

A Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, March 10, 2009 beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Selectmen's office and reconvening in the Main Meeting Room of the Town Hall. The following members were present.

Catherine Winston, Chairman
Clifton Snuffer, Vice Chairman
David Sullivan, Clerk
Al DeNapoli
Chris Timson

Ms. Winston called the meeting to order.

Sponsored Agenda & Action Items

Budgets

Mr. Boynton discussed the FY2009 Budget Status Projections. He reported that Mark and Arti finished review of accounts and the motor vehicle excise is projected for \$250,000. The Town Deficit is projected for \$40,000 and the miscellaneous receipts shortfall is projected at \$42,000. The town has spent \$1,730,000 on snow and ice and there is only a \$23,000 cushion left in that budget. Interest rate being projected is .2%. Town fees are down and the biggest hits are from Planning and Conservation as there are no filings. As of today the deficit is about \$200,000 higher. These numbers will change up to town meeting.

The free cash balance is \$1,719,033. Assume there will be an \$80,000 reserve fund transfer request from the Fire Department. We need to understand who will be unemployed, so we can do the assessment regarding health insurance and make transfers from health budget to unemployment budget. The potential is for a thirty week full payout which will be one time expenditure. The snow and ice deficit is going to cause layoffs. We need to make sure snow and ice budget increases by 2 ½ percent each year.

Fy2010 revenue/ expenditure comparisons

The difference between the revenue and expenditures is \$420,410.00 and Jim Johnson is working with insurance companies for property and casualty. The big ticket item is IDEA for schools and is about one million over two years. Will it arrive with strings attached? If the \$500,000 comes it is dedicated to Special Ed and the School Department can move \$500,000 back to the budget. Tom Jalkut had asked if there was a way to share the funds going back to the budget with municipal side.

Personnel reductions: This budget also shorts police and fire a fourth position that was shorted this year. The police department cuts are the same. In Town Hall one option is to have an employee half-time in the assessors and collectors office. It is not ideal but it will work. The Permanent Building Committee secretary will not be restored. There is a loss of a part-time clerk in the Accounting office and in the Building Inspector's office, the loss of the Deputy Inspector, and reduction of hours for Electrical and Plumbing inspectors. The public works department would like to fill the building maintenance craftsman position. When construction picks back up again we will have to hire the engineering staff back. The total personnel cut for the municipal side totals \$1,059,199 and \$139,515 is from the library.

Pools and E. Walpole Library:

Mr. Boynton stated there needs to be a discussion regarding continuing with the 66/34 budget split with the schools. He is looking for the Boards comments if the town is going to open the pools. The Board sets the priority and the town is holding off the work at the E. Walpole Library, the windows are there. Josh was going to use it for computer learning space. There are classes being run out of the E. Walpole library. It is being used every day. Mr. Cole values the space at the library and when the room is finished he will be able to lock up the computers.

Mr. Snuffer suggested that pools and the library are quality of life issues. Josh Cole explained his department is still running at a loss on the pools about \$22,000 but it is a huge service to the town. There are many groups that use it, and they have programs that use the pool. They issue approximately 1,160 tags. Last year they increased the day use pool tag fee too high and it was difficult for families. Mr. Boynton noted that other recreation programs are subsidizing the pools. There is \$83,000 in capital expenditures already approved and funded to repair the pools.

Ms. Winston questioned if Josh would recommend dropping the day tag fee? Josh suggested that they be dropped. Ms. Winston spoke of the "Soups On" program Josh started. He is always here and he works very hard, he gave me some ideas. He is trying to make this work which is important to families. Mr. Boynton discussed a proposal from the superintendent for a joint working where recreation would oversee some programs at schools, but both accounts are down. Josh also spoke of the Walpole Day Event and the need for community policing.

Mr. Timson questioned if the numbers they are using tonight are without any concessions from the employees? Mr. Boynton stated yes he is working with the union presidents and the dialogue is good. Mr. Timson suggested there should be a discussion to readjust the contracts. It is logical for times like this and some government employees are paid more than the private sector employees.

Chief Stillman stated the police department has eliminated most of the extra programs they do. The special events programs are still out there. The community policing grant is down to \$30,000. His department must look at requests for police services differently. They need to be creative as it costs his department more than \$20,000 a year in overtime. Friday is the St Patrick's Day parade and this year the Lieutenants are going to be out there directing traffic. The Chief would like to have a discussion with the Board regarding these issues. He suggested having Walpole Day as an event instead of a parade. The town used to have Auxiliary police volunteering their time; the police officers are not going to volunteer. They already work a lot of hours and to give up that time to do something for no pay is not going to happen.

