

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING NOVEMBER 3, 2009

Chairman Petraitis called the meeting to order in the Senior Center at 7 PM with Mrs. Walter also present. Mr. Filipkowski was absent. Mr. Petraitis offered the Board's condolences to the family of former selectman Jack O'Toole, who passed away over the weekend.

I. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to defer the approval of minutes until next week. So voted.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Mrs. Walter read a letter from resident Angela Cavanaugh of 39 Spring Street regarding a street light that has been turned off near her home. The light was paid for by a now deceased resident, not the town. The new owner of the property had the light removed. Mrs. Cavanaugh complained that her road is very dark, and trailer trucks coming from the Madix company often get lost and have to back down the road when they can't make a turn. She stated that five trucks got stuck on the hill this summer, and the situation will only get worse during the winter. She considers the lack of the street light a safety hazard.

Mr. Petraitis noted that the selectmen are considering turning off some street lights in order to save money, so we should not agree to have the town pay for this one. He would like the Safety Committee to review the situation on Spring Street, and also to review the recommendations of police officer Chris Donais, who recommended several lights that he believes could be safely turned off.

Mrs. Cavanaugh stated that she is willing to turn on the light and pay for it herself while the town looks in to the situation. Mr. Petraitis and Mrs. Walter agreed that the Safety Committee should be asked to expedite the Spring Street situation, and then look into officer Donais' recommendations. Mr. Petraitis will contact the Safety Committee.

B. Mr. Petraitis reminded residents that there will be a Special Town Meeting this Friday night at 7 PM in the Elementary School Auditorium.

C. Bob Smith, co-chairman of the Finance Committee, presented that committee's recommendations for Friday night's meeting. Mr. Smith noted that the FinCom had previously recommended approval of all of the articles requesting the transfer of funds, and is now also recommending that the other articles be approved as well.

Mr. Smith also noted that he has submitted a draft cover letter to department heads to begin the FY2011 budget process on tonight's agenda under New

Business Item E. He asked that the selectmen review the letter and be prepared to discuss it next week with the Finance Committee.

D. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve a draft of the motions for Friday's town meeting, based on the recommendations from the Finance Committee. So voted.

E. The discussion of fees charged by the various town departments will be postponed until next week when Mr. Filipkowski is present, since he was the person who initiated this item.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Mr. Petraitis noted that the selectmen have received a letter of resignation from Outreach Coordinator Barbara Harrington. Mr. Petraitis and Mrs. Walter agreed to table the letter until the selectmen have a chance to speak with Mrs. Harrington.

B. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve and sign two special state election warrants. These are being held to elect a replacement for the late Senator Ted Kennedy. There will be a state primary on December 8th, and a state election on January 19th. So voted and signed.

C. Because the two special elections fall on Tuesdays, it was agreed to reschedule the December 8th selectmen's meeting to Monday, December 7th, and to reschedule the January 19th selectmen's meeting to Monday, January 18th.

D. Mrs. Walter noted that the Capital Improvement Planning Committee has sent out a letter to town departments asking for project updates for 2010. The selectmen currently have three projects on the CIP list; the town hall renovation itself, the town hall roof and bell tower, and the town house soil remediation. Leslie will update the three project request forms from last year so the selectmen can discuss them next week.

E. This item was the FY2011 draft cover sheet of budget recommendations that Mr. Smith previously referenced, and it will be discussed with the selectmen and Finance Committee at the next meeting.

F. Mrs. Walter presented a draft of the FY2011 budget timeline. Mrs. Walter pointed out that the document is a guideline and can be modified and updated if needed.

G. Mr. Petraitis noted that the selectmen have often discussed bulk purchasing as a way to save money. He has spoken with Peter Shipman, who is the Supervisor of Building and Grounds for the school department. Mr. Shipman

has offered to study the costs of buying the town's cleaning and paper supplies under the school. Leslie will e-mail Mr. Shipman a list of what the town uses in a year, and will send out a message to the library, senior center, water, sewer, highway, police and fire departments as well.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Mrs. Walter announced that the flu clinic originally scheduled for November 17th has been cancelled due to a lack of flu vaccine.

At 8 PM Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining strategy. Roll call: Petraitis, yes; Walter, yes. So voted. Mr. Petraitis announced that the Board would exit executive session only to adjourn.

At 8:38 PM the Board came out of executive session. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Scott Burton
Administrative Assistant