BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
JUNE 18, 2012
Slade Building

Members present: Michael Stauder, Vice Chairman
Christopher Norcross

Member not present: Matthew Castriotta, Clerk

Staff present: Brian Bullock, Town Administrator; Elaine Peterson, Town Secretary

Others present: Ed Blanchard, Finance Committee Chair, Walter Ducharme, Tom Howlett, MaryAnn DiPinto

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm

Board Reorganization

Motion: C. Norcross **2nd: M. Stauder**
To reorganize the Board of Selectmen as follows: Mr. Stauder as Chairman, Mr. Castriotta as Vice Chairman and Christopher Norcross as Clerk
Vote: All in Favor

FY 2013 Capital Purchasing/New Hires

Mr. Stauder expressed concerns about meeting the Quabbin Regional School District school budget, with possibly an additional obligation of two hundred thousand dollars at the worst case scenario. He suggested postponing purchasing capital items and hiring new personnel until Fall 2012 when the Town has a better idea of where the school budget is heading. Mr. Bullock stated he saw no problem postponing the hiring of new personnel and noted the capital items are already funded. The items to be postponed being purchased will be the police cruiser, underground conduit and Fire Station asbestos abatement, and the revolving computer upgrade account. The other item to be delayed will be the hiring of a full-time police officer.

Letter to Quabbin Regional School District Superintendent Maureen Marshall

Mr. Stauder stated he had composed a letter to Dr. Marshall on behalf of the Board. He read it for the minutes:

Dear Dr. Marshall and the Quabbin School Committee;

We write this letter today, not because we are in opposition to the school district or to our children's' education, but on the contrary, we write this because we believe a full and diverse education is of paramount importance. The children we are educating today are the leaders and visionaries of tomorrow. The principle of a sound education system traces back to the very beginning of our country, with Thomas Jefferson as one of public education's chief proponents. Among his many writings, he is quoted as believing 'an educated citizenry is a vital requisite for our survival as a free people.'

It is in this spirit that we write in our strong opposition to teaching and program cuts that have been proposed at the Quabbin Regional School District. These programs, ranging from elementary 'specials' to high school sports, are essential for developing our children's' critical thinking, social skills, and base of knowledge that will allow them to succeed tomorrow.

We implore the committee to consider the educational mission of the district in this turbulent time. We must put all available resources into education. The reality is, unfortunately, these financially tight times are likely the new normal. There is no reason why Quabbin cannot be at the forefront and lead the Commonwealth in our need to change the way schools do business. Getting rid of teachers and programs is easy, but certainly not the answer. When an increasingly greater percentage of taxpayer money goes to non-teaching expenses, this becomes a losing battle.

To this end, the Hubbardston Board of Selectmen will not support any further budget proposals or override requests unless deep and substantial cuts are made in administrative and nonteaching expenses. We do not support the elimination of educational programs over administrative costs; this after all is a school district. We also request a 3 year plan as to expected costs and increases.

Thank you for your continued support of our children.

Sincerely,
Board of Selectmen

Motion: C. Norcross **2nd: M. Stauder**
To approve and send the letter to Dr. Marshall **Vote: All in Favor**

The Board requested a copy of the letter be sent to the other Quabbin District Boards of Selectmen.

Ms. Peterson presented a list of rates of pay for departments submitted by the Town Accountant for approval. These rates of pay are being presented upon the auditors' recommendations.

Wiring Inspector Darrell Sweeney - 80% of permit fee
Plumbing/Gas Inspector Tom Monfreda- 100% of permit fee
Board of Health Randy Mizereck- $80.00 for new construction/$40.00 repair of septic
$100.00 for perc site visit

Conservation Commission
Steve Mossey/David Klinch $45.00 site inspection for new construction
$30.00 site inspection for additions/other structures

Motion: C. Norcross **2nd: M. Stauder**
To approve the rates of pay as presented **Vote: All in Favor**

Mr. Blanchard requested the committee and board member stipends be reviewed before the budget process next year as they have not been updated for many years. He advised comparing with other communities as well.

Mortgage Subordination Request

Ms. Peterson presented a request for a mortgage subordination on property located at 21 Evergreen Road. The applicants meet the income requirements according to the mortgage subordination policy and will not be receiving any cash payout. The refinancing will lower the interest rate for the property owners from 6.35% to 4% or lower.

Motion: C. Norcross **2nd: M. Stauder**
To approve the request for the mortgage subordination for Susan and Steven Connolly **Vote: All in Favor**

Resignation of Treasurer

Mr. Norcross read the resignation letter of James Dunbar.

