

May 25, 2010

With a quorum present, Ms. Martins called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

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

Abbreviations used:  
BOS Board of Selectmen

Public information:  
Agenda

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

Don Costin, Main Street questioned comments made in the local newspaper regarding actions by the Board and questioned why Harriet Davis was not voted as Chair.

Don Luxton, Larch Lane expressed dissatisfaction with the vote to bypass Harriet Davis for Chair and requested that the BOS revote the Chair position.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Special Election

Ms. Martins announced the Special Election ballot vote for Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 7a.m. – 8 p.m. at the Buker School  
The Pleasant Pond Volunteer day on Saturday was a success and thanked those who attended with special recognition to the Hamilton Wenham Garden Club for their donations.

The Beach will open June 21 through Labor Day. Parking stickers are available at ECO or police station.

Mr. Clemenzi announced that the Annual Memorial Day Parade will kick off on Monday, May 31 at 2 PM.

### **PRESENTATIONS BY GUESTS OR STAFF**

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Border to Boston Trail

Present: Gerry Donnellan, Border to Boston Trail Committee

Mr. Donnellan stated that the Town received permission to remove the rails and ties from the bed from the MBTA. The request before the Board is to authorize the Committee to negotiate with Iron Horse to remove the ties and rails from the bed and level the trail and material will be brought in as needed to grade at no cost to the town. There is approximately 40 feet of trail that has washed away. Iron Horse may be willing to work with the town to repair this gap.

The Committee also requested authorization to meet with the Conservation Commission.

National Grid will be contacted in regards to removing non active poles.

It was the consensus of the Board to authorize the Committee to move forward.

#### Pan Mass Challenge Kids – May 22, 2010

Ms. Davis announced the bike ride that will travel down Grapevine Road in Wenham. The Police have reviewed the request.

*Ms. Davis made a motion to authorize Brookwood to proceed with the ride as submitted. Ms. Martins seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.*

### Annual Appointments

Mr. Chelgren reported that the list of annual appointments can be referenced in the motion and attached to the minutes as was done last year.

*Ms. Davis made a motion to approve the Town of Wenham annual appointment list for 2010 as distributed at the May 18, BOS meeting. Mr. Clemenzi seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.*

***The 2010 Annual Appointment list is a part of these minutes.***

### Town Offices- Transition Discussions

Mr. Chelgren talked about the ongoing transitions in the main offices of town hall.

He reviewed various options including closing town hall to the public on Fridays to allow employees to work without interruption.

Mr. Chelgren said that back up will be needed in the Town Clerk's office during vacations, sick time and personal time and that Elizabeth Carey will fill in as needed.

The funding for this position was discussed.

Ms. Davis questioned the funding of the temporary positions as the price might reach almost \$8,000 and an additional \$4000 for a scanning clerk intern. Mr. Chelgren responded that a reserve fund transfer may be needed which Ms. Davis noted might not be granted as not "unforeseen" per her discussion with FinCom chair Jack Wilhelm. A discussion of understanding followed.

Jack Hauck, The Maples suggested that the BOS consider making the Town Clerk's term three years as a more efficient than changing the employee every 12 months, and that the Tree Warden's term be also changed to three years. The BOS will continue to discuss the term length and Mr. Chelgren suggested the BOS consider a government study committee.

### Natural Gas (HEFA) Contract Ext

Mr. Chelgren said currently Wenham is participating with a large group, consortium HEFA to buy fuel with Hess being the provider. The Town's contract with Hess has expired; Hess will renegotiate with HEFA in 18 months. It has been determined that if the town negotiates for 12 months the cost will be at \$ 9.92 per dekatherm but will need to be renegotiated for an additional 6 months to remain in the consortium. There is an 18 month option at \$10.53 but locks in the cost.

Ms. Davis cited that the price of natural gas is at the low end of the range with flat to lower prices being projected and supported a 12 month contract.

*Ms. Davis made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to enter into a contract with Hess for 12 months in accordance with the April 9, 2010 memo for \$9.92, recognizing parenthetically this is the differential with the spot price and what the consumer would pay. Mr. Clemenzi seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.*

### Line Item Transfers

Mr. Chelgren provided a copy of Line item Transfers to the Board for their review and vote at the next meeting; Line Item Transfers are voted by the BOS and Finance Committee.

### Eagle Scout

Mr. Clemenzi recognized that Michael Klobucher, Troop 28 of Wenham for making Eagle Scout and asked that the BOS issue a letter of congratulations.

### The First Church Spring Picnic – June 20<sup>th</sup> In Pingree Park

*Ms. Davis made a motion to approve June 20<sup>th</sup> for the First Church annual picnic. Mr. Clemenzi seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.*

The Church will be reminded of the carry in carry out policy

### Orchard Street "no Dumping" sign – request to remove

Mr. Chelgren noted that Orchard Street is a right of way. He reviewed that yard waste was being dumped at this location.

A Stanton Street abutter, Tom Pawlyk requested that the signs be removed.

He also commented that it is a waste of time for the DPW to clean the lot.

It was the consensus of the Board for the sign to be removed.

#### Grant

Mr. Chelgren updated the BOS on the Green Communities Grant saying that currently the town is considering a DEP grant for a regional yard waste removal.

Sue Petrolia is working with the Town as a consultant, funded through a grant. He said this is a sustainable grant proposal for \$100,000 for a Contract Employee to bring communities together towards a regional yard waste disposal; the selectmen will be asked to sign this grant request at the next meeting.

Ms. Davis asked for an update of savings to the Town with the Waste reduction programs implemented a year ago including the sale of trash bags.

#### Liaison List Responsibilities

The Selectmen talked about the list of departments. Ms. Davis proposed that Ms. Martins takes Mr. Swartz lists and Ms. Davis and Mr. Clemenzi switch lists.

Ms. Davis asked that if department heads want to have a particular selectman as liaison that they submit this request to the Board.

Selectmen Retreat – June 4<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Review of draft list of discussions items.

Ms. Davis reviewed the list in detail and suggested the BOS prioritize the list for the retreat.

#### **REPORTS**

Mr. Chelgren updated the BOS regarding the Regional ECO saying he has requested information from the Sherriff's Department.

Mr. Chelgren reported a request to consider a potential Street light at Main Street and Cherry Street ,and the Light Committee will meet and prepare to speak to the BOS.

The Fire Associations moving Wenham Day from Pingree Park back to the Center of Town.

Green Community Designation Request was successfully sent.

#### **MINUTES**

The Minutes were held to the next meeting.

*8:20 PM – Ms. Davis made a motion to adjourn and it was unanimous to do so.*

Respectfully submitted by

Catherine Tinsley