

Approved 10/19/2010

A Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, September 7, 2010 in the Main meeting room of the Town Hall at 6:30 p.m. The following members were present.

Nancy Mackenzie, Chairman
Eric Kraus, Vice Chairman
Michael Berry, Clerk
Christopher Timson
Clifton Snuffer

Also Present:
Michael Boynton, Town Administrator

6:30 p.m. Police Interviews

Chief Stillman presented four candidates for two openings on the Police Department. Dorothy Mucciarone, Kasey McCarthy, Patrick Moriarty, and Christopher Musick are the candidates.

Each candidate was interviewed by Lieutenant Leland, Detective O'Connell and Chief Stillman and are being presented to the Board. Mr. Snuffer noted that he reviewed all the resumes and they were all impressive. The candidates were called into the Selectmen's Meeting Room and interviewed one at a time. They were asked the following questions and given as much time as they need to answer. 1. Tell a little bit about themselves and what they think are their outstanding qualities. 2. Attitude is very important, how would you maintain a positive attitude as a police officer. 3. What do you feel the Walpole Police can do to improve the quality of life in Walpole?

Chief Stillman stated they would all make good officers. He explained that his Department's recommendations are based on background and level of maturity.

Mr. Berry questioned if the civil service scores, were factored into this for rank and file. He also wanted to know if the candidates that are not hired are then forwarded for the next vacancy. Chief Stillman stated as long as this list is active which is two years and they do not take a job somewhere else, they remain on top of list. The Board members discussed the candidates and their qualifications. Chief Stillman noted that whichever candidates they choose they should offer conditional employment based on passing the physical and psychological examination.

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to offer conditional employment with the Town of Walpole Police Department to Dorothy Mucciarone subject to her passing the physical, psychological examinations, and pending any investigations of Walpole Police Department seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 4-0-1 (Mr. Kraus abstained)

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to offer conditional employment with the Town of Walpole Police Department to Christopher Musick subject to him passing the physical, psychological examinations, and pending any investigations of Walpole Police Department seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 4-0-1 (Mr. Kraus abstained)

Mrs. Mackenzie welcomed them to the Walpole Police Department and hopes they have a long career with the town.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PROCLAMATIONS

Mr. Kraus read the Proclamation for United Nations Day into the record.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to approve and sign the proclamation for United Nations Day, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

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Recognition of Firefighters- Mr. Kraus read into the record recognition of Firefighters. Mrs. Mackenzie thanked the Fire Chief and all the Firefighters covering back at the station. Mr. Boynton added they all went above and beyond the call of duty in very hazardous

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to send letters of commendation to the fire department personnel involved in the Norfolk incident on July 30, 2010, specifically Lieutenant Paul Barry, Firefighter David Pyne, Firefighter Christopher Shea, Firefighter Albert King, Firefighter Peter Armstrong, Firefighter Brian Donohue, Firefighter John Hamilton and Fire Chief Timothy Bailey, seconded by Mr. Kraus, VOTED 5-0-0

OPEN FORUM/CITIZENS INPUT

No one present

SPONSORED AGENDA ITEMS

9-2 Street Acceptances, Walden Drive, Summer Street alteration

Letter from Town Engineer regarding steps necessary for street acceptance was reviewed by Board.

Mr. Boynton explained the Board has two issues. One is the acceptance of Walden Drive as a public way and the second is the acceptance of the alteration to Summer Street.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to announce that the Board of Selectmen intends to make a lay out for Walden Drive from its beginning at Station 9+00 to its terminus at Station 17+20+/-seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to announce that the Board of Selectmen intends to make an alteration to the roadway layout of Summer Street to include Parcel 3-2 being acquired from Summer Realty Trust, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to schedule a public hearing on September 21, 2010 beginning at 8:00 p.m. for these purposes, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-

9-3 David Melish Seeking Membership to Ponds Committee

David Melish is currently on the Willett Ponds Association committee and does have some experience with ponds. He wants to get involved.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to appoint David Melish to the ponds committee as a Regular member, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 5-0-0

9-4 Beth Pelick, Seeking Membership to Economic Development Com.

Beth Pelick very involved in the community and wants to continue that.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to appoint Beth Pelick to the Economic Development Com, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

8-27 Seth Pickering, Dept. of Energy Resources, Green Communities

Mr. Boynton spoke to the current zoning not permit anything allowed as of right, it would be required to go thru the town meeting process. It does not seem doable for this Fall. There are concerns adopting the stretch code.

Seth Pickering the Southeast Regional Coordinator for Green Communities division appeared before the Board to give them a brief overview of Green Communities. He gave a power point presentation. A copy of the presentation is in the Board of Selectmen office in the file entitled "Green Communities".

He explained that cities and towns can reduce their energy costs by:

1. Establishing an Energy Committee/Designating an Energy Officer

2. Establishing an energy baseline for municipal buildings, streetlights and vehicles
3. Perform energy audit on buildings
4. Implement energy efficient measures
5. Change behaviors
6. Explore renewable energy opportunities.

