

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

January 13, 2000

The meeting was opened at 7:00 pm. with Les Davis, Jennifer A. Dean, Kenneth Gikas and Executive Secretary Alden Jeffs attending.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Mr. Mike Pare spoke for the Parks and Recreation Comm. The Comm. has looked at various parcels of land and would like to build the basketball court that Mr. Afonso is donating on a parcel at Prospect and Hope Sts. It hopes the Selectmen and townspeople approve. The lot is large enough to also house a future ice skating rink and youth center that the Comm. hopes to eventually build. It was decided to notify other boards/depts, have the Parks Comm. get plans and concepts developed and then hold a public hearing to allow the neighborhood to voice concerns and/or support.

Mr. Pare stated that the Sr. Center people are having difficulties doing perc tests on lots considered for the new Sr. Center. The Board of Health has money in its account that could be used for this purpose.

Mr. Leonard Desjardins asked if any elected officials were receiving health insurance. He was told Mr. John Dean is since, by law, all elected officials working 20 hours per week are automatically required to receive it. Mr. Desjardins wanted to make sure that hours are kept track of since any elected employee could claim to work 20 hrs./wk.

He also stated that appointing Ms. Diane McCutcheon to the Board of Assessors before Gikas had resigned was not correct procedure.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1.) Dept. of Housing & Community Development FY'99. Grant to be applied for.
- 2.) Notice of U.S. Census Bureau Opening on 1/21/00.
- 3.) ABCC Holiday notice for 2000.
- 4.) Notice of Blackstone/Millville Regional School Comm. meeting on 1/20/00 and 1/22/00.
- 5.) Health Awareness Services Job Posting.
- 6.) Community Partners for Health Meeting notice for 1/21/00.

The Executive Session scheduled for today is postponed to 2/1/00.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Jeffs found contracts that needed to be awarded and is setting up dates to do so.

Animal shelter discussions with the Blackstone Administrator are proceeding. Mendon seems interested, as well.

MHA has not received a response from the Town on safety inspection findings. Jeffs will look into finding some way to repair holes in boiler room ceiling and putting up required fire wall.

APPOINTMENT WITH BUILDING INSPECTOR

Mr. Hureau was asked to explain the Building Inspector fees. He said they have essentially not changed much except for adding a surcharge for having to repeat inspections. The fee for new construction is determined by using the cost or value of building or remodeling and multiplying by \$6.50.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT (cont'd)

Part-time employees had inquired into having Fridays off, similar to Assessors Office. After some discussion, Jeffs was asked to perform a count on the number of people coming into Town Hall and recording the type of activity/assistance they required for all of February.

On Jeffs recommendation, Gikas made a motion to make the morning person (receptionist/secretary)

an Assistant Town Clerk/Secretary and have both morning and afternoon person's pay set at \$10.00/hour. Davis seconded and the vote was 2 ayes and 1 nay (Dean). Dean stated that she agreed with changing the title/duties of the a.m. clerk, but felt uncomfortable with giving a mid-year pay raise. Plans are underway for finishing the upstairs room floor with no interruption of Town services. Jeffs has located space on upper floor of Town Hall for the Office for Community Opportunities Group. Jeffs was instructed to go ahead with advertising for a minute-taker that would be present at Selectmen's meetings. Rate of pay was \$45.00/meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Tulumello owes taxes on his various properties and is looking to sell 3 parcels (123-63, 123-67 & 123-133) to the Town for \$37,300.00. Jeffs will research the value of the properties from the Assessors Office and obtain amount owed in taxes, as well as, see if Town would really want to purchase these properties.

Gikas made a motion to again appoint Ms. Diane McCutcheon to the Board of Assessors. Dean seconded and the vote was unanimous. (see above for more on this issue) Jeffs will send a letter to Ms. McCutcheon to inform her that she was appointed, again, and ask that she be re-sworn in.

A letter of thanks had been sent to Mr. Laliberte for allowing the Town to house one of its fire trucks in his garage at a minimal fee.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Ms. Colleen Curis asked that Mr. Jeffs be introduced to townspeople; Davis did this. Also, the Cable Comm. is looking for additional storage space for tapes. The Board approved use of a small room/closet in the Town Hall's basement and Jeffs will take care of this matter.

Mr. Pare brought up the smoke detector issue. Jeffs will get a price, check if money from Communities Opportunities Group for handicapped accessibility could be used and coordinate with the Fire Dept. Mr. Pare also stated that the toilet responsible for bad odors in the Town Hall was fixed, but someone still needed to rotor a badly plugged pipe. Jeffs will work on this.

Regarding above-mentioned 4 day work week, Mr. Desjardins stated that several years ago the Town hall was open only 4 days a week and due to complaints was changed to a 5 day work week. He also suggested checking the Town-acquired old mill site where supposedly there had been a pump station, before purchasing more property for a pump station. Dean stated that a large piece of equipment needed to be removed on this same property. Mr. Pare added that a large water tower had been knocked down there and the Board of Health is on top of that issue.

The Board then signed treasury warrants, an agreement with Computer and Network Maintenance Inc. and Minutes (12/7/99), after which the meeting was adjourned.

Les Davis, Chairman

Jennifer A. Dean, Vice Chairperson

Kenneth Gikas, Secretary

Madeline Gauthier

C. Althea Czern

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