Motion: C. Norcross **2nd: M. Stauder**
To accept Jim Dunbar's resignation effect on July 31, 2012
Vote: All in Favor

Mr. Bullock reported Mr. Castriotta had requested discussion about the vacancy be postponed until he was present. Mr. Blanchard asked if there was going to be another meeting regarding the treasurer/collector position. Mr. Bullock stated he would check with Mr. Castriotta. Mr. Bullock reported he has wage scales for individual treasurer and treasurer/collector positions.

Mr. Howlett wanted to publicly congratulate Chris Norcross as a new selectman and thank Mr. Newcomb for his service to the Town.

The Board reviewed correspondence.

Appointments for Fiscal Year 2013

Ms. Peterson presented a list of appointments for the upcoming fiscal year. She also introduced MaryAnn DiPinto who was present this evening and would like to be on the LID By-Law Committee.

COA Members – Jane Turcotte-term to expire June 30, 2015
John Nason- term to expire June 30, 2015

Agricultural Commission – Tom Colyer – term to expire June 30, 2015

Computer Advisory Committee- Dennis O'Donnell
Kevin Motta

Conservation Commission – Mike Stevens- Associate- term to expire June 30, 2013
Stephen Mossey-June 30, 2015

250th Anniversary Committee:
Gary Kangas - 3 years
Ernie Newcomb - 3 years
Martha Holgerson - 2 years
Dennis O'Donnell - 2 years
Ken Green - 1 year

Emergency Management (1 year):
Dennis O'Donnell - Emergency Manager
Judith O'Donnell - Asst. Emergency Manager

Local Emergency Planning Committee (all 1 Year):
Chief Dennis Perron
Chief Robert Hayes
Supt. Lyn Gauthier
EMD Dennis O'Donnell
Asst. EMD Judith O'Donnell

Historical Commission- Charles Clark, Gary Kangas, Martha Holgerson-term to expire June 30, 2015

Open Space- Pat Taylor-term to expire June 30, 2015, Leslie Grenier-term to expire June 30, 2014

LID By-Law Committee- term to expire June 30, 2013
Peter Jefts- Planning Board Representative
MaryAnn DiPinto- LID By-Law Committee- Member at Large
Lyn Gauthier- LID By-Law Committee-Highway Rep
David Klinch- LID By-Law Committee- Conservation Commission Rep

Zoning Board of Appeals- William Fernekees (Alternate) – term to expire June 30, 2013
Andrew Baum- term to expire June 30, 2017

Community Preservation Committee- Tony Coppola- Conservation Commission Representative-term to expire June 30, 2013

Memorial Day Committee: Tom Colyer, Andrea Colyer –term to expire June 30, 2013.

Cultural Council- Renee Malowitz, Cindy Nordstrom, Emily Langer- terms to expire June 30, 2015

Building Commissioner/ Trench Inspector-Private- Lawrence Brandt- term to expire June 30, 2013

Planning Board Associate- Vincent Ritchie-term to expire June 30, 2013

Motion: C. Norcross **2nd: M. Stauder**

To appoint the list with terms as presented **Vote: All in Favor**

Agreements for Board of Assessors

Ms. Peterson presented an agreement between the Town and Regional Resource Group, Inc. for periodic inspections not covered by the current three year assessment service contract.

Motion: C. Norcross **2nd: M. Stauder**

To approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement between Regional Resource Group, Inc.10 Monument Square, Suite 202, Leominster, MA, 01453 and the Town for periodic inspections not covered by the current three year assessment service contract. **Vote: All in Favor**

Ms. Peterson presented an agreement between Cartographic Associates, Inc. and the Town for GIS services.

Motion: C. Norcross **2nd: M. Stauder**

To approve the agreement between Cartographic Associates, Inc. 11 Pleasant Street, Littleton, NH, 03561 in the amount of $500.00 for GIS Services Maintenance from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 **Vote: All in Favor**

Mr. Blanchard requested permission to chisel out the ramp to the Slade Building and fill in the cracks and paint the cement. Mr. Norcross reported he did not believe the ramp could be painted. The Board approved but advised Mr. Blanchard to check with the Building Inspector about painting the ramp.

Warrant #26

Motion: C. Norcross **2nd: M. Stauder**

To approve Warrant #26 in the amount of $105,190.67 **Vote: All in Favor**

Motion: M. Stauder **2nd: C. Norcross**

To send a thank you letter to Ed Leonard for his 28 years of service on the QRSD Committee **Vote: All in Favor**

Motion: M. Stauder **2nd: C. Norcross**

To adjourn the meeting at 7:12 pm **Vote: All in Favor**

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Peterson

Elaine M. Peterson
Town Secretary

Approved: June 26, 2012