

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
APRIL 16, 2009

Chairman Foyle called the meeting to order in the Senior Center at 7 PM with all members present.

I. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of April 9, 2009 as written. So voted.

IA. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve school warrant #1046 for \$90,234.81. So voted. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve general warrant #1047 for \$87,873.39. So voted. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve payroll warrant #21 for \$282,946.73. So voted.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to sign and post the warrant for the May 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Town Election and the May 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Town Meeting. So voted. Mr. Foyle also noted that absentee ballots are now available from the Town Clerk.

B. Mr. Petraitis read an announcement from North Brookfield Decorates regarding their town wide cleanup day to be held on April 25<sup>th</sup>. There will also be a plant swap and the collection of worn flags to be destroyed at a later date.

C. Mrs. Walter announced that the Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion will be hosting a pocketbook party on April 26<sup>th</sup> from 1 PM – 3 PM at the Legion post at 163 North Main Street.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Foyle seconded, a motion to appoint Mary Walter to the North Brookfield Emergency Management Agency. So voted, with Mrs. Walter abstaining.

B. Eric Hevy, co-chairman of the Police Building Committee came in to update the selectmen on the project. He noted that the filed sub-bids and the GC bids that were received in March were approximately \$240,000 over budget. The committee has re-prioritized their preferences, and has come up with \$325,000 in potential savings. The new filed sub-bids will be due on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, and the new GC bids will be due May 7<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Hevy stated that the committee is committed to building a quality facility within the town's budget.

C. Mr. Foyle reviewed a request from Police Chief Thomasian that the selectmen approve the use of a \$14,127.00 Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant for a new police cruiser. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve the use of the grant funds toward a new cruiser. So voted. Mr. Foyle reported that the USDA may have additional grant funds available that could also be applied to the new cruiser.

D. Kevin Kennedy from Bay State Grants was unable to attend, and has rescheduled his meeting with the selectmen to June 18<sup>th</sup>.

E. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion that the selectmen vote to waive the town's right of first refusal on the property located at 87 East Brookfield Road owned by David Hayden and Christine Long. So voted. The property is approximately 4.2 acres, and is being sold for \$185,000.00.

F. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to set June 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM as the date and time for a special town meeting. So voted. All requests for articles will be due to the selectmen and finance committee by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

G. Mr. Foyle reviewed a letter from Police Chief Thomasian asking for \$3,500.00 in FY2010 funds from the Holden Hospital Fund. It was agreed to table the request until the selectmen can find out the current balance in the account.

H. Mrs. Walter read a letter from Representative Richard Neal inviting the selectmen to a presentation in Southbridge by Jeffrey Simon, who is the Director of Infrastructure and Investment for the state. The meeting will be held on April 21<sup>st</sup> at 11 AM. Mrs. Walter stated that she will try to attend.

Mr. Foyle displayed a copy of today's Worcester Telegram with headlines about a potential FY10 local aid cut of an additional 32%. This would be devastating to the town. Mr. Foyle noted that the selectmen and the finance committee have been working diligently on a budget that maintains acceptable levels of service to the town in spite of the expected budget cuts.

Mrs. Walter reported that the town will be able to balance the FY09 budget thanks to the cooperation of town departments.

Mr. Foyle reported that the good news is that there is lots of activity beginning this week at the downtown development site, future home of the town's new police station. Mr. Foyle stated that the work is being funded by EPA funds that are going towards the remediation of the site and site preparation work for the new police building.

At 8:10 PM Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to adjourn.  
So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Scott Burton  
Administrative Assistant