

Selectmen's Meeting – March 28, 2011

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

Also in attendance was Jeffrey Osuch.

Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Silvia motioned to approve the minutes of March 14, 2011. Dr. Bowcock seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Silvia motioned to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2011 executive session. Dr. Bowcock seconded. Vote was unanimous.

JENNIFER HARTLEY

Jennifer Hartley, General Manager of the Fairhaven Hampton Inn, was in attendance to discuss marketing and economic development in Fairhaven and would like to work with the Town to bring business to the area thru the travel/tourism industry. She asked Fairhaven businesses to recommend the Hampton Inn to their clients, rather than recommending the new hotel in New Bedford. Since that hotel opened last year, the Town has experienced a loss in revenue from the hotel/motel tax. Brief discussion followed.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Retirement Board will meet on March 29, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. at Town Hall

Mr. Osuch will attend the SEMASS meeting on March 29, 2011 at 11:30 a.m.

Mr. Osuch will meet with Craig Lindell on March 29, 2011 at 1:30 p.m.

Dispatcher Union negotiations are scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on March 29, 2011.

Police Union negotiations are scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on March 29, 2011.

Pre-construction meeting for the Park Motors Drainage Project is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on March 30, 2011.

Meeting to discuss the West Island Causeway Dredging project is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on March 30, 2011.

Finance Committee will meet on March 31st and April 5th at 7:00 p.m. at the Board of Public Works.

WES Job meeting is scheduled for April 1, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the Board of Public Works.

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Annual Town Elections will be held on Monday, April 4, 2011.

Next meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for April 4, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting of the Economic Study Committee is scheduled for April 5, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

Mr. Osuch will attend the SEMASS Meeting on April 6, 2011 in Plymouth.

Meeting with John Beauregard to discuss the Town's insurance will be held on April 6, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.

Clerical Union negotiations are scheduled for April 6, 2011.

Fire Union negotiations are scheduled for April 7, 2011.

ANIMAL SHELTER GIFT ACCOUNT

Donations to the Animal Shelter Gift Account totaling \$160.00 were accepted.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Mr. Silvia motioned to approve notice of "Family Leave" from Melody Perry. Dr. Bowcock seconded. Vote was unanimous.

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Mr. Murphy read a letter from Ethel Frates requesting appointment to the Bicentennial Committee. (See attached.) Mr. Silvia motioned to appoint Ethel Frates to the Bicentennial Committee. Dr. Bowcock seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Murphy read a letter from Martha Crowley requesting appointment to the Bicentennial Committee. (See attached.) Mr. Silvia motioned to appoint Martha Crowley to the Bicentennial Committee. Dr. Bowcock seconded. Vote was unanimous.

COUNCIL ON AGING

Mr. Murphy read a letter from Joan Mello stating she would like to rescind her resignation from the Council on Aging Board of Directors. (See attached.) Mr. Silvia motioned to re-appoint Joan Mello. Dr. Bowcock seconded. Vote was unanimous.

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NON-UNION PERSONNEL

Mr. Murphy read the letter from non-union personnel requesting approval of an “Early Retirement Incentive” for non-union personnel, approve by the Personnel Board on December 14, 2010. (See attached.) No action was taken. The request will be re-visited in 6 weeks.

Dr. Bowcock motioned to approve a 1% salary increase for non-union employees for FY 12. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous.

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Silvia motioned to renew the video contract with CGI Communications, Inc., 130 East Main Street, Rochester, NY. Dr. Bowcock seconded. Vote was unanimous. CGI is the provider of the videos linked to the Town's web site.

Mr. Silvia motioned to sign a letter supporting the Coalition for Buzzards Bay's “Town Line Land Conservation”. Dr. Bowcock seconded. Vote was unanimous. The Coalition is applying for a grant to purchase 63 acres in Mattapoisett, adjacent to land the Town recently acquired off New Boston Road.

SHELLFISH PROPAGATION GIFT ACCOUNT

\$250.00 donation to the Shellfish Propagation Gift Account was accepted.

SOLAR POWER PARTNERS

Mr. Silvia motioned to sign the “Consent to Assignment & Clarification of Terms” with Solar Power Partners, 100 Shoreline Highway, Suite 210 B, Mill Valley, CA. Dr. Bowcock seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Dr. Bowcock stated last week in executive session, the Board signed the “Assignment and Assumption Agreement - Lease of Town Land for Wind Turbine Electric Generation” and the “First Amendment to Lease of Town Land for Wind Turbine Electric Generation”. It is hoped the two turbines will be up and running by the end of the year.

TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM

Mr. Murphy read the request from the Historical Society to use the Auditorium on Friday, April 1 and April 15, 2011. (See attached.) Mr. Silvia motioned to approve the request. Dr. Bowcock seconded. Vote was unanimous.

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FAIRHAVEN FIREFIGHTERS MUSTER COMMITTEE

Mr. Murphy read the request from the Fairhaven Firefighters Muster Committee to hold a firefighters' muster and parade on June 26, 2011. (See attached.) Mr. Silvia motioned to approve the request. Dr. Bowcock seconded. Vote was unanimous.

FAIRHAVEN IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Mr. Silvia, a member of the North Fairhaven Improvement Association, left the room. Mr. Murphy read the letter from the Fairhaven Improvement Association requesting permission to hold the "Music in the Center" concerts on Thursday nights in July and August, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall. (See attached.) Dr. Bowcock motioned to approve the request. Mr. Murphy seconded. It was so voted. Mr. Silvia returned to the meeting.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Mr. Murphy read the request from Steven Bouley to hold the National Day of Prayer in front of the Town Hall on May 5th at 12:00 noon and in the event of rain, to use the auditorium. (See attached.) Mr. Silvia motioned to approve the request. Dr. Bowcock seconded. Vote was unanimous.

PROCLAMATION

A request for a "Citation" for the 163rd "Hometown Heroine Award" was received from Bank Five, Fall River. Dr. Bowcock motioned to prepare the document. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous.

FY 12 BUDGETS & ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

Mr. Osuch summarized Articles submitted for the Special Town Meeting Warrant. (See attached.)

Dr. Bowcock made the motions for "recommendation" for numerous Annual Town Meeting Articles and Special Town Meeting Articles. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. (See attached.)

WAYNE STREET

The reconstruction and triple stone sealing of Wayne Street from Sconticut Neck Road easterly to the end was discussed. At the March 14, 2011 Selectmen's Meeting, residents of Wayne Street discussed the poor condition of the street; pot holes, mud when it rains, icy in the winter and dusty when there is no rain. They stated that at Town Meeting, the Board of Public Works will support hard surfacing Wayne Street. The petitioners asked for the Selectmen's support and the Board voted to place an article on the Special Town Meeting Warrant to reconstruct and triple

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stone seal Wayne Street and funding is to come from the Potter Street Article passed last year. The Board stated only one year round resident uses Potter Street and that resident is a member of the Board of Public Works. Also, Potter Street is not on SRPEDD's list of streets that need to be surfaced/re-surfaced. Historically, The Selectmen and the Finance Committee make recommendations for Road Work, not the Board of Public Works.

NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Board reported that last Friday, March 25, 2011, the School Superintendent, Executive Secretary, Chairman of the New School Building Committee and members of the New School Building Committee attended a MSBA meeting with the architect and project manager for an update on the new school project. MSBA requires a complete summary of the project by the end of this week and on April 15, 2011, MSBA will give their report. A letter from Jennifer Bishop and a petition from Town residents requesting an "immediate hold be placed upon the School Building Committee's (SBC) decision to move forward with the current elementary school consolidation plan" were discussed. They are asking for a fuller exploration of ways to preserve/maintain the Wood and Rogers School and keep a smaller class size. Discussion continued on class size, the two school option vs a new elementary school. The issue will be placed on the April 4, 2011 agenda.

OTHER MATTERS

In the near future, an appointment will be scheduled with representatives from West Island to discuss bathroom facilities at West Island beaches.

The fund raiser held at the Manjuro House this past weekend to assist victims of the devastating earth quake in Japan was very successful. The Board reported this event is just the beginning of the fund raisers.

The Board congratulated former Fairhaven Police Office Walter Baiardi on being named "State Police Officer of the Year".

Mr. Murphy read the "Connecting the Dots" notice announcing that Donna Palomba and Dateline NBC will "connect to tell the story of her year journey to achieve justice after surviving a sexual assault." Ms. Palomba will be at the Seaport Inn and Marina, 110 Middle Street on April 11, 2011 from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. (See attached.)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:05 p.m., Mr. Silvia motioned to go into executive session to discuss the Roberta Harrison case, the proposed Water Agreement with New Bedford, a letter to Joyce Cookinham, Clerical Union Contract negotiations, Dispatcher Union Contract negotiations, Police Union Contract negotiations, the Seaport Inn lease and not to reconvene in open session. Dr. Bowcock seconded. Vote was unanimous. Roll call vote 3-0.

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Jan St. Germain
Secretary