

A Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, November 16, 2010, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in Room 116 and reconvening to the Main Meeting Room of the Town Hall at 7:30 p.m. The following member were present.

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

Also Present  
Michael Boynton, Town Administrator

Mr. Kraus called the meeting to order at 6:41 p.m. Mr. Kraus noted that Mr. Snuffer was not present during the Goal discussion and would like to have some input. Mr. Snuffer spoke to trying to apply business principals when setting goals. He spoke of a good starting point is you want to do things create a benchmark to see if we can achieve any of these.

In order to grow one million dollars, what do we have to do to achieve that goal? Mr. Boynton noted that Siemens generated about \$300,000 of additional revenue. If you figure that, you are talking about 300-400 million. Mr. Snuffer noted the Town has maturing properties and they yield marginal pieces of land. He endorses developing a branding tool for Walpole, but what does that mean. Looking at the goals he feels the Board must be careful not to create a sub selectmen group. The Board must maintain the executive authority.

Mr. Snuffer feels the Goals should be accompanied by what we feel is our priority. There should be follow-up and guidelines. He also likes to challenge Department Heads to see how they pay for themselves. He likes the branding campaign, understanding that that individual reports to Michael. He also likes the idea of developing a business recognition program that goes along way to showing how they are appreciated.. He noted that H&V pays less than \$50,000 in taxes to Town. We may need to take a look at assessments.

Mr. Boynton spoke to the direction to all of these people is to take it and come back to the Board. Mr. Timson noted the Board has given directives and gotten things back that are unacceptable. We do not want to advocate our executive authority. If your directive says it has to be acceptable to us, they have to come back to us.

Mr. Boynton suggested they add to the beginning of the policies “ any policy of program developed hereunder shall be presented to the Board of Selectmen for consideration and approval prior to implementation”.

Mr. Snuffer has some concerns with some of the goals.

Mrs. Mackenzie arrived at 7:00 p.m.

He questioned commercial blight bylaw is. As it relates to residential we have a difficult time dealing with it. Would we take Allied and call it blight and if so what would that do for us? Mr. Berry explained it started off as what other communities are doing. Working on a draft and it spells out a lot of those things. It attempts to define blight and how the town should deal with it. He does not want to go down the path of residential. It really is dealing with vacant buildings.

Mr. Snuffer also expressed concern of the zoning by law use table re-write to Planning Board. He recalls they were not thrilled and sent the bylaw to us. The question is did we learn anything. He wants goals that could be accomplished within the next six months.

Mrs. Mackenzie felt some of the goals have already been done. It is her opinion, the Board is guiding different departments on what to do. Mr. Snuffer wanted to know what the Board’s first priority is. Is it that we have directed the EDC to do something.

Mr. Kraus believes the theory behind this, they are an advisory Board without direction from BOS. If you are going to have the EDC tell them what we want and come back.

It was decided to add the sentence in the beginning of the Goals and Objectives. The Board will give their best effort to get them done. It was felt it was a good road map. Mr. Timson wants the Board to be involved along the way. He does not want to hear about something at the final stage. Mr. Kraus feels this is a living document the Board can review so we do not see things at final stages, and we can change some of the goals if we need to. It can be modified.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to adopt the goals and objectives for 2010-2011, seconded by Mrs. Mackenzie, VOTED 5-0-0

**Any policy or program developed here under shall be advanced to the Board of Selectmen prior to implementation.**

***WALPOLE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES  
2010-2011***

**Economic Development**

1. Charge the EDC with Benchmarking and networking with other communities
2. Direct Economic Development Officer to develop branding campaign and preparing an incentive packet.
3. Schedule neighborhood meetings to receive input
4. Develop a plan for Brownfields properties
5. Direct the EDC to schedule meetings with property owners of targeted development sites.
6. Develop a Business Recognition Program
7. Develop and present a commercial blight bylaw for Board of Selectmen consideration
8. Support Planning Board in final phase of Zoning by-law use table re-write
9. Direct EDC to have neighborhood meetings around targeted development sites
10. Develop short-term impact programs for Downtown re-development, business growth, such as farmers market through joint effort with Chamber of Commerce.
11. Prioritize Capital Budget program for Spring Brook revitalization in Downtown
12. Pursue Biotech rating of existing zoning.

