

Approved 1/11/11

A Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on December 14, 2010 beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of the Town Hall. The following members were present:

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

Also present:  
Michael Boynton, Town Administrator

Mrs. Mackenzie called the meeting to order.

#### Announcements

Mrs. Mackenzie announced the Santa Cop toy drive which started on November 26 to December 18. New unwrapped toys may be dropped off at the police station.

Mr. Boynton announced the Building Dept. staff being chosen as the employees of the month for November and December.

#### Open Forum

No on present

#### Sponsored Agenda Items

7:33 p.m. M. Walker, Obstruction of public way bylaw

Ms. Walker spoke of numerous issues with residents obstructing the public way. People put personal devices out there. Have had a situation where a Basketball net was left out and one driver caught it with the side of the truck. You can not put things in the public way.

It would require a modification of the town bylaws. That includes shoveling and raking into the street. There had been no way to tell people they can not do such a thing. Mr. Boynton noted this would affect the mobile basketball hoops that people leave out. They will probably do it, but please do not leave it there. We encourage people not to clear snow into the roadway. We are asking this go to town meeting.

Mr. Timson noted there are some areas in town where the row is wider then the paved way. Ms. Walker agreed the street right of way runs wider. Mr. Timson wants to make sure he understands, you can not cause an obstruction to the right of way. Ms. Walker stated right, not just the paved way. Mr. Timson feels there may be a need to clarify. Mr. Boynton and Ms. Walker will work on the language.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to place an article on the warrant with suggested changes, seconded by Mr. Berry VOTED 5-0-0

#### 12-3 Spring Town Meeting Warrant

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to open the Spring Town Meeting warrant and close on January 25, 2011, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

#### 12-4 Cable Ascertainment Hearing

Mr. Boynton explained the town must start the process for renewal of the license for Comcast and the Board needs to conduct the hearing.

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Mr. Snuffer noted we are near approaching the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary for Cable TV in Town.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to set the cable TV hearing for January 11, 2011, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

12-5 One Day Liquor License

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to approve the one day Liquor License for Knights of Columbus, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

12-6 Renewal of Common Victualler's License

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to approve the renewal of the licenses outlined in the letter from the Licensing Secretary dated December 9, 2010 pending final clearance from the Bldg office and notification to the Board on an issues, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

Town Administrators Update

Fy2012 Budget Process-There might be some cut in local aid.

Mr. Johnson is working on capital budget we have over four million in capital request, many are critical in nature. We are trying to trim it down and come up with a bonding plan. We do have significant work that needs to be done. He showed the debt schedule.

ACO interviews first round. Received over sixty applications for this position and will start the first round of interviews tomorrow.

Turner lodge open house- It was a great event. They had to drop the level of the pond because of the flooding on some properties.

Holiday Schedule-Employee gathering will take place next Thursday.

Friday Town hall will be closed Christmas Eve day for the Holiday.

12-2 MPIC, Dominick Ianno

Mr. Ianno is asking to be appointed to MPIC as the Board of Selectmen representative. He believes in public service and is interested in this. He would like to be involved in how the town will look in the future. He has lived in Walpole for fifteen years and has worked for several Governors.

Mr. Timson recalls Mr. Ianno being involved against the siting of a police station on Robbins Road. He recalls him being in favor of a new station in the right location. Mr. Ianno stated, absolutely. He would like to take a comprehensive look at everything as he is aware they are looking at a lot of buildings in town. His neighbors and he had issues with that proposal on Robbins Rd. Mr. Timson pointed out that he would be our representative so you should have the same philosophy. Mr. Ianno agrees we need a new facility and would like to help find the right location.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to appoint Mr. Ianno to the MPIC as the Board of Selectmen representative, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 4-0-1 (Mr. Snuffer abstained)

**MINUTES**

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to approve the minutes of November 16, 2010, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTE D 5-0-0

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Kraus toured the league school last week and it is doing great work. Their holiday concert is the 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 p.m. and the Board is invited.

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Mr. Kraus commend Mrs. Mackenzie and board with the meeting held last week with School Committee , Finance Committee, MPIC and, EDC. We probably do not do that enough. He feels they need to take the step to make the town competitive.

Mr. Timson would like to review the inventory of town owned land so they can determine if any is disposable. If we determine any are, as opposed to just putting them up for sale, we get permits on them so they are more marketable.

He spoke of a recent meeting he and Mr. Boynton attended regarding Norfolk County government and they spoke of trying to pass a bill to add ten dollars at the registry of deeds. If they do not gain more revenue, the liability goes back to cites and towns. Talked about potential ways to utilize the County government and thinks they will have more on that. We may want to be supportive of that.

The Board members felt they need to continue to push hard for plan design of health insurance. Mr. Snuffer feels they have a better chance of revenue sharing then plan design.

Mr. Berry would like to connect the budget to the tax rate. We need to look at the tax levy ourselves. It would involve cutbacks and reduction of services. It is a discussion we need to have if we want to keep the taxes low. He would like to talk about it down the road.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to move into executive session in accordance with MGL, c30A, Section 21 to discuss personnel issues relating to a town employee and pending litigation, and the Board will reconvene in open session for the purposes of adjourning, seconded by Mr. Berry, by roll call vote Mr. Snuffer-Aye, Mr. Kraus-Aye, Mr. Berry-Aye, Mr. Timson-Aye and Mrs. Mackenzie-Aye

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to adjourn at 8:56 p.m., seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted

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Michael Berry, Clerk

Prepared by Cindy Berube, Administrative Secretary