

Selectmen's Meeting – March 8, 2010

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 February 19, 2010. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Murphy motioned to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2010 executive session. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous.

DEDICATION OF L .D. ELDRED PAINTING

Albert Benac, Art Curator, presented the Town with the Lemuel D. Eldred etching “The Old Whaler”, as the fifth etching in a set of six, created by the artist, of the whaling era in the New Bedford and Fairhaven Harbor. The gift was presented in loving memory of Kathleen C. Benac, by her husband Albert Benac, and children, Paul, Claudia, Kathleen and Monica. The etching has been completely refurbished and now hangs in the Tax Collector's Office. The Board thanked the Benac family for their generous donation and expressed their condolences.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANT HEARING

Public Hearing was scheduled for 7:00 p.m. to seek public comment on the Town's FY 2010 Grant Application for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The Town, in partnership with the Coalition for Buzzards Bay, will apply for funding for the purchase of approximately 59 acres off New Boston Road. Director of Planning and Economic Development was in attendance and explained the proposed grant application. (See attached.) On March 4, 2010, the Community Preservation Committee voted to recommend to Town Meeting to fund a grant match of \$215,000 to purchase the property. If a grant application is approved, reimbursement from the State would be not less than \$200,000. Total purchase price is \$415,000. No funds will be expended, unless the Town is eligible for grant reimbursement in the amount of not less than \$200,000. Mr. Murphy motioned to submit the grant application and authorize the Chairman to sign any and all necessary documents. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. Application is due March 31, 2010.

VIDEO EQUIPMENT

Meaghen Blasingame was in attendance and reviewed a list of video equipment to be purchased. (See attached.) Total price is \$13,979. Funding will come from Comcast funds set aside for equipment purchase. Mr. Murphy motioned to support the purchase of video equipment in the amount of \$13,979. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous.

NATURAL RESOURCE DEPARTMENT

Tim Cox, Shellfish Warden, discussed proposed changes to Shellfish and Dredge Boat Regulations. (See attached.) Discussion followed. Mr. Cox will clarify the proposed changes and they will be placed on the March 15, 2010 agenda.

Mr. Cox stated the new owner of Bella Vista Island blocked off the road and Round Cove and Senior Cove are now only accessible by the water. Since the 1970's, the Town has maintained the road and it was used by the public. Town Counsel will be asked to look into the matter and to send a letter to the owner of Bella Vista.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Job meeting with Fall River Electric (electrical repairs to Town Hall) is scheduled for March 9, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. at Town Hall.

Mattapoissett River Valley Water District Advisory Committee will meet on March 9, 2010 at 3:30 p.m. at the Board of Public Works.

Mattapoissett River Valley Water District Committee will meet on March 9, 2010 at 4:30 p.m. at the Board of Public Works.

Mr. Osuch will meet with John Beauregard of Sylvia Insurance on March 9, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. at Town Hall.

Meeting with VADAR to discuss the Town's soft ware is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on March 10, 2010 at Town Hall.

Mr. Osuch will meet with students from UMASS Dartmouth to review Town budgets for a school project.

Economic Summit Meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2010 1:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

Finance Committee will meet on March 11, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the Board of Public Works.

Mr. Osuch will attend the local Legislative Breakfast at Fall River City Hall on March 12, 2010 at 8:30 a.m.

Fire Contract negotiations are scheduled for March 15, 2010.

Meeting with the School Building Authority is scheduled for March 16, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. in Boston. Architects will be interviewed.

WES Construction will meet at the Board of Public Works on March 12, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.

Retirement Board will meet on March 18, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. at the Town Hall.

Board of Selectmen's will meet on March 15, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. to review FY 11 budget requests.

Mr. Murphy motioned to approve payment to Fall River Electrical Associates, 74 Corneau Street, Fall River, MA in the amount of \$27,130.87. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. (Town Hall Electrical Repairs)

On March 1, 2010, the Town purchased all the street lights from NSTAR. Any reports of street lights not working or needing repairs should be forwarded to Sergeant Stephen Foster at the Police Department at extension 216 or 211. Pole number, street and description of the issue are needed. Coviello Electric of Medford, MA will repair lights on Thursdays. A meeting will be held with NSTAR to determine if funding is available to replace lights with high sodium bulbs. Process to request a street light will remain the same. An article must be placed on a Town Meeting Warrant.

Mr. Osuch will provide Selectmen with a copy of an energy efficiency audit report recently completed for the High School and the Middle School.

ANIMAL SHELTER GIFT ACCOUNT

Donations to the Gift Account totaling \$30.00 were accepted.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Construction Report for February 2010 will be placed on file.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING/BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Murphy motioned to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the submission of contracts for approval. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. This is the same MOU executed by the Board of Selectmen and Board of Public Works last year. It will be extended for another year from May 1, 2010 to May 1, 2011.

NSTAR GAS

Mr. Murphy motioned to approve the petition to install a new gas service at 25 New Boston Road. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. (Approved by the Board of Public Works)

LICENSES

Mr. Murphy motioned to approve a Special All Alcoholic License for the Fairhaven Varsity Club for a dinner on March 13th from 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Murphy motioned to approve the 2010 Car Repair License Renewal for Dattco Sales & Service, 72 Sycamore Street. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Murphy motioned to approve a Common Victualer License for Golden Chopstick Chinese Restaurant, 73 Huttleston Avenue. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Murphy motioned to approve a Common Victualer License for Submarines, LLC d/b/a Hungry Heroes, 19 Plaza Way. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Murphy motioned to approve a license for a Foosball Game and one Video Game for Rasputin's Tavern, 122 Main Street. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:40 p.m., Mr. Murphy motioned to go into executive session to discuss Social Day Care issues and Council on Aging issues with the Council on Aging Board of Directors and to reconvene in open session. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. Roll call vote 3-0. Open meeting resumed at 9:00 p.m.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

A vote was taken for "Recommended Administration" for Article #4 on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant and for Annual Town Meeting Articles. Mr. Murphy made the motion and Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. (See attached.)

OTHER MATTERS

Jo-Anne Charette was honored on February 27, 2010 for organizing the girls travel basketball team, their participation in the Cape Cod League and the participation of the boys' team in the Cape Cod League.

The North Fairhaven Improvement Association honored Curtis and Myra Lopes as their "Outstanding Public Servants of the Year".

Mr. Silvia, the Town's representative on SRTA, reported SRTA will re-introduce two bus routes in Fairhaven, that were eliminated several years ago, to determine if there is a demand for service. The routes are: Route 6 to Mattapoisett and Main Street to Acushnet.

Dr. Bowcock reported representatives from DEP, EPA, the Lieutenant Governor, Congressman Barney Frank, Senator Montigny and Representative Straus were in Fairhaven today for a ground breaking ceremony at the Wastewater Treatment Plant for the building of an anaerobic digester, that will convert sewer sludge to biogas. Dr. Bowcock thanked all the officials and Board of Public Works Superintendent Bill Fitzgerald for making this project possible. He stated that Fairhaven is a leading "Green Community" and the solar panel project at the landfill is expected to start this month.

Annual M.O.L.I.F.E. Charity Ball will be held on March 19, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m. at White's of Westport.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:24 p.m., Mr. Murphy motioned to go into executive session to discuss three legal cases (Steve Marujo, Antone Medeiros, Jr., Peter Joseph), Police Contract negotiations, Fire Contract negotiations, Dispatcher Contract negotiations, unemployment hearing for a former employee and not to reconvene in open session. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. Roll call vote 3-0.

Jan St. Germain
Secretary