APPROVED BY
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
AT THEIR MEETING OF
Feb. 23, 2010

WENHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting of Tuesday, February 09, 2010
Town Hall, 138 Main Street

With a quorum present Mr. Swartz opened the meeting at 7:03 PM.
Selectmen Present: Lawrence Swartz, Chair; Harriet Davis, Vice Chair; John Clemenzi, Secretary
Also Present: Jeff Chelgren, Town Administrator; Catherine Tinsley

Abbreviations used:
BOS - Board of Selectmen
FY – Fiscal Year

Public Information:
Agenda

WELCOME AND OVERVIEW OF AGENDA
STATEMENTS OR QUESTIONS BY PUBLIC
ANNOUNCEMENTS
Mr. Swartz announced that the Annual Town Meeting Warrant is Open, until March 9, 2010.

Town Election Dates – Nomination Papers
Ms. Davis announced that election papers are available at the Town Clerk's office through March 11th; the last day to submit papers is Friday March 12, 2010.
Ms. Davis read through the list of elected positions open this year.

Green Community /Sustainability Program
Present: Sue Patrolia
Mr. Chelgren introduced Sue Patrolia saying that Ms. Patrolia is working jointly for Hamilton and Wenham through a combined a "green" grant for determining energies savings; the Towns have received a grant for 100 hours for technical consultation toward start –up programs.
Ms. Patrolia is working closely with the Capital Management Committee.
Ms. Patrolia read through the guidelines for qualifying as a green community identified as follows:

Adopting As-right-of –sighting for renewable or alternate energy generating facilities,
To provide expeditious permitting for the by right area
To give baseline of all energy use in the town including street lighting, buildings
Purchase only fuel efficient vehicles for municipal use whenever such vehicles are practical.
Stretch Code Bylaw: higher bar on building codes in town

The BOS were provided with a task period/ time line. It was noted that Town Meeting must approve three of the five criteria.

Unsung Heroine Nominations Sought
Ms. Davis announced the town is receiving nominations for an Unsung Heroine, and further information and a nomination form is on the town's website.

MIIA – Workers Comp and Property & Liability Ins. Offer

The BOS continued discussing MIIA's two year contract proposal for zero cost increase in 2011 and up to 2.5% increase in 2011.

Ms. Davis made a motion to continue to participate in the MIIA Property and Liability and Worker's Compensation with no rate increase for FY 2011 and rates increases not to exceed 2.5% for FY 2012. Mr. Clemenzi seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Permitting Fees – Considerations of Increases

Mr. Chelgren reviewed the proposed increase fees for various departments in town.

The Board discussed the fee rate recommendations and other amendments will be brought forth if needed as necessary.

This information is on the Town's web site.

Ms. Davis made a motion to adopt the new permitting fees schedule dated February 9, 2010 effective Feb 19, 2010. Mr. Clemenzi seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Continue Public Hearing; National Grid

Mr. Chelgren reviewed that the electric guy wires on Main Street in front of the Wenham Cemetery are currently anchored to dead trees. After considering the possibilities, he reported that the best alternative is to relocate the wires to the sidewalk onto new poles. The BOS agreed that this approval is conditional on National Grid being responsible for removing the dead trees.

There was no public comment.

Mr. Swartz closed the hearing.

Ms. Davis made a motion to grant National Grid the authority to install two poles and miscellanies material on Main Street by the cemetery in accordance to the diagram submitted with the petition outside the cemetery wall. Mr. Clemenzi seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Recycling Committee

Ms. Davis made a motion on the recommendation of the Recycling Committee that Helen Ribet of 48 Monument Street be appointed to the Recycling Committee. Mr. Clemenzi seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Human Resource Baseline Request

Mr. Chelgren stated that there is the proposal from Kopleman and Paige Law office to assess the School, the Town of Hamilton, and the Town of Wenham for the best Human Resource Computer program at a cost of $5500.

The Board talked about other options to the Town from other business before committing to one offer; the Selectmen requested additional information. Mr. Chelgren noted that MMA also provides similar services.

Boarders to Boston Rail Trail – update

Mr. Chelgren reviewed the Town Approval to lease a mile of rail bed through the Wenham swamp as a part of the trail from Boston to Salisbury.

He said that the Iron Horse Preservation Co. could pull up the rails and timber and level the area off and put down small amounts of gravel dust for the salvage value of the rails and ties, at no cost to the town.

Mr. Swartz spoke to his concern of the maintenance of the trail and that since federal money is no longer available to construct this trail in the middle of the swamp, he questioned if this is what was presented for Town Approval due to the different cost associated with the previous approval.

Before agreeing to the Iron Horse proposal, the BOS requested cost analysis for the project e.g. bridge construction, trail maintenance, engineering, etc.. It was noted that the Community Preservation Committee has an application for the bridge construction.

REPORTS
Mr. Chelgren announced that the Annual Reports are due; the draft packet will be prepared for review in preparation for printing.

A joint Hamilton Wenham Selectmen meeting was scheduled for Monday, February 22, 2010.

Mr. Chelgren announced a proposal to hire part time clerical assistance for 20 weeks to be divided among the Town Clerk's office, the Permitting Office and Ground & Building Maintenance to help the departments reorganize recent personnel changes to bring systems up-to-date.

Mr. Chelgren reported that the Town received a check from Gordon College in the amount of $ 15,960.90 for fire services as part of the annual commitment to help the town for services provided.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (ES)
8:21 PM –Ms. Davis made a motion to enter into ES To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the governmental body, to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel, to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel and to return to open session for the purpose of adjournment. Mr. Clemenzi seconded and the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

8:49 PM – The Selectmen returned to open session.
Ms. Davis made a motion to adjourn and it was unanimous to do so.

Respectfully Submitted by

Catherine Tinsley