

**MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
WORKSHOP MEETING
6:30 P.M.
MAY 30, 2001**

SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM

Meeting opened at 6:35 p.m . with Board Members, Chairman Jennifer Dean, Vice Chairman Lincoln E. Barber III, Secretary Michael Pare, Ken Gikas and Les Davis present. Also present Alden W. Jefts, Executive Secretary and Police Chief Timothy P. Ryan.

The Board began with a discussion of Chief Ryan's budget and made reductions where the Chief felt it was possible. Discussion then came on the Police Chief salary item which reflected a \$4,881 increase. Chief Ryan defended his increase pointing out that his salary was the lowest of all of the Chiefs in the Towns used as comparables for the Personnel Classification & Compensation, and that he had not had a substantial increase for many years. It was pointed out that he received 25% of his base salary as "Quinn Bill" payment. Mr. Jefts assured the Board that the figures used were base pay. After a lengthy discussion, Les Davis moved the increase, seconded by Mike Pare. Vote unanimous.

Inasmuch as the Finance Committee wished to hold their Public Hearing on the Annual Budget in the Selectmen's room so it could be taped, the Board recessed to the upstairs room.

Upon reconvening, the Board

- 1) Signed the Warrant for the Ballot Election for Debt Exclusion on Valley Tech's Expansion Capital Assessment having previously voted to hold it on July 16, 2001 at the Senior Center.
- 2) Signed the Grounds Maintenance Contract with Mullaly Landscape Construction Co., Inc. previously voted.
- 3) On motion of Selectman Pare, seconded by Selectman Davis, the Board voted unanimously to revoke the Preferred Auto Class II License, after discussion had been held on Preferred Auto violations: excessive number of vehicles, working beyond hours allowed on License, having junk cars not allowed by License. Al Jefts to set hearing date if Town Counsel says necessary, Board will vote at Town Meeting 6/4/01.

Certified letter to go to John Felicio for violation of Zoning By-Law (more than one unregistered vehicle on premises) Cars not covered by Preferred's License (25) Zoning Enforcement Officer Richard Hurteau was present and will handle the Felicio letter and fine of \$20.00/car/day in excess of those covered under the Preferred License.

The Board then entered discussion on the Personnel By-Law and Classification & Compensation Article. After considerable discussion, the Board voted to approve and recommend to the Town Meeting on a motion by Mike Pare, seconded by Les Davis. Vote unanimous.

Members of the Finance Committee joined the Board and expressed their pleasure at this action as they had already so voted.

Discussion was then had by both groups on the position they should take on the Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical School's "discretionary" portion of the School Committee's assessment knowing that the Town would end up with paying the total request of \$216,957. Anyway as the necessary votes of 2/3's of the member towns had been obtained, it was decided that the Finance Committee would make the "statement" saying "we can't continue to live with increases of this magnitude". "Please try harder to keep spending down without sacrificing student education."

The Board then entered Executive Session under Chapter 39 Section 23B Pgh 3 – Negotiations – on motion of Ken Gikas, seconded by Les Davis – voted- Gikas, Aye; Davis, Aye; Pare, Aye; Barber, Aye; Dean, Aye.

A review of the Dispatch proposed agreement was begun. Several changes were made taking the review to Article 5. It being 10:08 p.m., the Board agreed to meet after the Town Meeting on June 4, 2001 and try to complete a proposal from the Town. Motion to exit Executive Session at 10:08 p.m. by Selectman Pare seconded by Selectman Barber – voted – Pare, Aye; Barber, Aye; Davis, Aye; Gikas, Aye; Dean, Aye.

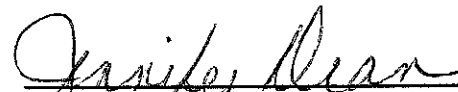
Motion to adjourn by Davis, second by Barber- vote unanimous.


Meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

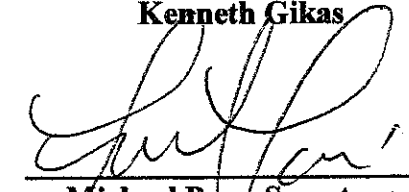
Respectfully submitted,


Alden W. Jeffs
Executive Secretary

5/30/01


Jennifer Dean, Chairman


Lincoln E. Barber III, Vice-Chair

Kenneth Gikas

Michael Pare, Secretary

Leslie Davis