

**MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2008
7:00 PM**

YARMOUTH TOWN HALL HEARING ROOM

Present: Selectmen – Suzanne McAuliffe, Jerry Sullivan, Jim Hoben, Bud Groskopf, Dr. William Marasco; Town Administrator – Robert C. Lawton Jr.

Public

Ed Volker – Energy Committee

Mr. Volker – Updates on the solar panels on Town Hall roof. Indicates that there is also an opening on the Energy Committee.

Phil Morris – School Committee

Mr. Morris – Gives an update on the happenings of the School Department.

Sue Rohrbach – Senator O’Leary’s Office

Ms. Rohrbach – She indicates that Senator O’Leary would like the Board to know that the energy bill will be going before the Senate on Jan. 9, 2008. She also states that there are incentives in the energy bill for municipalities to utilize renewable energy. She also states that Mr. O’Leary is working on several bond bills.

Jack Howard – States that Chief Carnes has done a wonderful job as the Yarmouth Police Chief. He also states that the Board should consider promoting within for the position of Police Chief.

Chief Carnes – Acknowledgement

Ms. McAuliffe – She would like to informally acknowledge Chief Carnes and formally say good bye.

- All the members of the Board thank Chief Carnes for all his accomplishments, his ability to turn around the department and all of his community outreach.

Chief Carnes – He thanks all the members of the police department. He also states that his 13 years here in Yarmouth were great, and he would like to see the Selectmen promote within for the next Chief. He is very pleased with the professionalism of the department.

Statement with regards to Fire Chief Sherman -

Ms. McAuliffe – States that the Board is unanimous in their support for Chief Randy Sherman of the Fire Department. She indicates that the Board hopes that issues within the Fire Department will be resolved soon, but the residents of Yarmouth can be assured that they are receiving the highest level of emergency service.

Yarmouth Housing Authority – Project Updates

Mary-Anne Walsh Chairman of the Yarmouth Housing Authority - introduces members of the Yarmouth Housing Authority.

Donna Killeen, Executive Director of the YHA – She states that the Housing Authority recently met with the John Simpkins Review Committee as a result of the Housing Authority’s proposal to use the Simpkins School for affordable housing.

- Discussion continues on how the Town and the Authority can fund a community planning process possibly through grants to look at the Simpkins School for affordable housing.

Mr. Hoben – Asks the Housing Authority about the time frame for planning grants to be awarded and a consultant to be hired. Ms. Killeen believes that grants could take several months to award and to hire a consultant.

Mr. Sullivan – Thinks that exploring all options for the Simpkins School is in the best interest of the Town.

Mr. Groskopf – Indicates that he is a proponent of affordable housing but in the right location, he is discouraged with the lack of progress thus far in affordable housing in the past few years.

Mr. Hoben – He states to Mr. Groskopf that there is progress with regards of affordable housing, the Affordable Housing Trust Fund has hired a consultant to review housing within the Town.

Dr. Marasco – Discusses that the Selectmen must take a broad look at the use of the Simpkins School. He hopes that there would be an article at the Annual Town Meeting to see what the voter’s would like to do with the building.

Ms. McAuliffe – She discusses that community planning should be a fairly quick process, since the BOS would like to resolve what to do with the Simpkins School fairly quickly to get the ball rolling. She also indicates that money is needed for engineering purposes to evaluate the condition of the School.

- Discussion continues about funding for exploring the use of the Simpkins School. The Housing Authority agrees to come back to the BOS at another meeting to discuss project updates.

Initial Review: Annual Town Elections – Ballot Questions (4)

Mr. Lawton - Discusses the four ballot questions thus far for the Annual Town Election. He also asks if the Selectmen would like the committees who sponsor the questions to come in to speak with the Board before they make a decision to put the questions on the ballot. The warrant will close on January 29, 2008.

- The Board discusses the four questions. The Board agrees to have the RASWAC Committee come before the BOS to discuss the curb side trash pick-up question.

Initial Review: Annual Town Meeting Warrant

A. List Petitions and Regular Articles

Mr. Lawton – Informs the Board that there are so far 34 warrant articles for ATM 2008. He then explains the articles to the Board.

