressed particular concern regarding the pedestrian bridge at Patriot Place where the Town and the State are getting involved with putting a bridge between two private pieces of property. He would like to see a discussion about the value of this issue.

A general discussion ensued. Lynda Walsh advised that this would be an agenda item for a meeting in the near future to discuss the pedestrian bridge in further detail as it would be beneficial for the Town as well as the Kraft Organization. It was noted that a previous Board had voted to support the building of the pedestrian bridge. Discussion of this issue is included in the

Goals & Objectives of the Board. A suggestion was made to have the Board schedule extra meetings if necessary.

7:05 – Public Hearing – Coombs Dog Complaint – Ms. Susan Thibedeau, Animal Control Officer, came before the Board seeking a decision regarding the complaints about dogs belonging to Juliette Wang-Coombs. There have been 23 calls about the dogs since 9/8/08. A letter to the BOS from Ms. Thibedeau, dated July 6, 2010 gave a brief history of the many complaints about the dogs at 23 Dassance Drive.

A lengthy discussion was held. Juliette Wang-Coombs gave explanations as to actions taken to address the Permanent Restraining Order issued June 8, 2009, problems with the invisible fence as well as the wooden fence. The gate is difficult to close. Ms. Thibedeau said that at this time she would prefer not to proceed with banishment but rather she recommends further training for all three dogs, have notification from the fence company that the invisible fence is in place and working and that all conditions stated in the Restraining Order be immediately addressed. Ms. Coombs pointed out that a lot of the problems are out of her control – people taking the collars off of the dogs and there have been several break ins and burglaries. She has not had satisfactory responses from the Foxborough Police. There have been several problems with the neighborhood. Sue Thibedeau asked to have the fence replaced within 48 hours; if not the dogs need to be removed from the property pending the completion of the repairs.

Motion by Jim DeVellis that in accordance with the letter submitted by Sue Thibedeau, Dog Officer, the dogs are to remain in the house unless held on a leash by a responsible adult and if not adhered to the dogs are to be taken off the premises. Seconded by Paul Mortenson.

Vote: 5-0-0

7:30 – Town Manager Search Committee Update – Tony LaChapelle, Chairman, and Bob Cutler of the Town Manager Search Committee came before the Board to give an update on the status of the search. Seventy-five resumes have been received. Tom Groux, a search consultant has been hired. Ten possible candidates have been identified and the Committee has finished the interviewing process. The Committee will contact five of those candidates who have a strong interest in the position. All this is done in complete confidentiality. Tony LaChapelle pointed out that the quality of these candidates is impressive.

A general discussion ensued on the process and making sure the public knows that a right, fair and open process has been followed in this search for a new Town Manager. This process gives the Town the opportunity to look at the market place and find the right person for the job. Tony LaChapelle pointed out that this is an important position and one that is very desirable. Further

discussion was held regarding the interview process for the members of the Board and a contingent management plan.

Motion by Lynda Walsh to appoint Lorraine Brue and Jim DeVellis as a subcommittee to develop an interview process and appropriate questions. Seconded by Paul Mortenson. **Vote: 5-0-0**

ACTION:

Minutes – The Minutes for the Board of Selectmen’s Meetings of 6/22/10 and 6/29/10 were reviewed.

Motion by Larry Harrington to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of June 22, 2010 as submitted. Seconded by Paul Mortenson. **Vote: 5-0-0**

Motion by Paul Mortenson to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of June 29, 2010 as submitted. Seconded by Lorraine Brue. **Vote: 5-0-0**

Invoice – Received from Labor Counsel, Leo Peloquin, an invoice in the amount of \$9,111.25 for services rendered June 1 through June 30, 2010.

Motion by Paul Mortenson to approve the invoice from Collins, Loughran & Peloquin, P.C. in the amount of \$9,111.25 for services rendered June 1 through June 30, 2010. Seconded by Lorraine Brue. **Vote: 4-0-0**

Commercial Parking Lot License – Received from Metropac Industries an application for Commercial Parking Lot License Renewal for Lot #103B at 10 Annette Road.

Motion by Paul Mortenson to approve the Commercial Parking Lot License Renewal application for Lot #103B as submitted by Metropac Industries. Seconded by Jim DeVellis. **Vote: 4-0-0**

Re-appointment for Constable – Received from Daniel L. Fallon, 27 Hillcrest Village, Norfolk, a request to be re-appointed Constable for the Town of Foxborough.

