

Selectmen's Meeting – September 28, 2009

Dr. Bowcock, Mr. Murphy and Mr. Silvia were present.

Also in attendance was Jeffrey Osuch.

Dr. Bowcock called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Murphy motioned to approve the minutes of September 14, 2009. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Murphy motioned to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2009 executive session. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous.

FOURTH AND LONG, INC., 122 MAIN STREET

Liquor License Hearing was scheduled for 7:00 p.m. to act on the application submitted by Fourth and Long, Inc., 122 Main Street, Matthew H. Cebula, Manager, for a transfer of a Restaurant/All Alcoholic License and Pledge of License. Dr. Bowcock read the legal notice of hearing into the record. (See attached.) Attorney Michaud and Ellen and Matthew Cebula were present. Mr. Murphy motioned to approve the application. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. (Application will be forwarded to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission for approval.)

TAX CLASSIFICATION HEARING

Tax Classification Hearing was scheduled for 7:05 p.m. The Director of Finance/Treasurer, Board of Assessors and Administrative Assessor were in attendance. Dr. Bowcock called the hearing to order and read the legal notice of the hearing into the record. (See attached.) Discussion followed. Mr. Murphy motioned to adopt a shift of 1.75%. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. The Board of Assessors stated they are in favor of quarterly tax bills. An article appears on the October 27, 2009 Special Town Meeting Warrant to change the billing to quarterly.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:20 p.m., Mr. Murphy motioned to go into executive session to discuss the Lease between the Town of Fairhaven and Seaport Inn and Marina (Bridge Street Abutment) and to reconvene in open session. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. Roll call vote 3-0. Open meeting reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

POLICE SERGEANT INTERVIEWS

Chief Myers and Sergeant Foster were present. David Correia, Peter Joseph and Timothy Souza were interviewed for the position of Police Sergeant. Dr. Bowcock motioned to appoint Timothy

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Souza. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. Effective date of appointment is October 4, 2009.

LANDFILL SOLAR PANELS

Representative from Blue Sky Power briefly explained the proposed Solar Panel Project at the landfill. He has also discussed the proposal with the Board of Health and the School Superintendent and Business Manager. The project would supply clean energy, electricity, to the Hastings Middle School. Extra power would be credited to the Town. The panels would be placed on the top and south slope of the landfill and will be visible from Bridge Street and the school playground. If the proposal is accepted by the Town, it would begin next summer. A public hearing on the proposed project will be scheduled in the future.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:30 p.m., Mr. Murphy motioned to go into executive session to discuss the Police Union Grievance and to reconvene in open session. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. Roll call vote 3-0. Open meeting reconvened at 9:00 p.m.

POLICE UNION GRIEVANCE

Police Union Grievance Hearing tabled on September 14, 2009, was scheduled for 7:45 p.m. Dr. Bowcock summarized the Quinn Bill, which is a financial incentive for Officers to further their education. The Town pays one half of the incentive and the State pays one half. The State has not lived up to their obligation and only paid 16% this year. There is an article on the October 27, 2009 Special Town Meeting Warrant to revoke the Quinn Bill. Mr. Murphy motioned to postpone a decision on the Union Grievance to November 9, 2009. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Committee to plan the 12th Manjiro Festival on October 3, 2009 will meet on September 29, 2009 at 12:00 noon at the Town Hall.

The Town's Economic Study Committee will meet on September 29, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the East Room at Town Hall.

Electrical sub-bids for Phase 4 of the Town Hall Restoration Project are due by 2:00 p.m. on September 30, 2009. General Bids will be due on October 7, 2009 by 2:00 p.m.

12th Manjiro Festival will be held on Saturday, October 3, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Town Hall and Millicent Library. A Friendship Dinner will be held on Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church.

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Meeting to discuss wind turbines is scheduled for October 5, 2009 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Marion Music Hall.

A representative from DEP will be at the Wastewater Treatment Plant between 2:30 – 5:00 p.m. on October 6, 2009 to discuss solar panels at the Plant.

A reception will be held on October 8, 2009 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Dartmouth Town Hall to introduce the new Dartmouth Town Administrator.

Finance Committee will meet on October 8, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Board of Public Works.