Mr. Boynton talked about reassigning the 2002 explorer to the police budget. It is here rather than buying a new one. Would like to buy one new cruiser and spend some money on the explorer and the Police Department can use it for a variety of things.

Chief Stillman talked about the Crossing Guards. Consider eliminating four positions which would save about \$18,000 a year.

Mr. DeNapoli asked what a wage freeze would look like. Mr. Boynton stated it would save \$300,000 on municipal side and over \$600,000 on school side. The board is meeting with the Finance Committee on Monday March 16, 2009 to discuss budgets. The Board adjourned to the Main Meeting Room at 7:30 p.m.

Ms. Winston called the meeting back to order at 7:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m. Babe Ruth Carnival

Ms. Winston and Mr. Boynton had met with Ralph White earlier in the week regarding the use of the field for the carnival. Mr. White spoke to the carnival being around for at least forty years. The Stone Field is a valuable field for everyone in town. Used for the night before the fourth celebration, and a variety of teams practice on the field. It is a universal field for everyone to use. It will never look very good. He explained how they clean the field after the carnival event. Mr. McCarthy brings down the lacrosse team to clean the field, and the following week we start working on the field. Tim Songin works on it and does the best he can. It is a waste to put loom and seed down. We clear it and do the best we can. If the carnival equipment does damage the field we do bring in loom. The proceeds from the carnival are split between the Legion and Babe Ruth. The town has never allowed another carnival to come in.

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Mr. Timson believes it is a great thing but there has been recent discussion about the field master plan and there is a potential that some group may want to take that field over and fix it up to be a great field. But there may need to be some thought as to where we might move this carnival to.

Mr. White informed the Board that Dave Thornton wrote him and he will offer to help with the clean up of the field after the carnival. They are required to file a bond which is held until the town is satisfied. We will comply with whatever you want.

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to approve the carnival request to use the Town Hall Field, seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 5-0-0

7:45 p.m. Allied Recycling

Attorney Philip Macchi has been working with Allied and Goldies. Attorney Macchi stated that Ed Sciaba and Robert Potheau are present and we will answer any questions the Board might have.

Mr. Snuffer asked Mr. Potheau to clarify the relationship Goldies has with Allied. Mr. Potheau explained he moved in around 1984, when he first moved in he had control of 65 acres. Mr. Delmar wanted to run a recycling business in 1989 the property was subdivided, and since then he has been operating the auto parts business, every year he renews his license, and there have been no changes since 1990. He has had two managers running the property and they have moved on since March 1st, he has been getting ready to have Mr. Sciaba take over the property. Mr. Potheau wishes to retire and would like to have Mr. Sciaba take over the property. The business just pays the bills. He would like to find a higher and better use. It does not produce income for him. Goldies is located at 1801 Main Street and encompasses about 48 acres and Allied is about 17 acres. Mr. Snuffer questioned if there is any cross territory. When vehicles need to be scrapped, we send them to Allied via a path on the property. If they need to buy auto parts they come to me if they have scraps they go to Allied.

Mr. Snuffer noted that one of the action items that has taken place with this Board on the citizen's complaints and he understands Allied has been helpful in trying to take care of the complaints. One of the questions I have is our Deputy Chief went to the site and saw diesel tanks without permits. (Read memo from Deputy Chief) I need you to know that that entire discovery was taking place while you were upset that you were under scrutiny, when we saw boundaries encroached. I am now told that you have accepted 4,000 gallon tanks. This property is on the Aquifer. Mr. Jamieson explained the tanks were in a box that had been there for 4-5 years, left by Mr. Delmar, he called the Fire Marshall, because of the DEP approval and asked him to come down, so we brought the fire chief down. There is a big 4,000 gallon tank above ground for fuel. The tanks are 500-600 feet away from wetlands and that is approved by Conservation.

Mr. Snuffer questioned with respect to draining an automobile of fuels. Have a picture of draining fuel. What type of permitting do you have on any mishaps?

Mr. Jamieson explained there is a piece of equipment made to drain vehicles of fluid, it has all separate compartments. Comes with its own fire suppression, DEP likes it, as it is state of the art. The men are trained on it and all fluids are recycled or taken off site.

