

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES

February 22, 2011

Regular meeting of the Walpole Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, February 22, 2011 in the Selectmen's Office, Town Hall at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Eric A. Kraus
Christopher G. Timson
Michael C. Berry

Michael Boynton, Town Administrator

6:00 p.m. – Quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by the Acting Chairman E. Kraus

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Resolution – Thomas “Goumba” Tempesta

Chairman read into the record a Resolution dedicating the meeting of February 22, 2011 in memory and honor of Thomas “Goumba” Temesta. Mr. Tempesta was very dedicated to the children of Walpole through his involvement in youth sports, and a resident of Walpole for 20 years.

MOTION MADE by C. Timson, Seconded by M. Berry to dedicate tonight's meeting to Thomas “Goumba” Tempesta, a well respected member of the Town, Motion Passed (3-0-0)

Open Forum

There was no one present from the public.

Agenda Items

A Little Something Bakery

They are requesting permission to stay open 24 hours on February 27, 2011 for a fundraiser for the Fisher House in Boston and a request for a One Day Entertainment License for a one person band from 7 – 9:00 p.m.

MOTION MADE by M. Berry, Seconded by C. Timson to approve the request of A Little Something Bakery for permission to stay open 24 hours on February 27, 2011 and a One Day Entertainment License for a one person band from 7 – 9:00 p.m. on February 27, 2011, Motion Passed (3-0-0)

Walpole Lions Club

Requesting permission for a banner on the Common from February 26, 2011 through March 22, 2011 and to place signs around town at various locations advertising the event to be held on March 11, 2011. These signs would be put on the private property of homeowners.

Discussion ensued with Board Members that they did not have any objections to the banner request, but did not want to set a precedent on allowing signs to be put on private property all around town.

MOTION MADE by M. Berry, Seconded by C. Timson to approve the banner request from the Walpole Lions Club on the Town Common from February 26, 2011 through March 11, 2011, Motion Passed (3-0-0) (Board did not grant or object regarding the sign request and they will be requested to contact the Building Inspector)

MPIC Appointment/Mary Kent

Mary Kent has agreed to be the representative from the Finance Committee to the Master Plan Implementation Committee.

MOTION MADE by M. Barry, Seconded by C. Timson to appoint Mary Kent as the Finance Committee Representative to the MPIC, Motion Passed (3-0-0)

Verizon Cable Contract Funds

Balance in the Verizon Cable Contract Funds is \$120,000, Capital Budget Committee is requesting \$45,000 for the Munis Server & Software Upgrade for the IT Department and \$10,000 for Video Equipment for the Recreation Department. No other appropriations being requested from this account at this time. Town Administrator spoke to negotiations will be commencing shortly with Comcast.

MOTION MADE by M. Barry, Seconded by C. Timson to disperse the funds from the Verizon Cable Contract Fund in the amount of \$55,000, \$45,000 for the Munis Server & Software and \$10,000 for Video Equipment for the Recreation Department, Motion Passed (3-0-0)

Bid Award/Contract No. 2011-25 Cobb's Pond Emergency Action Plan

This is to establish policies and procedures for the Town to follow if the dam fails. Town is required to have this plan in place by the DCR.

MOTION MADE by C. Timson, Seconded by M. Berry to award Contract No. 2011, Cobb's Pond Emergency Action Plan, Motion Passed (3-0-0)

Snowshoeing Clinic

Friends of Adams Farm along with Eastern Mountain Sports are requesting to use Adams Farm on Saturday, February 27, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. for a snowshoeing clinic.

MOTION MADE by E. Kraus, Seconded by C. Timson to approve the request to use Adams Farm for a Snowshoeing Clinic on February 27, 2011 at 1:00 p.m., Motion Passed (3-0-0)

Town Administrator

Snow Funding Update

Budget is in deficit in the amount of \$239,000, to date \$147,000 has been spent in overtime, \$727,000 in expenses of which the largest share is for contract plowing, there are still bills coming in. He hopes that the Town will receive some reimbursement for these winter storms. Average snow storm costs \$150,000. C. Timson requested that an analysis be done on the expenditures for various years on the storm costs and the cost per inch per contract, Town Administrator will look into it.

Health Insurance – Rates have been set at 7%, he had hoped for a larger percentage, only saved \$5500.

Budget Update, anticipated increase of \$338,810 due to changes in tax levy, Norfolk County Retirement and Health Insurance. He is proposing adding an additional monies to the School Budge, Town Clerk, Building Maintenance, Veteran's Benefits and Library. It will be up to the Selectmen and FinCom on the allocations of these funds. He will also be asking for an Executive Session for contractual services under the Legal Budget at the next meeting.

Old Business

C. Timson spoke contract negotiations with employees, that raises could potentially be based on revenues, and if there is money available, maybe have bonuses. He is not looking to get rid of collective bargaining. Feels there is the need to be fair to the employees. Town Administrator spoke to this being a strategy for executive session and with a full board, there needs to be changes at the state level.

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MOTION MADE by M. Berry, seconded by C. Timson to adjourn at 6:40 p.m., Motion passed (3-0-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Berry
Clerk

/cpa