

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

**SEPTEMBER 4, 2007 - 5:00 P.M.
CHESTNUT HILL MEETING HOUSE**

MINUTES OF MEETING

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson Diane McCutcheon, Vice Chairman Paul Savage, Selectmen Tom Petrowicz and Charles Poulin

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Selectman Karin Furno

OTHERS PRESENT: Executive Secretary Helen Coffin

The Meeting is called to order at 5:15 p.m.

Chairperson McCutcheon welcomes all to the Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting. Thank you to the Chestnut Hill Meeting House and Cemetery Association for allowing the Board to hold its Meeting in this historical building.

Margaret Carroll welcomes the Board of Selectmen and residents to the first Board of Selectmen Meeting on record to be held in the Chestnut Hill Meeting House. Miss Carroll provides a brief history of the Town and the Chestnut Hill Meeting House.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson McCutcheon thanks all those who visited her last month during her Wednesday evening hours. The Board will continue this practice.

There are always positions available in Town government ... individuals should contact the Town Hall if interested in helping out.

CORRESPONDENCE

Legal Counsel. A Memo was received from the Executive Secretary clarifying the use of Town Counsel. As of January 1, 2007, Brackett & Lucas is the Town's legal counsel. Mirick O'Connell is only used for union contracts and Kopelman & Paige is only used for follow-up on items.

Delinquent Taxpayers. A Memo was received from the Treasurer/Collector with a list of delinquent taxpayers. You may contact that office with any questions.

Small Water Systems. A letter was received from the Certified Water Operator, Deb Bray, indicating that the water at the Millville Elementary School is potable and safe to drink. This is great news for the Town.

Electrical Inspector Report. For the month of August, \$190 received in fees; \$3,485 to date. 8 inspections totaling \$280.

Polish American Hall. A letter was received from Building Inspector Mike Giampietro advising that he and the Fire Chief will conduct final inspections on the property for certification.

John H. Chaffee Corridor Commission. A letter was received from Joanna Doherty advising that the Commission is looking into recommending that the Udor Tower be placed on the 10 most endangered historical sites for 2007.

Board of Assessors Liaison. At the last meeting Selectman Karin Furno was appointed as liaison to the Board of Assessors. Thank you to the Executive Secretary for providing a list of liaisons and their duties.

United Nations Proclamation. Each year the Town receives information from the United Nations Association of Greater Boston asking that the Town issue a proclamation for display at the State House indicating the Town's support of United Nations Day.

Motion by Savage, second by Poulin to vote to sign the Proclamation. Motion passes by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC FORUM

None.

MINUTES

Motion by Savage, second by Petrowicz to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting of August 20, 2007. Motion passes by unanimous vote.

Motion by Savage, second by Petrowicz to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of August 20, 2007 regarding the Lincoln Street project. Motion passes by unanimous vote.

Motion by Petrowicz, second by Poulin to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of August 28, 2007 regarding the landfill. Motion passes by unanimous vote.

WARRANTS

Motion by Savage, second by Petrowicz to sign the Warrants. Motion passes by unanimous vote.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT

Washed Sand Bid. There were three bids received for washed sand. The lowest bidder was Kimball Sand at \$12.00/ton delivered and \$8.50/ton picked up. **Motion by Savage, second by Poulin to award the washed sand bid to Kimball Sand. Motion passes by unanimous vote.**

Millville Elementary School Rear Access Road. There were two bids received for the paving and drainage project. The lower bidder was Bevilacqua for \$13,600.00. **Motion by Petrowicz, second by Poulin to award the Rear Access Road Project to Bevilacqua Paving. Motion passes by unanimous vote.**

Community Policing Grant. The Police Chief received a grant for approximately \$11,000 and requires the Board's signature on the Contract. **Motion by Petrowicz, second by Poulin to allow the Chairperson to sign the contract on behalf of the Board. Motion passes by unanimous vote.**

Copy Machines. The Police Chief would like to upgrade the copier in the police station and there is also a need for a new copy machine on the second floor of the Town Hall. When the Police Chief gets a new one, we can move his old one to the other side of the first floor of the Town Hall. The new machines are about \$2,000 each. A new copy machine for the second floor of the Town Hall could be used by all departments. **Motion by Savage, second by Poulin to authorize the Executive Secretary to purchase a new copy machine for the second floor of the Town Hall to be used by all departments. Motion passes by unanimous vote.**

Fisher Street Project. The Board feels that all engineered plans should have a final inspection by the engineer. Selectman Poulin asked the engineers to inspect the work at Fisher Street. The Board feels that since they sign the warrants, they can hold any payments until they are satisfied that the work is done correctly. The Board would like the Executive Secretary to speak with John Dean to put something in place and would like a draft for the next BOS meeting. **Motion by Poulin, second by Petrowicz to authorize the engineers to inspect the work and be paid from the Board of Selectmen expenses Motion passes by unanimous vote..**

Resident Lincoln Barber comments that perhaps using the Rules and Regulations of the Planning as a guide would be helpful.

