

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2007
7:30 P.M.

Members present: Francis A. Hegarty, Chairman
Wayne Phillips
Steven P. Rose

Others Present Mark Fisher, Town Administrator

Not Present: Joseph Lalli, Town Counsel

Chairman Hegarty called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with all members present.

On a motion made by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Rose, it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes of Thursday, March 1, 2007 as submitted.

On a motion made by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Rose, it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes of Tuesday, March 6, 2007 (Liquor License Violation Hearings) as submitted.

There were no public comments during the Open Forum.

The first item of business was the additional reappointment of Constables for 2007. Town Administrator Mark Fisher explained the necessary information missing for reappointment/appointment for 2007 was received and required the Board's vote for appointment.

On a motion made by Mr. Rose, seconded by Mr. Phillips, it was unanimously voted to appoint the following Constables for 2007, term to expire: December 31, 2007:

George Kirk, Jr.
353 Pond Street
Avon, MA 02322

Stephen Cain
96 Old Colony Ave.
East Taunton, MA 02718

Paul Baker
19 Regis Road
Mattapan, MA 02126

On a motion made by Mr. Rose, seconded by Mr. Phillips, it was unanimously voted to sign the warrant for the Annual Town Election to be held on Monday, April 9, 2007. Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The Board discussed the Annual Town Meeting Warrant to be held on Tuesday, May 1, 2007 at the Avon Middle/High School at 7:30 p.m.

Chairman Hegarty announced there are 23 articles on the warrant. Chairman Hegarty read all of the articles to be voted on to the public.

The Board discussed Article 13 relative to the various capital and special projects of the Town (capital improvement plan). Mr. Fisher explained he met with all department heads regarding capital improvements. All departments have submitted a five (5) year plan with written requests and estimates for those items needing to be replaced, prioritizing each request. The capital improvements article would give residents an overall picture of what projects and purchase are being proposed throughout the Town. The Finance Committee must decide how much money is available for capital improvements and where that funding would come from. The Finance Committee would give its recommendation for each item.

After further discussion, Mr. Rose made a motion to open, close and sign the Annual Town Meeting Warrant of Tuesday, May 1, 2007 with 23 articles. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

A request was received from D'Angelo 's for a proclamation to be signed by the Board honoring D'Angelo's 40th anniversary in the Town.

Chairman Hegarty reported the Board should not be involved in proclamations of this nature. A proclamation should be presented for special occasions only.

After some discussion, Mr. Rose made a motion to table the request from D'Angelo until guidelines could be established for such requests. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Mr. Fisher discussed the bid process for a new street paving contract with the Board. Mr. Fisher stated he would present a timeline of events for the bid process.

A letter was received from the Board of Selectmen from the Town of Easton relative to the upper Taunton River Basin Water Resource Management Plan. The Town of Easton is asking for the Board's support in seeking Corps of Engineers Planning Assistance to States (PAS) funds for an environmentally responsible regional approach in disposing of wastewater. Assistance from the Corps of Engineers would be the most appropriate means of assistance from the Federal government.

Chairman Hegarty responded that the Board should write a letter to Congressman Stephen Lynch in support of this assistance from the Federal government, with copies of the letter sent to Senator Kerry and Senator Edward Kennedy.

A coffee hour requesting volunteers to serve and fill vacancies on some of the Town's boards/commissions was held on Saturday morning, March 3rd. As a result of the coffee hour, the following list of additional appointments was read by Chairman Hegarty as follows:

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Edward Sweeney
One Blanchard Street

Richard Mansur
26 King Street

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Jason Suzor, Jr.
90 Littlefield Street

BY-LAW COMMITTEE

Anthony Padavano
2 Blanchard Street

George Clark
323 Page Street

Carol Staffier
22 Stratford Avenue

Daniel Igo
553 West Main Street

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

David Madore

464 Central Street

Jason Suzor, Jr.
50 Littlefield Street

James Neault
600 South Street

Mr. Rose made a motion to appoint the individuals to the appropriate boards and commissions as previously read. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Hegarty thanked the many individuals who appeared at the coffee hour and are willing to serve the Town.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Fisher requested the Board's feedback on whether or not to hire special counsel for Comcast contract negotiations. Mr. Fisher reported this is a 10 year contract and hiring legal representation may be in the best interest of the Town.

A discussion ensued. Mr. Fisher stated an additional \$10,000. would cover fees for legal representation.

Chairman Hegarty suggested setting up a meeting with the Cable Advisory Board at the next Selectmen's meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 5th to discuss options.

At 8:40 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Rose to enter Executive Session for the purpose of contract negotiations and the Board would reconvene in open session at 9:00 p.m. to meet with the Planning Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Phillips.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Rose voted aye
Mr. Phillips voted aye
Chairman Hegarty voted aye

At 9:15 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Rose to exit Executive Session and reconvene in open session. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Rose voted aye
Mr. Phillips voted aye
Chairman Hegarty voted aye

The Board met with the Planning Board at 9:15 p.m.

The Planning Board agreed to submit the language on two (2) articles on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant of Tuesday, May 1, 2007. The Planning Board is going to research area communities and submit to the Board finalized language as soon as possible.

At 9:40 p.m., with all business completed, Mr. Rose made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Phillips. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam Rothstein
Secretary