**Facilities Planning**

1. Task MPIC with developing site location for Public Safety Facility with input from PBC for presentation to the Board of Selectmen as part of the Spring Town Meeting process. Downtown site to include footprints of existing Police and Fire stations only.
2. Develop priority list of municipal building needs, charge PBC and MPIC
3. Locate final site of Senior Center working with Friends of the Council on Aging
4. Involve School Committee with inclusion of School facility planning into a long term plan.
5. Maintain Capital budget program for existing facility upkeep

**Affordable Housing Alternatives**

1. Charge Housing Partnership Committee with renewal and implement of Planned Production Plan.
2. Request Planning Board to establish inclusionary zoning by law for town meeting presentation.
3. Review current library feasibility study

### **Enhance Field Conditioning, Ponds and Green Communities**

1. Outreach and education of Green Communities program to Citizens.
2. Request Planning Board include Green Communities zoning needs.
3. Implement Adopt-A-Field and Adopt-An-Island policies.
4. Prioritize ponds management programs and encourage development of long term planning for ponds needs.
5. Explore Field Enhancement and maintenance
6. Explore Single Stream recycling initiative as well as other solid waste cost containment options and present to Board of Selectmen

### **Municipal Operations and Administration**

1. Utilization of Town ballots for non binding questions.
2. Investigate all applications for permits, licenses and board requests, such as; Ambulance hardships and loopholes
3. Review all Policies and Procedures of the Town and Board of Selectmen
4. Continue Website refurbishment including e-mail links of Board of Selectmen members.
5. Partnership with Chamber of Commerce on Town operations seminars.
6. Continue to pursue Phase 4 roadway and sidewalk surface enhancement program and investigate and inventory specific high cost areas.

### **Finance**

1. Establish budget priorities with Town Administrator prior to December 31 and update as needed.
2. Review options relative to stabilization fund and OPEB trust fund allocations.
3. Prepare for possible implementation of sales tax roll-back budget reductions
4. Board of Selectmen to conduct Budget hearings
5. Recommend Budget review oversight team with Chairs of Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen and School Committee and Department heads

### **7:40 OPEN FORUM**

No one present

### **SPONSORED AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **11-17 NSTAR, Pole Relocation**

Request from NSTAR to relocate pole on Stone St to accommodate new Library.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to approve the request of NSTAR and Verizon New England Inc. to relocate the pole 29/7 Stone Street, Walpole to accommodate the new Library driveway, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

#### **11-18 Keno To Go**

In receipt of Request for a monitor for Keno to Go at E. Walpole News, 198 Washington St. The State is looking for input from the Board. There are no concerns from any departments in Town Hall.

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MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus that the Board of Selectmen has no objection to the issuance of Keno monitor at East Walpole News, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

11-21 Gift Acceptance

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to accept the gift with gratitude from the Walpole Lions club in the amount of \$500.00 for concerts on the common, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 5-0-0

11-22 Leave of Absence Request

James Hazeldine is asking for a leave of absence from the Sewer Department. It is without pay. Mr. Boynton has not objection to the request.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to approve the three month leave of absence without pay for James Hazeldine effective February 11, 2011 and to authorize the Town Administrator to fill the vacancy on a temporary bases as needed, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 5-0-0

11-23 Energy upgrades

The town was approached by NSTAR with an opportunity to upgrade and retrofit nine municipal buildings. The program will lower the yearly electricity bills and usage. Nstar has proposed they will pay for \$101, 132 and the Town has to fund the remaining \$62,337. It is hoped it would result in \$70,000 in savings to the town. The payback is within two years.

Mr. Berry is pleased with this and it would be an annual savings it pays itself back. Thanked Don Anderson and James Johnson for their efforts. Mr. Boynton reported they will take some funding out of building maintenance. May need a reserve fund transfer if something comes up. The hope is it would reduce the cost outlay for that year.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to partner with NSTAR to upgrade and retrofit nine (9) municipal buildings to improve energy efficiency and funded in the manner as outlined in the memorandum from James Johnson dated November 10, 2010, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 5-0-0

11-24 Towing Vendors and Regulations Policy

Mr. Snuffer does not want in any way that this document, to make people think there is a need for additional towing.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to adopted the proposed Board of Selectmen Policy Section 303 Towing Vendors & Towing Regulations, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 5-0-0

11-23 Bid Award Contract, 2011-07

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to award contract 2011-07 for consulting services for the RT1A Industrial park. Main street economic development study, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED , 5-0-0

11-26 Scenic Road hearing issue

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to forward the request for a scenic road hearing on High St and North St for the removal of trees to the Planning Board, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

11-27 Tree Lighting and Caroling

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to authorize the parade request and to allow road closures as needed and to allow the use of town common for the tree lighting on November 27, 2010, seconded by Mr. Kraus, VOTED 5-0-0

#### Web Update

8:00 p.m. Pat Krusko gave board a brief update on the new design of the web page. Everything is done in house. The redesign was done in August and September. She has provided a new page for Residents with different categories. Kept the navigation bars, town department and added committees on opposite side. There is a Community events calendar as people do submit their events to us. The Alumni from High School sends us info as well. Ms. Krusko is the only person who can access the web site and she feels comfortable with the security. The Board was pleased with the new site. She added that departments in Town need to keep their content current.

