

Selectmen

Minutes of February 24, 2009

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, February 24, 2009 beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of the Town Hall. Mr. DeNapoli and Mr. Timson were absent. The following members were present.

Catherine Winston, Chairman  
Clifton Snuffer, Vice Chairman  
David Sullivan, Clerk

Also present:

Michael Boynton, Town Administrator

Ms. Winston called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Selectmen DeNapoli has a work commitment and Selectmen Timson has the flu.

#### Proclamations

The Board was presented with proclamations for Michael Healey, Manger of Stop and Shop who is leaving the store and has done great things for the Town. There is a party for him on Saturday at Rafael's. The second proclamation is for Ed Forsberg who is person of the year for the Friends of St. Patrick.

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer that we sign and present the proclamation to Michael Healey, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 3-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer that we sign and present the proclamation to Ed Forsberg as written, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 3-0-0

7:30 p.m. Panera Bread. Common Victualler's

Kevin McMahon appeared before the Board seeking a common victualler's license for a Panera Bread Restaurant at the Walpole Mall. They gave each Board member a copy of the layout of the store and the menu. It will be in front of Kohl's. This restaurant will have a drive thru. They are looking forward to opening by middle of summer. They have free wii fi for customers. Introduced Michael Bassil who will be the store manager. They will try to have outdoor seating with umbrellas and hope to use heaters for the cooler weather. They are appearing before the Zoning Board of Appeals tomorrow night.

The Board welcomed them to town and is looking forward to the opening.

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to approve the application for the Common Victualler's license, once this vote is taken this will be held until the Building inspector issues, Board of Health issues and an occupancy permit has been released, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 3-0-0

2-21 Relay for Life, Cancer Society

The Board was presented with a request from the Relay for Life of greater Norwood to partner with the High School and utilize the outdoor grounds and gymnasium for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life to be held on June 19, 2009 at 6 p.m. Monica Stevenson was present representing the organization.

Mr. Boynton noted this is a great program and he knows people who have participated in the past, fabulous event for a great cause. One of the things the town has asked for the turf and track are new and there are things you can do on grass that you can't do on turf. We do not want tents, open flames, all the cost of it incurred. We want to make sure there is protection in place, indemnification.

Selectmen

Minutes of February 24, 2009

Ms. Stevenson stated they will use glow sticks for the luminary, on the tents we discussed using the softball fields. We had set up the date in May and we pushed it back in June to address the high school schedule.

Ms. Winston noted that the police department has said that community policing funds are gone. Ms. Stevenson stated they will pay for police detail and any expenses. They work with Jim Sheehan at Caritas Norwood Hospital. They would have two portable potties at each end of the field. Ms. Winston noted the DPW Director has expressed concerns.

Mr. Snuffer believes the communication level is high, and keeping the field sacrosanct. Keeping track safe has been addressed and he believes with that addressed the DPW Director would be pleased. Ms. Winston had spoken to him ahead of the meeting and he still had concerns.

Ms. Stevenson stated they are very on top of things during the event. We walk around the track to make sure everything is in order. All teams have one team captain, the youth teams have to have a 1 to 5 adult to youth ratio.

Mr. Boynton suggested a meeting be held concerning the activity on the track and field. They should have a joint meeting with Josh, Bob, Tim, and Rick and meet with the group to make sure everything is in order. I understand it is a great program and event, but I understand Bob's concern. If the Board approves we will meet.

Mr. Snuffer noted that for future reference if you want to take a look at Adams Farm, it can provide you everything. Mr. Sullivan would like to be part of the meeting.

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to approve the use of the track and field for Relay for Life with caveats discussed and that a meeting is held to discuss the high sensitivity to the use of the field and track, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 3-0-0

7:55 p.m. Endean Drive, Mailbox issues

Mr. Boynton noted there is a high concentration of mailbox damage in this area. It is the Board's policy not to replace damaged mailboxes. We met with the postmaster and they will work with their safety team to notify the residents of the area, mailboxes are to be set no closer than 8 inches from the road. Some of the mailboxes in the area have been too close to the road. We use the same type of trucks in every area in town. The truck is appropriate for the area. It was a productive meeting and we hope to get this resolved.

Ms. Winston agrees and is a little concerned that DPW received seven letters in one week about damage. Dan Ryan is the fellow to plow it. He took pictures before the storm and there are many mailboxes hanging 2-3 inches over the curb. We have not accepted the street and the alternative is to have Toll Bros plow their own streets. I do not want to do that. Most of the mailboxes need to be moved back. Mr. Boynton reported that the town is relying on the Post office to contact the residents regarding the location of mailboxes.

Mr. Snuffer agreed and noted that so many are placed outside the limits and it is a self occurred hardship. He suggested a central mailbox location but it was pointed out they are not interested. The DPW has spent a lot of time trying to resolve the issue.

2-27 Endorsement of Spring Town Meeting Warrant

Mr. Boynton noted that Article 18 should read \$10.00 instead of \$7.00.

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to sign the Spring Town Meeting warrant with the correction of Article #18, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 3-0-0

Mr. Boynton is concerned that there may be further changes to the warrant and suggested not posting until April.