He reviewed the different programs and resources available to municipalities. He discussed MassEnergy Insight which provides access to up to date energy usage and cost information. What this can do for you it can benchmark the consumption and help prioritize targets. This will provide an overview of all the town's operations. It will break them down in BTU's.

He further discussed the grant program for innovative projects. There is qualification criteria for the grant program. The first is adopt as-of-right, siting, in designated locations, for RE/AE generation, or RE/AE R&D, or RE/AE manufacturing. The Town shall adopt expedited (12 month) application/permitting process. The town shall establish an energy use baseline with a plan to reduce baseline by 20% in 5 years. The Town will only purchase fuel-efficient vehicles and lastly the town will require all new residential construction greater than 3000 square feet and new commercial and industrial real estate construction to minimize life cycle energy costs by adopting the Stretch Code. There are 35 communities designated as green communities. There are 45 municipalities which have adopted the new Board of Building regulations and Standards Stretch Code. The Stretch code in terms of residential it would be for all. The Stretch code is an optional appendix that would have to be adopted.

Mr. Kraus asked what is the difference between a house that he would build today instead of after adopting the stretch code. Is it more expensive to build a home? Mr. Pickering stated, yes. We have had studies done. When you role the extra cost into this, you have a return on your investment within two years.

Mr. Snuffer questioned if that would make everything that exists today non-conforming. A house that is being built today would have to go under new regulations.

Mr. Timson believes if you rebuild an addition that is more than 50% of the value you would have to meet the code. Whatever you are renovating would have to meet the code. If you renovate the kitchen it would need to comply. Mr. Pickering noted if you adopt the stretch code anything you build would have to meet the stretch code.

Mrs. Mackenzie suggests the Town move forward with the assistance program. They provide technical assistance. They can take a look at what your zoning looks like now.

Mr. Snuffer believes the community can create it's own destiny. He is not supportive of mater of right and expedited permitting.

Mr. Pickering explained even if the town does not meet all five criteria, there are things that will help your town. He highly recommends the submittal of an application as the town already meets criteria 2. The formula is based on per capita income and population. You are probably looking at \$150,000-\$160,000. What is it used for? It is used for systems that need to be replaced, hire an energy coordinator. You could bring someone like that on board. Can help if you are interested in getting into energy performance assistance. The website has really improved a lot. It is not overbearing. He is available for any questions.

Mr. Boynton questioned with the planning money how much flexibility is there when spending the money. Mr. Pickering explained there is not a lot of flexibility, focus on the scope of your application, consultant will work on putting your application together. Your grant application identifies what you are spending the money on.

Ms. Mercandetti explained the planning assistance is not a grant, it is 100 hours of technical service.

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MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to make application to the commonwealth for technical and planning assistance as part of the Green Communities Grant Program, seconded by Mr. Kraus, VOTED 4-1-0 (Mr. Snuffer opposed)

9-5 Keno Application, VFW

The VFW has applied for a license a on Robbins Road, reviewed by Police and Building Commissioner and there no issues reported.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to notify the State Lottery Commission that the board of Selectmen does not object to the placement of Keno service at the Walpole VFW on Robbins Road, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 5-0-0

9-6 Adams Farm Field Day, A-Frame

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to approve the request for an A-Frame for the common and Fisher Street for Lions Club Field Day, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 5-0-0

9-7 True to You, A Frame Sign

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to approve the True to you A-frame sign request, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 5-0-0 to

9-8 Bird Park, Concert and A Frame request

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to approve the Friends of Bird Park Concert request to be held September 25th at Bird park from 4-7 p.m. and to further approve the request for an A frame sign announcing the event, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

9-9 Walpole Families of Faith, Banner Request

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to approve the request of the Walpole Families of Faith, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

9-10 Boyden School Fun Run

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to approve the Boyden 5K & mile fun run on October 24, 2010, seconded by Mrs. Mackenzie, VOTED 5-0-0

9-11 Gift Acceptances

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to accept the gifts from Assured Collision, Michael Amaral, Catherine & Anthony Abate, Turco Insurance, Palumbo Liquors for the pond Gift Fund and an anonymous donor for the Recreation fishing clinic seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 5-0-0

9-18 Fall Town Meeting Warrant

Mr. Boynton briefly reviewed the articles on the Fall Town Meeting Warrant. Mr. Snuffer would like to have some capital spending for the Ponds Committee. Mr. Boynton noted that only expenditures will be emergency. He will be pushing for funding for the Memorial field for irrigation.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to close, sign and post the Fall Town Meeting Warrant, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 5-0-0

9-19 Veterans Day Observance

The new Veterans Agent Jon Cogan will be starting in a few weeks. Try to put together a program.