Mr. Berry stated the updating refreshment of the website was a personal goal. He thanked Pat for her work and noted to have this done in house was great. There are a number of companies that do town hall websites and there is a cost associated with that. Happy to see the search button.

Mr. Timson complimented Pat on her work and questioned if it were possible to have the GIS map for properties and assessor's cards. Pat explained the Town's current server would not handle GIS. It would cost between 15-18,000 dollars. It is something we should consider. It enhances the ability to attract developers to the town.

#### Electronic Bill Paying, Invoice Cloud

Mark Good, Finance Director spoke to the Municipal Relief Electronic Bill or Notice. He had provided each member with a copy of the new provisions of the municipal relief act. The collector can do this but requires the Board's approval. He would like to get your approval if possible.

Invoice Cloud is the vendor that will be handling the payments. He met with the principals, and discussed going into this. Bob Bennett has his masters in Engineering. Bob Lapides is a resident of Walpole, he feels comfortable with them. People are concerned with security; one benefit is that there is security. He explained they have developed the security and industry standards. He does not have any concerns about security. Going paperless is voluntary not mandatory. It gives the residents another option. He had spoken to other clients of Invoice Cloud and they were pleased.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to approve the voluntary electronic billing and bill pay program as proposed by the Finance Director, seconded by Mrs. Mackenzie, VOTED 5-0-0

#### 8:28 Pond Management Committee

The Pond Management Committee presented the Board with a power point presentation which reviewed the history of the ponds in Walpole. They outlined the needs of the Memorial Pond, Clarks Pond, Cobbs Pond and Turner Pond. They spoke to the health and aesthetic of the ponds having suffered through erosion, maintenance neglect and water run off. They would like to know what their responsibility is as a Committee, whether they can have jurisdiction over ponds and adjacent areas and can the Turner Lodge be managed by the. A copy of the power point presentation is on file in the office.

Mr. Boynton noted that clearly the effort is here. You have a dynamic between recreation component, primarily the oversight management is also a marriage with conservation. One thing with these ponds is the necessity for flood control. What we are dealing with now is to find a way to deal with water. Anything we do has to begin and end with dredging. It is critical. The ponds are chocking to death. It is encouraging all the community support for this.

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Mrs. Mackenzie thanked them for the presentation and the hard work they have done. My thoughts, we do not have a ponds budget. On top of recreation there is an issue that needs to be addressed. Suggested they should give this presentation to Conservation Commission, MPIC, and Recreation Committee and ask those same questions from them and we can put together a mission statement and guidelines.

Mr. Snuffer does not want to see the bureaucracy added to silt problem. The silt probably has a value. I do not want to see you miss the budget cycle. I want to see this program into the capital budget program. You are operating with energy and discovering bureaucracy, but the more succinct you make it as a process the more success you would have. Clarks is your priority, Clark feeds Diamond and we do not own that. He was proud to see the outcome of the residents with Memorial Pond.

Mr. Timson spoke to them doing a super job, the ponds are a great resource for the town. I think it is very important to bring this presentation to Fin Com. That was a place where ponds were getting short changed. If you bring this, there would be a different perspective.

Mr. Kraus agreed and added when we look at the gifts that people want to give you have cornered the market. You have to find ways to keep the momentum going.

Mr. Berry showing people what they use to be and what they could be in the future. It is a good way to reincorporate the schools into it. It is a great educational item for the students.

#### 11-19 RT1A project

Mr. Boynton explained the town has been very active in trying to get improvement to RT1A. The downtown area is owned by the town and the rest is owned by the State. We met with the State and they told us it was to be advanced. The state is only doing this as discontinuance projects and the town takes ownership. There is an 8" concrete slab under Rt1A. The right way to do this project is to remove that slab. We need as a community support this to Mass Highway.