Motion by Jim DeVellis to approve the re-appointment of Daniel L. Fallon, 27 Hillcrest Village, Norfolk as Constable for the Town of Foxborough as requested. Seconded by Paul Mortenson. **Vote: 4-0-0**

Hackie License Application – Received from Michael John Kalil, 203 Washington Street, Franklin an application for a Hackie’s License.

Motion by Paul Mortenson to approve the application for a Hackie License as submitted by Michael John Kalil, 203 Washington Street, Franklin. Seconded by Lorraine Brue. **Vote: 5-0-0**

Recreation Donation – Received from Debbie Giardino, Recreation Director, notice of receipt of a donation in the amount of \$2,000.00 from the MOMS Club.

Motion by Paul Mortenson to accept with gratitude the donation in the amount of \$2,000.00 from the MOMS Club to be deposited in the Recreation Gift Fund. Seconded by Lorraine Brue. **Vote: 5-0-0**

Tuition Reimbursement – Received from Chief O’Leary a request for Tuition reimbursement in the amount of \$900.00 for Officer Stephen McGrath for a course at Curry College entitled Drugs and Behavior.

Motion by Paul Mortenson to approve tuition reimbursement in the amount of \$900.00 for Officer Stephen McGrath for a course entitled Drugs and Behavior at Curry College. Seconded by Lorraine Brue. **Vote: 5-0-0**

Marc Resnick, Town Planner – Received from Marc Resnick, Town Planner, a notice of a Public Hearing for a Site Plan at 67 Green Street. Comments to be submitted two days prior to the scheduled meeting.

MIIA Health Insurance Options – Andy Gala was present to discuss the advantages to the Town as well as employees of moving to the MIIA Health Insurance coverage. He reviewed the process and the time line in moving ahead with this change for the Town employees. Informative meetings were held for employee groups at the High School and at the McGinty Room. With the ever increasing costs for health care insurance, Andy explained that this proposal is an 11.6% increase vs. the 19.3% increase under BC and Harvard as self funded plans. There are no increases in co-pays or deductibles. This would result in a significant savings for the Town.

A general discussion was held. It was noted that there seems to be a push to get this through quickly. Andy Gala explained that in order to take advantage of the enrollment period, the Town needs subscribers to sign up now. Larry Harrington pointed out that with the very substantial increases in the cost of health insurance, the Town has to make difficult decisions on how to spend the limited funds for expenses. There could be a serious impact on salaries and jobs.

Motion by Larry Harrington that the Board of Selectmen vote to award the Health Insurance contract to MIIA for their two year proposal as an insurance

plan replacement with no changes in co-pays or deductibles subject to meeting any bargaining obligations. Seconded by Jim DeVellis.

A brief discussion was held on verification of authority to change insurance plans; that based on discussions with Labor Counsel, the Town Administrator does not need any vote from the Union in order to make this change. Subject to Labor Counsel’s opinion, the Town Administrator is duly authorized to change health insurance plans. **Vote: 5-0-0**

NEW/OLD BUSINESS:

Bon Jovi requested an extension of time for their concert. A brief discussion was held.

Motion by Paul Mortenson to approve the request for additional time for the Bon Jovi concert from 11:15 p.m. to 11:45 p.m. as requested in the letter from Dan Murphy, Gillette Stadium. Seconded by Lorraine Brue. **Vote: 5-0-0**

Comcast equipment is still at Dudley Hill.

Motion by Larry Harrington to extend the lease for 90 days. Seconded by Paul Mortenson. **Vote: 5-0-0**

Lynda Walsh asked for a joint meeting with W&S for an update and suggested scheduling an Executive Session one hour before the scheduled meeting on July 27th. She also asked to schedule a special meeting for goals & objectives. A Saturday meeting was suggested.

A brief discussion was held regarding any funds that might be available resulting from the decision to not put in the round-about on North Street.

Motion by Paul Mortenson to go into Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining and to exit from Executive Session for the sole purpose of adjournment. Seconded by Lorraine Brue.

Vote: 5-0-0

Lynda Walsh, Chairman	Yes	
Larry Harrington, Vice Chairman	Yes	
Jim DeVellis, Clerk	Yes	
Lorraine Brue		Yes
Paul Mortenson	Yes	

Motion to adjourn by Paul Mortenson. Seconded by Lorraine Brue.

Vote: 4-0-0 Meeting adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

James J. DeVellis, Clerk