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MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to approve the request for use of the common for Veterans day observances and further to authorize the closure of Elm St between West and main St fro the event, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

9-20 Benny & Highland Block Party

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus To approve the block party, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED , 5-0-0

9-20 Hardship application

Mr. Boynton felt the application for a hardship request should be reworked to provide further information.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to approve the hardship request, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 3-1-1 (Mr. Kraus abstained, Mr. Snuffer opposed)

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Mackenzie announced the True to You fundraising event is a great event and they are looking for donations.

Town Administrator's Update

Prescription drug awareness- drug take back day. People can turn in expired medication to the Police Department on September 25th.

FY2011 update- reviewed the status report projections. When there were two promotions in the Treasurer Collector Salaries, in this case it works out to less money in the pocket of the employee. We have to make the adjustment. We will have some tight budgets in the end of the year. Fin com will start meeting on Monday Night.

Mr. Snuffer asked if he has taken into consideration the possibility of the roll back of taxes. Mr. Boynton suggested if those questions pass there will be significant cuts at the local level. It is important to have a cash on hand balance. Do you want to set as a policy setting some of this funding aside for OPEG or free cash?

Mr. Timson believes they should try to start funding these items. Have to see how things play out.

Mr. Boynton explained what OPEG fund is. GASBY, determined that retirement systems have to start itemizing their future liability is. Part of that GASBY you have to forward fund it. GASBY 45 said you have to start funding your medical retirees cost. We put \$600,000 into that account. There are 2 to 3 communities that have started. Because GASBY has set it up, the municipal audit, once you do your actuary, the auditors have to make a statement on your report that you are not funding that. The Town of Wellesley did it by an override. By statute the town is required to pay for medical costs.

Fin Com-We have nine new Fin Com members. Mr. Boynton is having a budget 101 meeting with them. Mr. Kraus would like to reschedule the meeting of the 14th to the 28th. Reschedule the meeting of September 14, 2010 until 28th.

EDC-wait until after the Goals and Objectives meeting to invite them in. We will reschedule.

OLD BUSINESS

MBTA Study- on Jan 19th we told them we are an important part of this dialogue and process. We emphasized that there are neighborhoods, a problem RR crossing. The focus seemed to deal with more commuter numbers. The study came out Friday and

they have made proposals on how this might work. No mention on the crossing on Summer St. They are talking about impacts to local community, some of the noise impacts were not that great. A layover facility had been discussed, commuter rail trains would have to be stored for better scheduling somewhere in the town of Foxboro. The release today talks about Bird Machine. It would be a plug in facility. Talking now option B, of being an 84 million dollar cost. The annual cost to run would be 6 million. We currently pay an annual assessment, can not afford to pay them anymore. They talk about a new downtown train station.

Mr. Snuffer stated the audacity of the MBTA to propose 84 million in debt. To suggest that for one very small spur there would be budget deficit of 2-4 million. What I am going to recommend when the chair decides when we are going to have this meeting that we hold it at the Boyden School.

Mr. Timson stated it seems to him now they are proposing this layover facility, they say none of the facilities were Brownfield's, The South Shore community just went thru dealing with this. If this is going to be serious we may need to do some outreach. There is a lot of work to be done to figure out the impacts. A new station downtown could be good. We may want to consider a new committee. Mr. Boynton has drafted a letter to the MBTA.

Mr. Kraus agrees a meeting should be held at the Boyden School. He commented on the draft letter and suggested it needed to be stronger.

Mr. Berry spoke to any meetings with the MBTA we should ask our legislative delegation to the meetings. They should also reach out to the Foxboro BOS to find out where they stand on this. Is this being driven by the Patriots or by the Town? We could have a partner to work with depending on how this project works for them. He found the report confusing and reactive. He wants a strong letter. Clearly there are issues that need to be addressed.

Mr. Timson believes the thing that is driving it from what he understands is, they are planning 1.5 million expansion of medical space. He does not feel they have control over what the MBTA is proposing.

Mrs. Mackenzie spoke to the Town leaving Bird Machine open because of the group of people that will not let it be developed.

Mr. Boynton asked if the Board would authorize the Chair to sign the letter and he will re-circulate the letter to members prior to mailing out.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to send a letter to the MBTA in response to the MBTA study and to revisit it and send to the Board and authorize the Chair to sign, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 5-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to enter into executive Session pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A Section 21 Clauses 6 & 3 to discuss the possible acquisition of real estate and further to discuss matters of collective bargaining, the public discussions of which could have a detrimental effect on the Town's negotiating positions, and to exit Executive Session for the purpose of adjourning the meeting seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED by roll call; Mr. Snuffer-Aye, Mr. Kraus-Aye, Mr. Berry-Aye, Mr. Timson-Aye and Mrs. Mackenzie-Aye

The Board moved out of Executive Session

MOTION moved by Mr. Timson to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 p.m., seconded by Mr. Kraus, VOTED 4-0-0
Respectfully submitted,

Michael Berry, Clerk