

May 25, 2010

With a quorum present, Mr. Clemenzi called the meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Selectmen present: John Clemenzi, Acting Chair; Harriet Davis; Molly Martins
Also Present: Jeff Chelgren, Town Administrator; Catherine Tinsley, Minutes Secretary

**WELCOME AND OVERVIEW OF AGENDA
STATEMENTS OR QUESTIONS BY PUBLIC**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Election

Mr. Clemenzi announced the special election is Thursday, May 20, 2010.

PRESENTATIONS BY GUESTS OR STAFF

Police Commendation

Firefighters, Police Officers, and ECO dispatchers were recognized for their response to a call to deliver a baby.

DCM Fence Co owner Daniel Merry was thanked for donating the installation and fence between the fire station and post office.

Sue Petrolia – update

Mr. Chelgren congratulated the two towns and school for approving the articles associated with the grant.
Ms. Petrolia reported that there are 28-30 towns potentially participating in the first round of grant applications but H/W are the first and only regional application.
The Joint Selectmen will be reviewing the contract for bonding the ESCO.
Mr. Chelgren had the original contract for the Selectmen to sign documents that the BOS took action on: the vehicle use and energy reduction approval. Mr. Clemenzi signed for the Chair authorization.
Ms. Petrolia was thanked and recognized for her work.

Re-organization of the Selectmen

Mr. Clemenzi opened discussions to reorganize the Board of Selectmen.
Ms. Davis stated that she supports the rotation of the Board and is prepared to take position of the Chair. Ms. Davis provided the Board with a copy from the Mass Municipal Association (MMA) handbook of the General Operating Procedures and role of the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. She identified her personal thoughts on the role of Chair.
Ms. Martins and Mr. Clemenzi responded in support of the outline of this document.
Ms. Davis reiterated the rotation of the Chair allows different management style or interest and that each Selectman is elected and it is the process of democracy.
Ms. Martins responded that she does not agree that rotating the Chair position is a part of the democratic process and that the Chair is decided by the Board for the person who is most appropriate and stated that although she is new to municipal government, she has experience in management and feels she prepared to be Chair.
Ms. Davis spoke against Ms. Martins as the new Selectman Elect to the position of Chair.
Mr. Clemenzi questioned if the board wanted to nominate and vote to defer it to another meeting.
Ms. Martins cited that if there is no new information to be presented than voting will allow the Selectmen to move on and serve the town and called for a vote.
Ms. Martins nominated herself, Molly Martins as Chair.
Ms. Davis nominated herself, Harriet Davis as Chair.

Mr. Clemenzi seconded the nomination of Molly Martins for Chair. The vote carried by majority vote with Ms. Davis voting in the negative.

Mr. Clemenzi nominated himself as Vice Chair. Ms. Martins seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Ms. Martins nominated Ms. Davis as secretary. Mr. Clemenzi seconded. The motion carried by majority vote with Ms. Davis not voting.

May 1, 2010 Annual Town Meeting

Mr. Chelgren reviewed each of the warrant articles as voted at Town Meeting.

He reported that the BOS are working with Senator Tarr's office and Attorney Tymann regarding the liquor license amendment.

Mr. Chelgren identified that the Town of Hamilton approved the operating audit on the regional school district; a joint Selectmen meeting will be scheduled as soon as the DESC has approved it. Mr. Chelgren will work with town counsel to create a time line.

Mr. Weaver talked about Finance Committee appointments saying discussions must be held at a posted meeting. Mr. Weaver will review the bylaw to clarify who the nominating members are of the nominating party.

Not on the agenda

Potential litigation for ES

NEW BUSINESS

The BOS recognized a request from the First Church to use the Car Barn Lot on June 26th. It was noted that this is the same day of an event at the Wenham Museum. Mr. Chelgren reported that the DPW has concerns that the lawn will not withstand the use if the ground is wet.

Approval is contingent upon the weather.

Ms. Davis made a motion to approve the events are requested and use of the car barn lot for parking is contingent on the weather. Ms. Martins seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Annual Appointments

The Board was provided with a list of annual nominations for review. This will be voted at the next meeting. It was noted that the Blue Ribbon Committee status has ceased its operations..

Town Operations – transitions

Mr. Chelgren reviewed that various departments in the Town Hall are going through personal transitions and additional coverage will be needed.

He offered past procedures to close town hall to the public on Fridays to allow employees to catch up and a drop box will be mounted outside town hall.

He also informed the Selectmen that the Town Clerk's office will need to be staffed during vacations, sick time, and personal time. Elizabeth Carey is willing to fill in when needed. The Selectmen briefly discussed the cost breakdown.

Ms. Davis made a motion to appoint Mertz as the Interim Finance Director. Ms. Martins seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Ms. Davis made a motion to appoint Elizabeth Carrey as Assistant Town Clerk. Ms. Martins seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

As the COA director was elected Town Clerk, the Board briefly talked about merging the Hamilton and Wenham COA and the Board authorized Mr. Chelgren to issue a letter to Hamilton asking if they are interested in merging at this time due to Wenham's circumstances.

Pleasant Pond Recreation Area

The Board was asked to consider raising the Pleasant Pond beach parking fee. It was the consensus of the Board not to do so.

Gate Keeper schedule for June 25th – September 6th was presented to the Board. There will be three gatekeepers; one returning from last year.

The position is supervised by Officer Bill Foley.

Sustainable Material Recovery Program Grant

Mr. Chelgren reported that the Capital Management Committee is meeting to discuss a grant for the collection of yard waste. He went on to talk about a potential pilot program to regionalize with Hamilton, Ipswich and Topsfield. The grant would provide \$100,000 to hire a consultant to work toward a regional concept.

Mr. Chelgren noted Sue Petrolia can be hired through the grant to consult with the Town; the deadline for submittal is June 2, 2010.

Mr. Chelgren asked for a member of the BOS to serve on the CMC.

Town Administrator Report

BOS Retreat

The BOS talked about a retreat date and set the meeting for Friday June 4, 2010.

Finance Director Search – Deadline May 12th

Mr. Chelgren reported that the town has received resumes for the Finance Director's position.

The school Legislative breakfast with Bruce Tarr, Brad Hill, and Sen. Tierney will be held on Monday May 17th at 7:30 AM.

Representative of Brookwood School spoke to the Board asking for permission for a Pan Mass Challenge ride to go through Wenham. She explained that this is for older kids and reviewed the process and safety plans.

It was the consensus of the Board to approve as requested.

MINUTES

Ms. Davis made a motion to approve the ES minutes of April 27, 2010. Mr. Clemenzi seconded and the motion carried by majority vote with Ms. Martins abstaining.

Ms. Davis made a motion to approve the May 1, 2010 minutes. Mr. Clemenzi seconded and the motion carried by majority vote with Ms. Martins abstaining.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (ES)

Ms. Davis made a motion that the BOS enter into Executive Session 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 that Paul Weaver, Police Chief Walsh, Police Captain Tom Perkins, Roger Coble are present.

Ms. Martins seconded and the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

9:29 p.m. The BOS returned to open session and on a motion by Mr. Clemenzi, adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted By

Catherine Tinsley