

A Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, July 19, 2011 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of Town Hall. Mrs. Mackenzie was absent, the following members were present.

Eric Kraus, Chairman
Michael Berry, Vice Chairman
Mark Gallivan, Clerk
Christopher Timson

Also Present:
Michael Boynton, Town Administrator

Mr. Kraus called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PROCLAMATIONS

Mr. Kraus thanked everyone for the Fourth of July event. Mr. Boynton added all the credit goes to Steve Smith and Fire Dept. They did a spectacular event. Excellent job by the police officers by getting everyone in and out. To Josh and his folks for getting some of the activities together. The DPW for getting everything set up and cleaning up. Nice job all around.

SPONSORED AGENDA ITEMS

8-1 John White, Promotion to Sergeant

Chief Stillman explained to the Board he has had the Sergeant list for some time and a couple of names on it. You have interviewed John before he has been here six yrs. Was in the army, had initiative. Recommend him for promotion.

Officer White told the board he spent time in military, year in active duty down the cape. He has had some law school and is looking forward to getting more involved with the police department. Looking forward to making Walpole a better town to live in .

The Board agreed they have interviewed him numerous times and there is no need to interview him again.

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to promote Officer John W. White to Police Sergeant, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 4-0-0

Officer Robert Doherty- Lateral Transfer

The Chief explained Officer Doherty came to them from Norwood to fill a vacancy in the police dept. and is highly recommended.

Officer Robert Doherty explained he has been working for the town for five years. He had gone to school and received bachelors in finance and masters in criminal justice. He worked in the financial district for a while but he could not see himself sitting behind a desk all day. He wanted to be a police officer. He moved to Walpole four years ago and would like to work in the town he lives a desk.

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to approve the lateral transfer of Robert J. Doherty to the Walpole Police Dept. conditioned upon completion of a pre-employment physical exam including drug screening, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 4-0-0

Chief Stillman asked if they would start him at a step 3 and count his three previous years towards his vacation. That is what we generally do. We are saving a lot of money because it is a transfer. The academy cost us 3,000 plus we have to pay them while they are there. He does qualify for the Quinn Bill. It is a huge savings for the town.

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to commence patrolman Doherty at a rate of pay at step 3 and credit him after the probationary period with 3 years to count towards vacation time, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 4-0-0

Civil Service List- we are hoping to interview shortly. We will be looking for three officers. One of our officers is going back to Fall River.

Chief Stillman spoke to the delegation Agreement the way we are going to do the testing. Instead of doing a test, there will be a test and assessment. It is a civil service process. They sit through the whole thing.

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to authorize the Chairman to sign the delegation agreement for weighted and graded police lieutenant examination, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 4-0-0

8-6 Gift Acceptance

MOTION moved by Mr. Timson to accept the gift from Frank Wentworth in the amount of \$100 for the Ambulance gift account seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 4-0-0

8-7 A-Frame, Bird Park Concert

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to approve the request to place an A-Frame on the common from July 14- July 23 to advertise the Bird Park concert, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 4-0-0

8-8 MAPC Representatives

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to re-appoint Stephanie Mercandetti as Walpole's representative to MAPC and Michael Boynton as the alternate, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 4-0-0

8-8 Hazard Tree Removal, Bid Award

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to award Contract 2011-26 for Hazard Tree Removal to Hamilton Crane Service, Walpole for weekday and emergency hourly rates as reflected on the attached bid sheet for the period of August 1, 2011 to July 31, 2012 with the option to renew for two additional years, seconded by Mr. Gallivan VOTED 4-0-0

8-11 Bid Award , Kennel

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to award contract No. 2011-29 for renovation of existing pump house into a kennel for animal control to Stallion Builders, LLC, Nashua NH in the amount of \$47,248MB seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 3-0-0 (Mr. Timson recused himself from this vote)

8-12 Bid Award, Boyden Roof

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to award contract No. 2011-30 for Boyden Elementary School partial roof replacement to Mikes Construction Co., Inc in the amount of \$43,900, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 4-0-0

Town Administrator's Update

Heat Alert- instituted our standard practice, extending hours of s. pool, and opening the senior center thru 10 p.m. for a cooling center for anyone in need. If we have a need to extend we will regroup.