Mr. Snuffer questioned if Allied feels they have abided by DEP request. Mr. Sciaba stated most of them, one has been going on for years, the wetland issue. Mr. Snuffer believes they are creating a boundary wall with cement. Mr. Sciaba explained they moved the material away from the Cedar St site, and brought over to other side of the property, put blocks to hold the material.

Mr. Snuffer noted noise and one of the things you agreed to is sound testing. A good sound test would be over an active period of time. Would you be open to that kind of testing? Mr. Sciaba does not know how much a test like that would cost.

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Mr. Snuffer asked if they are planning to store fuel in these tanks? Mr. Sciaba stated, yes they have to be certified.

Mr. Snuffer asked if they use Goldies property for entering and exiting? Mr. Jamieson explained just when they are allowed to store some vehicles and go in and out in the morning.

Mr. Boynton explained the operation has expanded far greater than they were eleven years prior, there can be an impact to the abutters. When he sat down with Allied one discussion was that we have an updated site plan. The site plan from the 1980's does not indicate a crossing of the two properties. When companies do this, there needs to be a process that the Boards are aware that this is taking place. If you have an operation that is outdoors, you will have noise. As with many of the industrial properties, there are residential neighbors and boards take that into account, if you are going to make a change in the operation you need to notify the Boards. Someone saw Allied Trucks pulling out of Goldies. It started 15 minutes before the hours of operation, how do we fix it? The residential concerns are addressed and any future reuse will take into consideration the residents.

Mr. Sciaba stated their license says 7a.m.-6 p.m. Does a truck leaving a yard, constitute doing business?

Robert Potheau explained the hours of operation did not impede Goldies at all. In 1989 he had six to seven trucks leaving at 4-5 a.m. As far as the two properties being connected it is only for moving vehicles back and forth and keeping them off Route 1A. There was no requirement to fence it in. Nothing has changed. At some point there will be a sign that says new management. The property has not been sold.

Mr. Boynton noted there are some joint operation ideas and they need to follow the procedures. The hours of operation is a fine line when you are talking about a truck leaving the property? If the Selectmen feel that the path should be discussed then he would be happy to come in and discuss that. Mr. Potheau stated he is not involved in Allied operations. They are managing my auto parts business.

Attorney Macchi informed the Board Mr. Schaba came to him and wanted him to look at his site, it seemed to make sense to look at the entire site, what it could accommodate, it used to be the town dump. At that point, they hired engineers, they have spent a lot of money on a perimeter plan, there was some flagging, a month ago they had a good plan of the land. We have been creating some ideas for both sites that would not be hostile to one another and it is our goal to set up a meeting with Stephanie and share possible use of the property. We hope to create something that will generate revenue. That property goes back to when it was a dump in the 40's. DEP still must make their final assessment. We are going to try to come up with concepts for a commercial venture which would be the best use for that site.

Mr. Mosher questioned who owns Goldies? Robert Potheau stated he owns Goldies located at 1801 Main Street under GAW Corporation. Mr. Mosher noted the owner is not there most of the time.

Mr. Mosher asked who owns Allied? Mr. Sciaba is the general manager and Mr. Jamieson owns Allied. Mr. Mosher spoke to now having to look forward to gas and gas vapor which is not a pleasant thought. Mr. Mosher spoke to Allied being located in the Aquifer, and he does not think it is appropriate to put gas there. He has read that each used car going in contains at least 10 gallons. He appreciates the Board listening to his concerns.

Attorney Macchi wants this to be positive and would ask the Board look at the path between the property, The board may be trying to establish a policy. Clarification of operation of the licenses you grant. I would ask that it apply to all businesses.

Robin presented a brief overview of the pay as you throw program. There are about 120 communities with this type of program. If the town were to accept the program it should be done easy, fair, and equitable. For municipalities to make it successful it has to be easy to manage and should support the community's environmental vision. There are a lot of reasons people have against this, it is an extra fee. Most towns charge between 1-3 dollars a bag. Pay as you throw does increase recycling. Wrentham, has a program, their first trash can is free and you pay after that. Other communities do it on a bag program. Usually people put out 1.5 bags a week of trash.

There are many programs that could be used. It does have some advantages. There are many ways of doing this, if you want to do this you need to have a discussion on it. The total projected available funds for Walpole from pay as you throw is \$1,085,348. The town can choose different amounts to charge for the bag and the totals will change.