KO Ishikura, Green International, hired by Mass DOT, explained there are two options to design this roadway. The project length along Rt1A is 2.15 miles and extends form 300' north of the intersection of Rt27. He showed a map of the project limits. The bridge over Neponset river would be replaced, signalization.

Provide consistent roadway cross section 12 foot lanes with 4 foot shoulders. New 6 ft sidewalks, drainage improvements, improve the intersection geometries, traffic safety signalized intersections, improve horizontal and vertical alignments to improve sight distances.

The two options are cold plane and overlay vs. full depth reconstruction and removal of the 8"-20' wide concrete slab under almost the entire length of RT 1A.

We will have to go over the row line and there will be some impact to some abutters. Catch basins may need to be installed. More easements will be needed. Lower roadway 6 inches, match to the existing ground. He explained the difference between the cold plan overlay and full depth reconstruction.

#### Cold Plane and Overlay

##### Pros

Less traffic

Minimal underground utility relocation

Shorter construction duration

Savings 1 million dollars

##### Cons

Concrete slab remains in place

Box widening

More temporary construction slope easements

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Potential for ponding and flooding at back of new sidewalk

Potential for differential settlement and pavement cracks

#### Full depth reconstruction

##### Pros

Lower roadway profile will minimize the numb

No ponding

No differential settlement and pavement cracks

Ease of future utility work

##### Cons

More traffic impact

Due to lowering of the roadway more underground utility relocation

Longer construction duration.

#### Summary

They are asking the Board to agree in accepting ownership on behalf of the town upon project completion.

Mr. Boynton explained the town has to accept ownership in order for them to move forward with this project. If the Board does not accept ownership the project is done. Of course there is more increased costs associated with this. We are trying to build a system that is safer. We push for the full depth reconstruction of this.

Mr. Snuffer expressed concern of the road being closed but it was noted it will be open all the time. This would probably take two construction seasons.

Mr. Berry noted this is an enormous undertaking, When you are driving down RT1A you really see the need for this. The full depth construction is the way to go. In order to get it done and the southerly end needs to get done once this has to be resolved. He wanted to be sure that businesses along RT1A were kept in the loop. There will be a public hearing once they are 25% done with design.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to notify Mass DOT that the Town of Walpole supports the discontinuance of Route 1A from Walpole center to the Norwood Town-Line as a state highway to become a Town-owned roadway, provided that the road construction project be designed and engineered to include full-depth reconstruction of the road bed including the elimination of the existing concrete slab, installation of new concrete sidewalks, replacement of the Neponset River Bridge, intersection improvements including traffic signals at North, Gould, Fisher and Bullard Streets, and other drainage and safety improvements as proposed by Green International Affiliates, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

#### Town Administrator's Update

Animal Control Officer- Mr. Boynton asked if the Board would vote to appoint John Spillane Acting Animal Control Officer until a new person is hired.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to appoint John Spillane as acting Animal Control Officer, seconded by Mrs. Mackenzie, VOTED 5-0-0

FY2012-Non union cost of living adjustments, 1.5% raise. We are watching this.

Business Breakfast-Thursday AT 7:30 A.M.

Thanksgiving Day- Town Hall will be closed

#### New Business

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Mr. Timson talked about pledge of allegiance being done prior to the start of the Selectmen meetings.

Football- Has there been any update with the Ralph White proposal. Mr. Timson thought it would make sense to have some type of response within 30days. The MPIC has been active in this.

Mrs. Mackenzie spoke to there being in S. Walpole common a huge tree stump that is rotted out. It is at the corner of Summer Street.

### MINUTES

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to approve the Executive Session minutes of June 15, 2009, Seconded by Mr. Timson VOTED 2-0-3 (Mrs. Mackenzie, Mr. Berry and Mr. Kraus abstained)

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to approve Executive session minutes of June 24, 2009 seconded by Mr. Timson VOTED 2-0-3 (Mrs. Mackenzie, Mr. Berry and Mr. Kraus abstained)

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to approve the Executive session minutes of August 3, 2010, Session One, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to accept the Executive session minutes of August 3, 2010, session two, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 5-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to accept the minutes of June 24, 2009, seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 2-0-3 (Mrs. Mackenzie, Mr. Berry and Mr. Kraus abstained)

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to accept the minutes of August 3, 2010, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to adjourn at 10:10 p.m. seconded by Mr. Kraus, VOTED 5-0-0

Submitted,

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Michael Berry, Clerk

Prepared by Cindy Berube Secretary