Board of Selectmen will schedule a meeting for October 5, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the October 27, 2009 Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Board of Selectmen will meet at 12:00 noon on October 9, 2009.

Mr. Osuch summarized a letter from Albert Martin, Jr. requesting permission to have two 15' fiberglass flag poles installed at Benoit Square at the Gallagher Memorial. (See attached.) Allen Days donated funds from the Father's Day Road Race to purchase the poles. The Board had no objections and was in favor of the new poles.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Dr. Bowcock read a letter from the Fire Chief requesting that approximately 52 Fire Alarm Boxes be declared surplus property. (See attached.) Mr. Murphy motioned to declare the boxes surplus. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Dr. Bowcock read the notice from Fairhaven Fire/Rescue & Fairhaven Police announcing they will host a free "Public Safety Open House" on Sunday, October 4th from 1-3 p.m. at Department Headquarters, 146 Washington Street. (See attached.)

MILLICENT LIBRARY

Dr. Bowcock read the letter from Carolyn Longworth requesting the re-appointment of Louis Badwey to the Millicent Library Trustees. (See attached.) Mr. Murphy motioned to re-appoint Louis Badwey. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. (Term to expire 2013.)

NATURAL RESOURCE DEPARTMENT

Dr. Bowcock read the letter from the Department of Fish & Game announcing their plans to hold an event at the new Pease Park Boat Ramp. A list of Town officials and other people to invite is requested, along with proposed dates to hold the event. (See attached.) A list of officials/people to invite will be forwarded to the Department of Fish and Game. Proposed dates are either October 22nd or 23rd in the afternoon.

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VETERANS' DAY

Dr. Bowcock read the invitation from Gerry Payette asking the Board to participate in the Veterans' Day Parade on Wednesday, November 11th beginning at Livesey Park at 10:00 a.m. and proceeding down Main Street to the High School. (See attached.) The Board will participate and encouraged the public to attend.

Mr. Silvia left the room. Dr. Bowcock read the letter from Terrence P. Meredith, Chairman of the Improvement Association's Veterans' Day Dinner Dance, requesting permission to use the Banquet Room for the annual Veterans' Day Dinner & Dance on Saturday, November 7th from 6-11 p.m. (See attached.) Mr. Murphy motioned to approve the request. Dr. Bowcock seconded. Vote was unanimous.

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Dr. Bowcock read the letter from Wayne Oliveira, Chairman of the Bicentennial Committee, requesting permission to erect signs announcing the Town's Bicentennial in two different locations, one at Benoit Square and one at Veterans' Park on Route 6. (See attached.) Mr. Murphy motioned to approve the request. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous.

NSTAR GAS

Mr. Murphy motioned to approve the petition to install a new gas service at 3 Ridgcrest Avenue. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. (Approved by the Board of Public Works.)

NEW BEDFORD/FAIRHAVEN BRIDGE

Dr. Bowcock read the letter from Bernard McCourt, District Highway Director, Massachusetts Highway Department indicating the New Bedford/Fairhaven Bridge will be closed to vehicular traffic from 6:00 a.m., September 26th until midnight on Friday, October 9th. (See attached.)

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF GREATER BOSTON

Dr. Bowcock read the letter from the United Nations Association of Greater Boston requesting a proclamation for October 24th on the 64th anniversary of the United Nations. (See attached.) Mr. Murphy motioned to issue a proclamation. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous.

OTHER MATTERS

Albert Benac brought up the issue of illegal signs on utility poles and the number of double utility poles in Town. Dr. Bowcock stated the Police Department and the Enforcement Agent are aware of the illegal signs and are pursuing the issue. At the end of September, Verizon will send a list of the removed double poles. A copy will be forwarded to Mr. Benac.

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Mr. Murphy reported the September 19, 2009 Town Auction was a success. Auctioned items totaled \$4,939.50.

A letter was received from Karen Jachna regarding the sewer pipes on Howland Road. (See attached.) Dr. Bowcock reported there is a hearing at the Board of Public Works tonight. The BPW hopes to reach an agreement with the contractors and begin the project again by November 1st.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:10 p.m., Mr. Murphy motioned to go into executive session to discuss the Wind Turbine Project, the Terry Darwin case and not to reconvene in open session. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. Roll call vote 3-0.

Jan St. Germain
Secretary