Mr. Timson noted that if everyone put out only one barrel a week we could save money. He suggested there should be more educational discussions for the residents. Mr. Boynton noted it changes the dynamic of what happens around town, we lock dumpsters, and the fee has to be voluntary.

Mr. Snuffer appreciates the time to have this conversation and agrees with Mr. Timson that educational discussions need to take place. With respect to the Selectmen to unilaterally have a fee based system. Is this in what our opinion the citizens want, would we be creating taxation without representation? Because of the recession, many of our people are laid off and some are losing their homes I can not agree with a program where residents have to pay for trash. The health budget is the big elephant in the budget. If we were to do this tax, would we become discriminatory to condos etc.. The average citizens ask very little of our government. I urge this vote to be no.

Mr. DeNapoli is looking for education, we are looking at environmental issues, it can only be beneficial to the environment. We are looking at cuts in both school and municipal sides. It might be something people would want to look at before putting people out on the street.

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer that we take no action on imposing trash fees, (the motion was not seconded)

Ms. Winston noted this is only supposed to be a discussion. Mr. Snuffer believes that by not taking action on this it makes people concerned. Ms. Winston questioned what about putting a limit on how many barrels you put out. Ms. Chapell stated that would help the budget if there is a change to the limit. The Board thanked Ms. Chapell for the information.

8:40 p.m. 3-4 EDIC appointments

The Board had invited all interested parties wishing to serve on the EDIC to the meeting. It was noted that Mr. Fettig and Mr. O'Connell were unable to attend this evening but are still interested in serving on the corporation. Each candidate introduced themselves.

Leo McCormack I teach at Massasoit, Architectural school. I have close to 45 years of experience. Was on Municipal Space needs committee and have served as a member on the Zoning Board.

Mark Resnick has been a resident since 2001. I do not have any experience but wish to serve on the committee. He hopes to bring a fresh perspective to this process.

Dick Adams has been a resident for 25 years. He currently serves on superfund committee, and wants to bring a fresh perspective.

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Roger Mann lives on Robbins road, currently a specialist to the chief planner of Boston. Has a background in Real estate development and finance. He started sitting in on EDC meetings and that is why he wanted to get involved with the EDIC.

Richard Shields has lived in Walpole for 24 years and serves on the EDC. He owns a business in Town and has been active in the Walpole Chamber of Commerce.

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to appoint Richard Shields for a three year term, Richard Adams for a three year term, William O'Connell, for a two year term, Roger Mann, for a one year term, Mark Resnick for a one year term , and Leo McCormack for a two year term, seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 5-0-0

Hazard Mitigation Plan

MOTION moved by Mr. Timson that the Board of Selectmen adopt the metro Boston South/West hazard Mitigation Plan, Annex for the Town of Walpole , seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 4-0-0(Mr. DeNapoli had left the room)

3-19 Josh Cole, Discussion on Pools

Mr. Cole is seeking the Board's guidance on how to go forward with this. There is still \$80,000 in capital budget expenditures that needs to be done prior to pool opening. Mr. Boynton explained they are trying to make restoration. Mr. Cole has worked tirelessly to get the program where it is. We need to give it a year to see how the program works. Ms. Winston spoke to making it easier for families to use the pools. There are a lot of children that get enjoyment from town pools. We will find a way.

Cheryl Cavanaugh read a statement into the record about keeping the pools open.

A resident stated that she and her friends use the pool regularly. The people she is friendly with would pay more for a pool tag if they had to. She did agree that the daily use tag is too high.

Mr. Cole will work on the fee schedule for the pools and present it to the Board.

Field Subcommittee

Mr. Cole will work on the goals for this subcommittee. They represent people from various youth programs in town.

MOTION moved by Mr. DeNapoli to appoint Adam Niden, (Lacrosse), Eric Kraus, (Little League), Mark Gallivan, (Soccer), Richard McCarthy (Babe Ruth), Jim Erker (Athletic Director), Frank Brown and Robert Taglienti (Recreation), seconded Mr. Timson VOTED 5-0-0

EDIC

It was brought to the Board's attention they needed to appoint a Vice Chairman to the EDIC. Mr. Goba was appointed Chairman at a previous meeting.