FY2012- what our budget looks like. Looking at a \$21,264.00 gap in the budget. The prison mitigation money we have \$750,000 committed to us. Line item within the DOC budget and we need to make sure they forward those funds to us. I will reach out to their finance folks. I would like to suggest we do not rush to an expenditure of these funds. He will meet with the Superintendent on Friday. Get an update on some of their accounts. We had a good system some time ago; we had representatives, from Selectmen, Fincom and School Committee. We are asking departments what their needs are for capital budget.

Mr. Kraus would like to have a session with School Committee and Finance Committee to talk about budgets. He asked this be done prior to the closing of the FTM warrant

Regional Data Gathering Efforts. – Reviewing results, we are in the ballpark and Walpole is dead last on per-capita spending. Take a look at what communities around us are doing. It was an eye-opener for me. It made me proud of what the folks do here with less funding.

Paving update-talked about Emerson Road was going to be chipped sealed and Verizon told them they will be working on putting in FIOS. On Pine Street, that trench has done well, but the engineering dept would like to put a small binder on it and next year do the milling and final work.

Housing Authority Vacancy- they will be here next week for the appointment

West St land donation- great idea and could work out for expansion of baseball fields, if you accept that, we should put an article on the warrant. The Board agreed they should move forward.

FEMA Snowstorm reimbursement- The Town did get back \$146,609.97 which goes into free cash.

7:35 OPEN FORUM

No one present

7:35 p.m. Business Recognition program

Stephanie Mercandetti and Michael McCarthy EDC member reported they have two proposals. The first being the Anniversary recognition program to recognize the Anniversary milestones of Businesses and the other program is Business Recognition program. Nomination forms can become available soon but then there will be an October time frame there would be a panel to review the nominations. Those are the two proposals.

Mr. Timson was pleased and feels every business in town is a partner and they should as leaders set an example. We need to nurture these business. I think it is good. Who should be the judges? Ms. Mercandetti suggested a representative from the Selectmen and Economic Development along with herself..

Mr. Kraus nominated Chris Timson to be the Board's representative.

Mr. Gallivan agreed it is a good program and it is good to recognize businesses that do good things. Anything we can do to let people know who is in town.

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to approve the business Anniversary recognition program and Annual business Recognition Program as presented, seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 4-0-0

8-4 Yatin Patel, Subway Main Street

Mr. Patel introduced himself he is buying the existing store. He has had two weeks of training at Subway and this is his first business. This is the first time he has operated a restaurant. He helped his brother out in his business. Mr. Timson wanted to know if he will be getting liability insurance. If someone gets injured he wants to be sure he is covered.

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to approve the Common Victualler's license for Subway, located at 951 Main Street Walpole, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 4-0-0

Hunt Bergen as PBC Library Representative

Mr. Cesary did not run for re election and therefore his term as the representative to the PBC is over and a new representative must be appointed.

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to appoint Hunt Bergen as the library trustee representative to the Permanent Building Committee, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 4-0-0

Library Trustees, Fundraising

Maura Rudoph, Chairman of the Library Trustees presented the Board with a check for \$250,000 the remainder of the pledges will be paid by the end of 2012. Thanked the donors who have helped achieve their goals. They donated \$500,000 in 2010 and have \$50,000 in mutual funds. They have the Pillsbury book proceeds held by the town in the amount of \$125,000. They could liquidate if necessary but would like to hold on to that for the purchases of passes etc. They wish to hold on to those mutual funds as they are making money with the interest. Leaving outstanding pledges due to be paid in 2012. A100% of the funds raised will go towards the new library.

