

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2008
7:30 P.M.

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

Others present: Joseph Lalli, Town Counsel

Not present: Michael McCue, Town Administrator

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

On a motion made by Mr. Rose, seconded by Chairman Hegarty, it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes of Thursday, February 21, 2008 (Regular Session) as written. Mr. Phillips abstained from voting since he was not present at the meeting.

On a motion made by Mr. Rose, seconded by Chairman Hegarty, it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes of Thursday, February 21, 2008 (Executive Session) as submitted. Mr. Phillips abstained from voting since he was not in attendance.

Mr. Phillips made a motion to accept the minutes of Thursday, March 6, 2008 (Regular Session). Chairman Hegarty seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Mr. Rose abstained from voting since he was not in attendance.

Mr. Phillips made a motion to accept the minutes of Thursday, March 6, 2008 (Executive Session) as written. Chairman Hegarty seconded the motion. The motion carried. Mr. Rose abstained from voting since he was not present at the meeting.

There were no public comments during the Open Forum.

Board of Selectmen's Decision on Fence Hearing for 80 East Street

Mr. Phillips made the following motion:

“Based on all testimony given at the March 6, 2008 hearing, the Board of Selectmen hereby decides that no further action shall be taken at this time.” Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Hegarty announced the Annual Town Election would be held on Monday, April 14, 2008. Chairman Hegarty read the Warrant for the Town Election.

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the Annual Town Election Warrant of April 14, 2008 for posting. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

A request was received from Class II license holder Robert Nicholson for a name change on his license from corporate to D/B/A.

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the name change for 110 Memorial Drive to Robert Nicholson, D/B/A Brittanic Motors. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. The motion carried.

It was unanimously voted to approve a one-day special alcohol permit for Avon Fish & Game Association for April 19, 2008.

A letter was received from the Massachusetts State Lottery Commission proposing a new venture “Keno to Go” that would raise additional revenue to cities and towns. The new venture would allow the Town’s four (4) Lottery agents to sell “Keno to Go” tickets. Customers could purchase tickets, take them home and check numbers on their computers. Avon is projected to receive \$461,978 in Lottery Aid for fiscal year 2009.

Mr. Rose made a motion not to oppose plans by the Massachusetts State Lottery Commission to allow the sale of Keno to Go tickets. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Public Hearing on the Application for a Class II License for 41 North Main Used Cars

Patricia and Stanley Kelly of 475 East Main Street appeared before the Board.

Mr. Phillips asked whether there were any changes from their prior Class II license and if four (4) cars would be the limit for sale. Mr. Kelly responded that the Class II license would be the same with the same conditions as previously stated.

Mr. Phillips made a motion to approve the Class II license for 41 North Main Used Cars with the following restrictions:

“One car on display in front; warranty work to take place off the premises; no more than four (4) vehicles for sale and contingent upon the receipt of a \$25,000 bond.” Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

A letter was received from Constellation NewEnergy regarding the Town’s electricity contract, due to expire in December, 2008. Constellation NewEnergy is proposing a Blend and Extend pricing schedule beginning in July, 2008 through December 2012.

After some discussion, Mr. Rose made a motion that clarification is needed before extending the contract with Constellation NewEnergy and bids from other vendors is recommended. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. The motion carried.

A request was received from the Cable TV Advisory Committee for the Board's vote (as the Issuing Authority) to move forward with the Request for a Cable Television Renewal Proposal. The 1998 Renewal License will expire on November 16, 2008.

Mr. Rose made a motion to move forward in issuing a Request for a Renewal Proposal (RFP) to Comcast. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

8:00 p.m.—Meeting with the Finance Committee

Finance Committee members Sam Kamel (Chair), Lou Balboni, Mary Padavano and Sean Bastis appeared before the Board. Also present was Doreen Gouthro, Secretary to the Finance Committee.

Town Administrator Michael McCue prepared handouts with Revenue Projects and FY 2009 Budget Requests for the Board and Finance Committee.

Chairman Hegarty reviewed the Revenue Analysis and Projections Sheet with the Finance Committee. Tax Revenues, Local Receipts, State Aid and Other Revenue Sources were analyzed. Chairman Hegarty reported \$76,000 was in deficit with the Board's recommendations for FY '09.

Finance Committee Chair Sam Kamel questioned various items on the FY '09 budget such as Park and Recreation's line item #570. Mr. Kamel commented the amount should read \$21,598, bringing the amount in deficit to \$73,801.24. Chairman Hegarty stated he would look into the matter.

The Board discussed an Assistant Assessor's position. Chairman Hegarty reiterated the difficulties faced in prior years receiving new growth figures in a timely manner to set the classification rates.

Chairman Hegarty was happy to report that there will be only a small increase in healthcare costs for fiscal year '09.

The Board also reviewed the draft of the May 6, 2008 Annual Town Meeting Warrant with the Finance Committee.

At 9:10 p.m. the Finance Committee exited the joint meeting.

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

A request was received from Avon Cooperative Bank to erect a temporary sign on the fence announcing the Avon Youth Soccer sign-up. Approval of temporary signs falls under the purview of the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Phillips made a motion to approve the request for a temporary sign announcing Avon Youth Soccer. Mr. Rose seconded the motion with discussion. Mr. Rose questioned the size of the sign and documentation from Avon Cooperative Bank stating that they approve erecting the temporary sign at their location.

Mr. Phillips amended the motion as follows: to approve the request for a temporary sign and Avon Cooperative Bank would provide documentation stating the size and their approval. Mr. Rose seconded the amended motion. The vote was unanimous.

At 9:15 p.m. Mr. Rose made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of collective bargaining. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. The Board would not reconvene in open session.

A roll call vote was taken:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam Rothstein
Secretary