- Discussion continues with regards to the articles.

Appointments -

Resignation from Fire Station Building Committee

Mr. Hoben – Would like the Board to accept the resignation of the Chairman Al Gray from the Station #3 Building Committee. Moved. Seconded. **VOTE 5-0** Mr. Sullivan would also like to appoint Captain Alan Bent to full voting member. Moved. Seconded. **VOTE 5-0**

Board of Health

Mr. Hoben – Recommends Evelyn Hayes to the BOH to fill an unexpired term until 10/31/2008 or until a successor has been chosen. Moved. Seconded. **VOTE 5-0**

Old Kings Highway

Mr. Hoben – Recommends to appoint to the architect/contractor position Joseph Sullivan to the position of Old King Highway for a one year term to run through 12/31/2008. Recommends Mrs. Sherman as an alternate to the OKH for a one year term to run through 12/31/2008. Moved. Seconded. **VOTE 5-0**

Selectmen Items

A. Department Budgets

Ms. McAuliffe – Discusses department's budgets. Explains that revenues are flat for this upcoming year and the BOS is committed to stay within Prop 2 ½. She also explains that there may be cuts in department's budgets and in the future there may be cuts in services. She asks for revenue generating ideas.

Dr. Marasco – Speaks about asking Department Heads to reduce their budgets and then review how the cuts will effect each department individually.

Ms. McAuliffe – She states that it may help the Finance Committee if the Board of Selectmen would give advice on how to solve the financial problem.

Mr. Hoben – He states that he would like to see a more focal cut from the boards instead of a 3% cut across the board from everyone.

Mr. Sullivan – He would like to have a planning exercise with all the department's in order to see how across the board cuts would effect everyone.

- Discussion continues about the budget and ways to cut spending. The BOS agrees with the Town Administrator's recommendation to inform the Department Heads to make a 3% cut in their budgets and then will reassess the cuts.

B. Policy Regarding Board and Committee Procedures

Ms. McAuliffe – Asks the BOS to consider and review the new policy. (Copy Attached)

- The BOS reviews the policy.

Mr. Sullivan – Indicates that he would like the policy to be on the agenda formally before the Board votes on it.

Ms. McAuliffe – States that she would just like the Board to review the policy first and then the BOS can bring up the policy at another meeting.

C. Jim Hoben – Discusses a letter received by a citizen whose mailbox was damaged by a plow. The citizen highlighted the fact that several DPW employees helped with fixing his mailbox.

Town Administrator

Consent Agenda Approval

A. Mr. Lawton - Reviews the Consent Agenda and highlights the conservation restriction on 13 acres near the Cape Cod Hospital. Mr. Lawton asks the Board to vote on the agenda. Mr. Sullivan makes a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded.

VOTE – 5-0

B. Mr. Lawton – Speaks about Mr. Don Costa who came before the Board several weeks ago asking for a split in the boat slip fees. Mr. Lawton states that Mr. Costa contacted him and wanted to thank the Board for their support on the splitting of slip fees.

C. Mr. Lawton – The Board agrees to meet at the Police Station for their regular meeting on February 5, 2008.

D. Mr. Lawton – Discusses the process for appointing a new Police Chief.

Adjourn

Ms. McAuliffe – Asks for a motion to adjourn.

Moved. Seconded. **VOTE 5-0.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:41p.m.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 8, 2008
(Consent Agenda)**

1. Approval: Conservation Restriction on 13.7 Acres – Cape Cod Hospital

2. Approval: Gift made to DPW:

**Park bench (to be installed at Parkers River Beach) donated by
Mrs. Annino in honor of her husband Cal Annino
(approx value) \$650.00**

3. Approval: Gifts made to the Division of Senior Services

- a) Holiday Vacation Condo Association – Thank you donation \$150.00**
- b) Cape Cod Men’s Club – Thank you donation \$200.00**
- c) The Garden Club – Room set up \$ 26.88**
- d) Pedi-Care Services, LLC – Thank you donation \$302.00**

Voted: 5-0

Date: 1-8-2008