

## MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING FEBRUARY 16, 2010

Chairman Petraitis called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM in the Senior Center with all members present.

I. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Filipkowski seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of February 2, 2010 as amended. So voted. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Filipkowski seconded, a motion to approve the regular minutes and executive session minutes of February 9, 2010 as written. So voted.

IA. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Filipkowski seconded, a motion to approve school warrant #1040 for \$79,374.90, general warrant #1041 for \$466,710.85, and payroll warrant #17 for \$281,825.26. So voted.

### II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Mr. Filipkowski reviewed the method used by the Safety Committee to determine a course of action regarding a resident's request for the town to turn on a streetlight on Spring Street. Mr. Filipkowski noted that the Safety Committee members were each assigned a task at the first meeting of the committee, and each member independently researched the situation and did his or her own scoring using a risk assessment tool from the National Safety Council. Mrs. Walter questioned the methodology of the scoring, and Mr. Filipkowski provided some additional information on the scorecard used. Mrs. Walter asked if the committee members spoke to the property owner who raised the issue, and Mr. Filipkowski stated that he did not believe that anyone spoke to the resident. Mrs. Walter stated that she was uncomfortable voting on this because the Safety Committee did not formally vote on the recommendation. Mr. Filipkowski stated that he would try to get the Safety Committee together, and that he would make sure the Spring Street resident was invited to attend.

B. Mr. Filipkowski reviewed a letter to be sent to department heads asking for clarification on any need for assistance in their departments, but asked that the dates be moved out one week so that everyone has two weeks to respond. Leslie will make the changes and leave the letter at the selectmen's office to be signed.

C. Mr. Petraitis reviewed the selectmen's visit to the property at 25 Bates Street on January 30<sup>th</sup>. This is a 30 acre site which abuts the town forest that a group of residents would like the town to purchase in order to create recreational opportunities and preserve open space. The town would apply for a grant through the East Quabbin Land Trust that could provide 69% reimbursement. The selectmen will appoint a committee to work on this when the group is ready to proceed. Mr. Petraitis asked if the town would need to raise the entire amount

and then would get reimbursed afterward, and said that he wasn't sure if the grant would reimburse the full 68%, or only up to 68%. Mrs. Walter stated that she was unsure how the process would work, but that more information will come when the group does a little more research.

D. Council on Aging Director Louise Bouchard brought the selectmen a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the town and the Tri Valley Nutrition Program. Tri Valley will use the North Brookfield Senior Center as a meal site four days per week. Mrs. Bouchard pointed out that the COA has had the MOU with Tri Valley for nine years and she has always signed it. Nothing has changed except that the Meals on Wheels program is located here now instead of West Brookfield. Mrs. Bouchard noted that the program does not cost the town any money, and it was a good opportunity for the COA to organize the kitchen. The selectmen previously had voted to sign the MOU when Mrs. Bouchard brought a new copy, and they did so.

E. Mr. Filipkowski reviewed "Project Dashboard," an excel spreadsheet that he has designed to keep track of projects. Mrs. Walter suggested **populating the spreadsheet with the Administrative Assistant's "future" agenda items** and that the spreadsheet could be printed on a "landscape" orientation, rather than the current "portrait" style, and that a column be added to designate a high, medium, or low priority.

### III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Mr. Petraitis read an e-mail from Anne Adams asking to be appointed to the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee. Because Ms. Adams was not present, it was agreed to defer this item to next week.

B. A request to appoint Gino Carmiello to NBEMA was also deferred to next week.

C. Mr. Petraitis reviewed the January police report as submitted by Chief Thomasian. He reported 37 incidents and 25 summons/arrests for the month. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Filipkowski seconded, a motion to accept the report and place a copy on file. So voted.

D. Mrs. Walter reviewed the January fire department report as submitted by Chief Black. He reported 20 calls for the month. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Filipkowski seconded, a motion to accept the report and place a copy on file. So voted.

E. Mr. Filipkowski reviewed the Quarterly Work Plan as submitted by Superintendent Gary Jean. Mr. Jean also submitted a plan of road paving, maintenance, and sidewalk maintenance for the years 2010, 2011, 2012, and

2013. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Filipkowski seconded, a motion to accept the report and place a copy on file. So voted.

K. David Carlson of AECOM, who is the Licensed Site Professional (LSP) of record for Saucony Corporation. Saucony is cleaning up contaminated soil in a river next to the former hat factory/sneaker factory in East Brookfield. The North Brookfield Railroad, which is owned by the Town of North Brookfield, abuts this site, and Mr. Carlson and his company want to use the old railroad trestle bridge to access the site during the cleanup operation. Mr. Carlson presented an access agreement between Saucony, East Brookfield, and North Brookfield to be signed. Town Counsel Brian Riley had previously reviewed the agreement and found it in order, and also disclosed that his firm, Kopelman and Paige, represents the Town of East Brookfield. Mr. Riley noted that because the two towns are not “directly adverse” to each other, there is no conflict with his firm representing both towns.

Mr. Carlson reported that the river is contaminated with metals and coal ash, and that contaminated soil will be removed and disposed of off-site. Up to one foot of contaminated river sediment and up to six feet of affected river bank may have to be removed, a permeable membrane installed, and replaced with clean soil and stone.

Mr. Carlson reported that they will need to “de-water” the river using cofferdams to block the flow of the river. East Brookfield Selectman Larry Gordon, who was also in attendance, noted that the level of Lake Lashaway will have to be lowered in September, rather than in November as is usually done.

Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Filipkowski seconded, a motion to approve and sign the access agreement. So voted and signed.

F. Mr. Petraitis reviewed a letter from the Water Department asking the selectmen to sign a contract with Lycott Environmental for algae control at Horse Pond Reservoir. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Filipkowski seconded, a motion to sign the contract. So voted.

G. Mrs. Walter reviewed a letter from the Central Massachusetts Emergency Medical Systems Corporation asking for the town to appoint a representative to their Board of Directors. It was agreed to defer this item to next week in order to get clarification of the designation of the First Responder Representative.

H. Mrs. Walter had requested that the selectmen discuss the possibility of reopening the Senior Center and/or the Town Offices on Fridays. She noted that there is often someone working at the town offices on Friday. She also wondered if it would be a good idea for the Senior Center to be open on Fridays to serve hot meals, as some seniors may have to go 3 days over the weekend

without the hot meal, and even 4 days on long weekends with a Monday holiday. It was agreed to keep this item under "Old Business" for further discussion.

I. An e-mail from Chief Thomasian regarding working toward the police department becoming accredited was tabled until next week.

J. Mr. Petraitis reviewed an e-mail from Caryn DeCarteret of Ansar Energy asking the selectmen to write a letter of support for the solar project being proposed for North Brookfield. Leslie will draft a letter of support along the lines of one written by the Town of Sturbridge for review next week.

#### IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Mr. Filipkowski announced the Pack 128 Blue and Gold Banquet to be held on February 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM.

#### V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The selectmen hope to meet with the Finance Committee soon to discuss FY2011 budgets.

There being no further business, Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Filipkowski seconded, a motion to adjourn at 8:20 PM. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Scott Burton  
Administrative Assistant