

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2009  
7:30 P.M.

Members present: Francis A. Hegarty, Chairman  
Wayne Phillips

Others present: Michael McCue, Town Administrator

Not Present: Steven P. Rose  
Joseph Lalli, Town Counsel

Chairman Hegarty called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with a quorum being present. Mr. Rose was absent from the meeting.

Mr. Phillips made a motion to accept the minutes of Thursday, February 19, 2009 (Regular Session). Chairman Hegarty seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Phillips made a motion to accept the minutes of Thursday, February 19, 2009 (Executive Session). Chairman Hegarty seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Phillips made a motion to accept the minutes of Thursday, February 5, 2009 (Regular Session). Chairman Hegarty seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Hegarty announced at 8:00 p.m. an Interdepartmental Meeting would be held to discuss the fiscal year 2010 budget.

Handouts were provided to the Board relative to the Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting warrant articles. Chairman Hegarty stated the articles would be reviewed and discussed at the next Board of Selectmen's meeting.

A letter was received from the Avon School Committee requesting the Board to declare as surplus six (6) cafeteria tables at the Butler School.

Mr. Phillips made a motion to approve the School Committee's request to declare the six (6) tables as surplus and authorize disposal. Chairman Hegarty seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Hegarty updated the Board relative to the Norfolk County Advisory Board. The Advisory Board's budget has been cut twice already but currently a unique situation exists. Governor Patrick has filed legislation to transfer the Sheriff's Department from the County to the State. Each town would then have an additional burden of paying for retirees from the Sheriff's Department. Chairman Hegarty is asking for the Board's support to amend this act by the Governor and all charges be assumed by the State and not the towns for retirees. In addition, the Norfolk County Advisory Board is requesting increases in the Registry of Deeds fees (\$10.00 increase). Fees have not been increased in many years, and this will help the County to raise additional revenue.

Mr. Phillips made a motion to support Norfolk County's recommendations. Chairman Hegarty seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Hegarty read a notice from the Avon Park and Recreation Commission announcing a Sports Safety Program to be held at the Avon Middle High School Gymnasium on Saturday, March 28, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. The agenda would include discussions on basic CPR, cardiac arrest, automatic external defibrillators, injury prevention, stretching, etc. Anyone interested should call the Fire Department to sign up.

Chairman Hegarty announced the Neighborhood Housing Services of Brockton will present a series of "Foreclosure Clinics/Counseling," and first time "Homebuyer" workshops. Handouts are available with the clinic schedule. This is a unique opportunity for individuals to meet with a mortgage lender to discuss loan modifications to prevent foreclosure.

Chairman Hegarty reminded all residents that this coming Sunday begins daylight savings time. It is a good idea to change the batteries in all smoke detectors at the same time.

On a motion made by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Chairman Hegarty, it was unanimously voted to approve all vouchers for the payment of bills as submitted.

### **Town Administrator's Report**

Town Administrator Michael McCue reported that the Community Development Block Grant application was submitted on February 13, 2009. This is a Federal grant and takes time to process. The Town should hear around June/July of 2009.

Mr. McCue announced that Old Colony Planning Council has informed its member communities of an opportunity to receive recently updated digital color imagery and software. The Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation and Public Works is providing municipalities with Pictometry's aerial imagery free of charge. Pictometry International conducted a flyover of the entire state that has provided five-way aerial imagery. This technology allows users to view high resolution digital color images of a community. The software has proven to be beneficial to assessors, conservation commissions, and first responders.

At 7:55 p.m. Chairman Hegarty called for a brief recess.

On a motion made by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Chairman Hegarty, it was unanimously voted to recess until 8:00 p.m.

**8:00 p.m.—Interdepartmental Meeting to discuss for FY 2010 Budget**

Chairman Hegarty made a budget presentation to department heads. A handout of “Revenue Analysis and Projections “ was given out comparing prior years figures to fiscal year 2010 projected budget figures. Tax revenues, local receipts, state aid and other revenue resources were reviewed.

Chairman Hegarty stated Governor Patrick reported that Chapter 70 funding will remain level. Everything else in State Aid is up for discussion.

In conclusion, it was reported that \$1,051,878. is the shortfall to balance the budget for the next fiscal year.

Chairman Hegarty stated the next step would be to meet with all Town departments to see where reductions could be made to the FY '10 budget. The Board will be scheduling a meeting with all Town departments within the next week.

Chairman Hegarty mentioned the Water Department was part of a class action suit that won an MTBE contamination settlement with the major oil companies. The Town received a 3.6 million dollar settlement due to MTBE contamination of our public wells. This money may be needed to protect our wells in the future. There are also supplemental supplements with smaller oil companies that are currently under negotiation.

At 8:25 p.m. the budget meeting concluded.

At 8:26 p.m. Mr. Phillips made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss a legal issue. The motion was seconded by Chairman Hegarty.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Phillips voted aye  
Chairman Hegarty voted aye

The Board would not reconvene in Open Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam Rothstein  
Secretary

