

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING DECEMBER 23, 2008

Chairman Foyle called the meeting to order in the Senior Center at 7:15 PM with all members present. Mr. Foyle noted that the budget meeting that was held on December 16th was well received by the town's employees. Mr. Foyle also thanked Highway Superintendent Gary Jean for his department's work on the recent back to back storms.

I. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of December 9, 2008 as written. So voted. For the minutes of December 16, 2008, Mrs. Walter wanted it noted that she did state that there was a potential for employee layoffs because of the town's budget problems, but that the town's stabilization account, or a Proposition 2 ½ override were not options. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to approve the minutes as amended by Mrs. Walter. So voted.

IA. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve school warrant #1026 for \$91,070.24. So voted. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve general warrant #1027 for \$110,592.82. So voted. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve payroll warrant #13 for \$301,830.79. So voted.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Mr. Foyle read a letter from the Central Massachusetts Emergency Medical Systems Corporation asking that the town appoint two representatives to the Board of Directors. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to re-appoint Mr. James Foyle and Ms. Holly Weilsma as the representatives from North Brookfield. So voted.

B. Mr. Foyle read a letter to the editor of the Spencer New Leader and the Worcester Telegram and Gazette that he had written regarding North Brookfield's response to the recent ice storm by the North Brookfield Emergency Management Agency and the North Brookfield community in general. In his letter Mr. Foyle praised those who helped provide over 300 town residents with warmth, shelter, and food during the ice storm two weeks ago.

C. This item regarding the liquor license for 341 North Main Street had previously been resolved.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Mrs. Walter read a letter from the Board of Water Commissioners regarding repayment of the loan for repair of the Horse Pond Dam. The commissioners are recommending that the loan be repaid by the taxpayers rather than by water users. Mrs. Walter noted that she believes that the rationale presented by the commissioners is sound, and Mr. Petraitis agreed. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to go along with the recommendation of the water commissioners to have the taxpayers bear the burden of the loan. So voted.

B. Mr. Petraitis read an article that was printed in the Worcester Telegram and Gazette announcing that North Brookfield has received a state grant of \$220,465.00 to be used for energy efficiency upgrades to town buildings. Mr. Foyle vowed that the money will be used wisely, and suggested that it will help with the town's budgetary belt-tightening. Mrs. Walter noted that at the last regional selectmen's meeting Energy Services Performance Contracting was discussed, and perhaps these two could be combined.

C. Mr. Foyle reviewed a mortgage subordination agreement for Deborah Carroll of 127 School Street. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve and sign the agreement. So voted.

Mr. Foyle wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

At 7:40 PM Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to go off-camera to sign bills. So voted.

The selectmen signed the bi-weekly bills and payrolls.

At 8:15 PM Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Scott Burton
Administrative Assistant