MOTION moved by Mr. DeNapoli to appoint Richard Shields as Vice Chairman of EDIC, seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 5-0-0

OPEN FORUM: Jimmy Taylor is very upset about the trash fees. You are talking about one barrel per house. He did not think that was enough. He wanted to know who was going to pick up the other stuff. It is being paid out of taxes.

Ron Mariani wanted to talk about trash fees. He was disappointed that the discussion will continue, what he heard tonight confused him more. He felt it is going to be a tax increase and will hit those that can not afford it. He does not think a family with four

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children can put out one bag of trash. He also questioned what happens to larger items. He felt the town would have to have some strict cash controls. You have to have town hall staff sell the bags. He questioned what would happen with the recycling budget? He does not see this as a cost saving. He thinks the problem is the town is trying to play catch up. The budget has increased by 8% a year. It is his opinion that the budget needs to be reduced. The state is dumping it back on the towns.

Mr. Boynton noted the actual cut to the state budget is one million dollars. The local receipts are down by \$900,000. Prison mitigation is not coming back. The town will have layoffs on the municipal side. The town was as high as four million in free cash three years ago. The town now has a deficit of 1.6 million dollars. To try to keep jobs they must use some of the reserves. Anything that can be done short of raising taxes and fees should be done. They have reduced capital projects. This is not ordinary times and they are thinking out of the box.

3-6, 3-7 Re-appointments, Committees/Boards

Bring back to next meeting.

3-8 Appointment to Special police

MOTION moved by Mr. Sullivan to appoint Officer Richard Ryan as a special police officer until April 1, 2010, seconded by Mr. Timson VOTED 5-0-0

3-9, 3-10 Vacation Time, Police Officers

Officers Mangenello was a transfer from the Medfield Police Department and had worked three years. The Chief is asking that his hire date in Medfield be considered for his vacation time. Officers Kilroy and Zimmerman asked that they be given credit for their service in Franklin. This is routine procedure for officers who are already trained.

MOTION moved by Mr. DeNapoli that we approve the chief request to give credit of up to five years to the three officers from their previous employment, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 4-0-0(Mr. Snuffer had left room)

3-11, 3-12 One day liquor license

MOTION moved by Mr. DeNapoli to approve the request for a one day liquor license for the North Walpole Fish and Game Club for April 4, 2009, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 4-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. DeNapoli to approve the request for a one day liquor license for the Knights of Columbus,, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 4-0-0

3-13 Junior Women's Club, A frame

MOTION moved by Mr. DeNapoli to approve the request of the Walpole Junior Woman's Club to place an A-Frame in front of the Gazebo from March 20-April 3 , Seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 5-0-0

3-14 Banner, Lion's Club

MOTION moved by Mr. DeNapoli to approve the request to hang a banner for the Annual Beer and Wine Tasting fundraiser for the Lion's Club, seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 5-0-0

3-15 Banner, Friends of the COA

MOTION moved by Mr. DeNapoli to approve the banner request from the Friends of the Council on Aging, seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 5-0-0

3-16 Proclamation, Tom White

MOTION moved by Mr. DeNapoli to approve the proclamation for Tom White for receiving the Alan D. Rockwood Community Service Award, seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 5-0-0

3-17 Gift Acceptance, Recreation

MOTION moved by Mr. Sullivan to accept the gift in the amount of \$150.00 from an anonymous donor for the Recreation Department, seconded by Mr. DeNapoli, VOTED 5-0-0

3-18 Gift Acceptance, Police Dept.

MOTION moved by Mr. DeNapoli to accept the gift in the amount of \$25.00 from Patricia Foley for the Police Department, seconded by Mr. Timson , VOTED 5-0-0

Town Administrator's update

Mr. Boynton noted that he will be attending the MMA meeting on Friday and will attend the Bacevich Ceremony in Boston on Wednesday.

OLD BUSINESS

3-20 Keno To Go

At the previous meeting the Board had a request from the Mass State Lottery to install a monitor for Keno To Go in the 7-Eleven convenient store downtown. The Board wanted information from the Police Department before making the decision.

Mr. Timson has no problem with them having Keno to Go, but is concerned with the monitor aspect and the Board members agreed.

MOTION moved by Mr. DeNapoli that the Board of Selectmen does not support the monitor for Keno To Go in the 7-Eleven store as they have concerns with loitering from the monitor, it is a small store and can cause congestion around the area. Seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 5-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Timson to adjourn at 10:20 p.m., seconded by Mr. Sullivan, VOTED 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

David Sullivan, Clerk