

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING SEPTEMBER 22, 2009

Chairman Petraitis called the meeting to order in the Senior Center at 7:04 PM with all members present.

I. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Filipkowski seconded, a motion to defer until 09/29/09 the minutes from the 09/15/2009 meeting. So voted.

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Filipkowski seconded, a motion to appoint Jim Metcalf to the Quaboag Valley Development Corp. So voted. Mr. Metcalf was thanked by all for his willingness to accept the role.

B. Bruce Deroisier appointment to NBEMA was postponed as he was not present.

C. Mrs. Walter provided an update on the recent changes in Conflict of Interest law (General Laws Chapter 268A). Town Counsel (Kopelman and Paige) had provided a memorandum regarding the amendments which were summarized by Mrs. Walter. Some of the important notes: Most of the provisions become enacted 90 days after Governor Patrick signing it into law (9/29/2009) and others would be enacted on 1/1/2010. Penalties for violations have been raised and threshold for infringements was lowered. All parties were in agreement that copies will be made available to all municipal employees as they could be affected.

D. Mrs. Walter provided an update on David Mahers request to distribute materials at the Recycling Center. Mr. Maher has spoken with John Alpin and an agreement has been reached. If Mr. Maher provides the BOH with copies of the materials for review as well as anticipated dates to distribute, then Mr. Alphin will approve the distribution of materials.

E. Mr. Filipkowski provided an update on the Senior Tax Rebate Program. He has investigated several communities with an active program and Southbridge is the one that appears to be the model Mr. Filipkowski would like to propose. He has spoken with their coordinator and is attempting to schedule a sit down meeting with the Southbridge Town coordinator and the Assessor. Some info provided on the program were- Must be over 60 years of age, Southbridge uses a \$500 cap, participants are paid minimum wage, must be a need for the town and a fit with the volunteer, Town Assessor is an integral part of the program. Mr. Filipkowski will continue to work on this and provide updates to the board.

F. Mrs. Walter provided an update on the Regional Task force and North Brookfield's potential involvement were discussed. Advantages such as better

services provided to town, better cost control, group purchasing such as Energy Contracts, and voluntary participation on programs were reviewed. Several other towns have agreed to participate with a single vote for their town representatives. One town has appointed one rep with one vote. Mr. Filipkowski commented his preference was for one vote as a board allowing anyone from the BOS to participate. He cautioned that communication of information and ideas is critical for success and Mr. Petraitis and Mrs. Walter agreed that this was a key element of the program. A motion was made to participate in the task force with the possibility of developing a Council of Governments. Mrs. Walter moved and Mr. Filipkowski seconded. So Voted.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Mr. Filipkowski read the August monthly report from the Chief of Police. The report included -76 Incidents, 28 Arrest/Summons, 9 Accidents, 41 Civil Citations 1 Parking Ticket, 7 Marijuana By-Law violations. The BOS thanked the Chief and his department for their continued efforts. Mrs. Walter moved and Mr. Filipkowski seconded a motion to accept the report. So Voted.

B. Mrs. Walter moved and Mr. Filipkowski seconded a motion to sign the LSTD grant for the Library which was presented by Ann Kidd. So Voted.

C. Mrs. Walter reviewed the presentation that was done on 09/15/2009 by Tim Hansen of CMRPC with some of the key components of applying for a grant to potentially help repair water/sewer pipes on Maple Street and for development of the NASH building. Mrs. Walter outlined the work previously done and that would need to be completed to potentially land one of the grants for prevention of slum and blight in designated areas of North Brookfield. Mr. Filipkowski noted this is a pro-active move to address potential needs in an area and all were in agreement. A request will be sent out this week by Chairman Petraitis requesting that the Planning and Zoning boards as well as the Sewer and Water Commissions designate potential representatives to assist with the process.

D. Betty Libby requested to (at her own cost) paint the railings/fence area outside of Quabaug Rubber. She has requested that the town remove signs in the area to assist her in this process. Mrs. Walter had spoken with the Highway Dept and they have agreed to assist. The BOS thanked Ms. Libby for her generous efforts. Mrs. Walter moved and Mr. Filipkowski seconded a motion to allow the painting to take place. So Voted.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Tax Title Auction for 10/15 was read.

B. Friday November 6, 2009 has been tentatively scheduled as a special town meeting. Articles for the meeting must be submitted to the BOS no later than Friday September 25. Preference of submittal is via email.

C. Flu Clinic will be held on November 17, 2009 from 11-1 at the Senior Center at 29 Forest Street.

D. A retirement party is being held for Sgt. Doug Blood on October 16, 2009 starting at 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$35 per person and available at the NB police station, Bob's Deli or by calling 508-667-6590

At 7:41 PM Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Filipkowski seconded, a motion to enter executive session for the purpose of conducting contract negotiations with the police chief. Roll call: Petraitis, yes; Walter, yes; Filipkowski, yes. So voted. Mr. Petraitis announced that the Board would exit executive session only to adjourn.

At 8:15 PM the Board came out of executive session. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Filipkowski seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Filipkowski
Clerk North Brookfield BOS