Legal Counsel Requests. Would the Board like to put a deadline on the timeframe departments or boards can seek legal advice once a request has been granted? Savage feels they should contact counsel within 48 hours. Petrowicz doesn't believe 48 hours is sufficient time. McCutcheon recommends 15 days. Poulin suggests asking the board/department to provide the Board of Selectmen with a follow-up status report within 15 days of approval. The Board agrees that this is a good idea and the Executive Secretary will follow-up with this new procedure accordingly.

BOS Member Wednesday for September. Selectman Savage will take one Wednesday evening in September, the date to be determined.

BVT. A Letter was received from Blackstone Valley Technical School that the Town's third rebate check from the stabilization fund from the expansion project has been sent to the Treasurer.

RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

Laura Cameron. Laura resigned from her position as Clerical Assistant to the Board of Assessors effective August 17th. Laura continues to work in the Board of Health office and is also assisting with the organization of the Building Inspector's office. The Board thanks Laura for her time and service to the Town.

OLD BUSINESS/UPDATES

Bridge Update. Information was received from Dean Gleason from Mass Highway regarding the status of the bridge -- they are still on schedule. The wall work in front of the Bowdoin home will begin in late fall. The intersection will begin within the next few weeks.

Naming of Bridge Project. The Board is gearing up to kick off the Naming of the Bridge Project with the elementary school students within the next few weeks.

Structural Engineers. Three engineers have been contacted to look at the Town Hall building. Appointments with the engineers are in the process of being made.

Board of Assessors Complaint. Selectman Savage indicated that he hasn't received anything from the Board of Assessors regarding the Complaint against the Assistant Assessor. He will follow up with the liaison to that Board.

Personnel Amendments. There will be a Public Hearing scheduled during the next BOS meeting on September 17, 2007 regarding the proposed amendments to the Personnel Policy.

Landfill Meeting. Following the Board's meeting with DEP last Tuesday evening, the Executive Secretary attended a meeting at DEP offices in Worcester last Thursday morning. BATG indicated that they plan to complete the landfill by October 1st. DEP officials strongly urged BATG to complete the work in a timely manner or that additional fines and penalties will be assessed. BATG has signed a proposal with Horsley & Whitten concerning the wetlands issues.

Earth Removal Board. At the last meeting of the Earth Removal Board, the Board voted on some minor changes to the forms. There is a change recommended to the by-law that will be presented at the Special Town Meeting in December.

Business Retention Grant. The Board is waiting to hear back from Heritage Design Group on the plans. They will most likely contact the Historical Commission soon.

Lynch Property. The Board is waiting for the completed title exam from Brackett & Lucas concerning this property.

Cable Committee. The Board has not heard back from the Cable Committee regarding the new equipment.

Resident Lincoln Barber wondered if the Cable Committee could do something about the humming sounds on the cable television channels as well as the sometimes lacking synchronization of voices. Executive Secretary to send a Memo to the Cable Committee asking them to address these issues.

Lincoln Street Project. Selectman Poulin met with the contractor last week; he said he would be back to take care of the problems for Mr. Pawlowski. He has not been back yet.

Planning Board Meeting. Chairperson McCutcheon attended the last Planning Board Meeting. They spoke about In-Law Apartments. It was decided that a single family home with an in-law apartment will remain a single family home and converting to a two family home would require going through the permitting process. They also discussed the Open Space Residential Design By-law. This has to do with land that can still be developed in Town. This will most likely be on the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Fire Department. Selectman Savage wanted to update the Board that there are some problems with the ladder truck ... the rollers have failed and will cost about \$5,000 to repair.

Chief Mullaly is being recognized by the Town of Blackstone for the mutual aid of his department and service to the Blackstone Fire Department. Congratulations to the Fire Department.

PUBLIC FORUM

None.

Chairperson McCutcheon thanks all who attended the Meeting this evening and especially to Margaret Carroll and the Chestnut Hill Meeting House and Cemetery Association for allowing the Board to hold its meeting in this wonderful building. Thank you to Colleen Curis for filming the Meeting. Thank you to the Executive Secretary for her work.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 17, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the Longfellow Municipal Center.

The Meeting adjourns at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen M. Coffin

Diane O. McCutcheon, Chairperson

Paul J. Savage, Vice Chairman

Thomas Petrowicz, Selectman

Charles Poulin, Selectman

APPROVED AND SIGNED 10/1/07