Mr. Boynton explained this funding helps cover the need, the project is under budget. He thinks the discussion is not need. We have the cash to pay the bills. This is more of a timing aspect. The furnishings are out to bid at the moment. What is in hand for cash flow covers most of the needs right now. The million dollar question, how much is the commonwealth request back. The state is going to have some reduction on the money given to us.

Mr. Timson noted the town is getting \$250,000 tonight; they want to hold on to other funds. Do we tell them we want the funds by a date certain?

Mr. Kraus knows they do not want to liquidate funds, but he would rather have money in hands in town than looking for money in 2012. There is a commitment of \$250,000 outstanding, if by some chance fundraising dries up and we go out and purchase furniture and we do not get the money ahead of time. If we took the Book money, I would rather get a portion of that now. I am sure you will get the remaining money.

Maura suggested giving the \$50,000 in equity and hold on to the Bird Book for a few more months. If there is not a need in the expenditures now I would rather collect the funds before turning over the Bird book funds.

Mr. Kraus wanted to know what the issue would be on liquidating the \$125,000. Maura we told people we would use the funds for the buildings. The Bird book is something the library had and nothing tied to the new building. Try to collect more of our outstanding money and give you the \$50,000.

Paul Cesary explained the pilgrim funds are being held by Mark Good. It is being used for the museum pass. It is there when needed as needed and out of our control. It is a backup. The pledges should come in to reach our one million and the Bird book is a back up to pledges and we do not want to touch it.

Mr. Kraus wanted to know if the Bird Book funding is a back up in case they do not get the fundraising. If we do not get another dime and we are \$75,000 short. You relinquished it and Mark is watching it grows. It is working for the town. The Trustees voted to liquidate if needed. Paul there is a lot of money left from the override vote that will not be spent. There is a healthy contingency fund left for the library.

The Board determined no motion was necessary. Maura feels comfortable the money will be coming in.

J. Conroy, Chairman of the PBC spoke to there being three funding sources. The Library Trustees told the voters they would raise one million dollars and I expect one million from them. They gave us a half million to date. Yes, we are going to come under budget. It is a political question. They told us they were going to raise one million when asking residents to pass the override. We have the furniture and shelving out. They are holding that money aside. What I need for you to tell me what to do.

Mr. Kraus suggested in theory we are \$75,000 away from that goal. Mr. Conroy agreed, they are \$75,000 short. There was never any three year program. That money was to be in the kitty, the town is lucky we are under budget. How do you want me to proceed? This was sold to the people of the town they were going to raise one million. I think it is a great project. It is up to you to decide how to approach that.

Mr. Boynton noted the town will probably be \$700,000 under budget when the project is complete. There is no mechanism to return the funds. The reason that we have done well is the efforts of the trustees of raising money and the oversight of the project of the PBC and Jim Johnson. In looking at \$75,000, the likelihood is strong they will raise it.

Mr. Conroy explained they did a great job. If you say go ahead that is fine. The cash flow, based upon when everything gets done. You may not see a need until late January.

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to authorize the PBC to move forward with the complete program plan for the library seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 4-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to accept the gift in the amount of \$250,000 from library endowment trustees, for the new library project, seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 4-0-0

Mr. Kraus asked Michael to work with the library trustees for the transfer of the \$50,000 and work with Mark for remaining funding.

MINUTES

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to accept ex session minutes of January 11, 2011, seconded by Mr. Timson VOTED 3-0-1 (Mr. Gallivan abstained)

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to accept regular minutes of May 24 and May 31, 2011, seconded by Mr. Timson VOTED 3-0-1 (Mr. Gallivan abstained)

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to accept ex session minutes of March 31, 2011, seconded by Mr. Timson VOTED 3-0-1 (Mr. Gallivan abstained)

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to accept the minutes June 14, June 21, and June 6, seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 4-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to move into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and will return for the purposes of adjourning the meeting seconded by Mr. Timson VOTED by roll call; Mr. Berry-Aye, Mr. Gallivan-Aye, Mr. Timson-Aye and Mr. Kraus

The Board moved back to regular session.

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to adjourn at 9:00 p.m., seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 4-0-0