2-27 Walpole Day Gift Acceptance

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to accept the gift from the Dedham Savings for Walpole Day, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 3-0-0

2-28 Fire Department Gift Acceptance

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to accept the gift from Ms. Foley for the Fire Department and authorize no restrictions, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 3-0-0

2-30 Carnival Request

Ms. Winston is not supportive of the Babe Ruth carnival as it destroys the field behind Town Hall. There is no point in our DPW doing anything there. I do not see what good it does for the town, it raises money for Babe Ruth, but we have had a lot of issues with it. I see nothing good about it. If they paid to use the field pay for a landscaper to come in after they leave.

Mr. Boynton noted the concept of fields has been out there for a few years, we took a look at all fields in town. The rejuvenation of that field can not happen given the timing and wear and tear of that field after the carnival. There is usually a request to use the field and then the complaints start. I understand this is a tradition, but maybe looking into a better outcome of the field and secondly we do have issues, there are costs involved. He suggested sitting down with the American Legion representatives concerning the outcome of the field after this event.

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to table this and that our Chair along with Town Administrator meet with Babe Ruth to work these issues out, it is long overdue, it should be done and done correctly, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 3-0-0

2-33 Keno to Go, 7-Eleven

Mr. Boynton noted this is something new and it would allow for an individual to purchase Keno tickets and they can go home and you can check the number of games on the computer and you can cash it in. The 7-11 is looking for the approval to do that. The only concern would be the congregating in the building. Send to police for comments and place on the March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda.

Town Administrator's Weekly report

FY09 and FY10: The motor vehicle has corrected their billing in the tune of \$100,000. I don't know how much it will help. The snow and ice deficit is high, we have to salt and sand the roads. The deficit is still being refined and reviewed.

Health Insurance: Rate was set and the increase is over 7% we had budgeted for 10%, so that is \$300,000 to the town. I have presented to Finance Committee and we need to prioritize the cuts that were made. Mr. Boynton was pleased to see comments about possible stimulus money coming to school department that would help close the gap. We are not closing a 4 million dollar gap, we are just doing better. This is not a done deal. If someone has an idea to generate revenue let us know. I will keep you in the loop and look forward to workshop.

Capital projects: I wanted you to see where we are. There have been questions about doing capital projects in the possible lay offs, the physical plants that we have need to be maintained. One of the challenges is that when funding is turned on. I remain sensitive to anyone that will loose a job, but I have to keep the physical infrastructure up. Fin Com is reviewing all of these. We are not stopping the fire station, the town hall floors, and some other projects. You set the priority and follow your lead.

Selectmen

Minutes of February 24, 2009

Ms. Winston spoke to the floors for a moment and some employees feel it is callous. This was in the budget last year and the floors are not in good condition. There are many holes. The floor needs to be repaired and that money is not going to safe a job, it is one time money.

Boston Architectural College have commenced their study, this is the project to do a feasibility at no cost to the town on the concept of a police fire combined downtown utilizing the old town hall.

Federal Stimulus- they are underway and submitted all the eligible projects, whether we get them or not is another question. There is no way that all projects will be funded. We included the library, many road projects, and route 1A project. We are hopeful.

Bernie Goba, EDIC Membership

Ms. Winston noted that it was Bernie's idea to have the School come into town to do the review of the police and fire combined.

Mr. Snuffer asked Mr. Goba if we create a chairman pro tem would you accept that on our behalf. With your expertise, and what that project is going to be, it would be under your stewardship that this would be handled appropriately.

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to appoint Bernie Goba to EDIC, and to assign him Chairman Pro tem, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 3-0-0

NEW BUSINESS

Tax Collector: A lot of residents are questioning why the Tax bill payments going to Medford. It is accounted for at the lock box. Normally the bills would come here. We have cut out the middle man. Residents can pay the bills here if they want to.

MINUTES

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to approve the minutes of January 8, 2009, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 3-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to approve the minutes of January 13, 2009, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 3-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to approve the January 13, 2009 Executive session minutes and not release, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 3-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to approve the minutes of January 27, 2009, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 3-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to approve the minutes of February 2, 2009, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 3-0-0

2-28 Community Policing for Parade on Walpole Day

Josh Cole, Recreation Director spoke to last year they had a parade and I wanted to be sure that this could still happen. Ms. Winston noted there is no money left in the budget and none for a while to come. She wanted to know how this can go forward.

Chief Stillman reported we do not have any community policing money this year, that is the money we use to run the special events. We can do some of them, but we have to be careful with what we do and that is a discussion that I would like to have. I would like to speak to the people involved in some of the people involved in some of the events. We need to know the Board's priority. What can we do? It is a priority from this Board.

Mr. Snuffer agrees we should meet. We will be very much aware of those events we want to support. We just had a discussion about the carnival.

Mr. Boynton spoke to it being a challenging topic it is suppose to be a good thing. It is because of loss of state aide. We have had difficult times and gotten thru them. People still need to have hope that things will get better. Walpole Day brings government and the private sector together. It is a good thing. We will still try to do the best that we can. People may have to be flexible as to how they do their event.

Ms. Winston stated there will be a Walpole Day and we will try to figure out way to help. I have never known a Recreation Director that works as hard as you. You do a fabulous job, we are lucky to have you.

Mr. Boynton reported that next Friday, the Lt. Governor is having a workshop in Ashland and if you have any ideas, please let me know.

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to move into executive session to discuss pending litigation, as the public discussion could have a detrimental effect on the government, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED by roll call vote; Mr. Snuffer-Aye, Mr. Sullivan-Aye and Ms. Winston-Aye

Motion moved by CS to adjourn at 9:41p.m. seconded by DS vote 3-0-0