

Selectmen's Meeting  
March 10, 2008

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Monday, March 10, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the Selectmen Meeting Room, Town Office Building. Chairman Krieger, Mr. Kelley, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Manz, and Mr. Burnell; Mr. Valente, Town Manager; and Ms. Pease, Executive Clerk, were present.

Selectmen Concerns and Liaison Reports

Mr. Manz and Mr. Cohen had the pleasure of reading to students at the Harrington and Estabrook schools and each had a wonderful time and thought the students were terrific.

Mrs. Krieger thanked Anne Leary, Chair of the Town Report Committee, for the excellent job she and the committee did to put the report together in time for the earlier Town Meeting.

Mrs. Krieger received approval from the Board to send a letter of support for House 4262, an act relative to real property tax deferrals in the Town of Lexington. The proposed home rule petition would lower the qualifying age and raise the income limit above \$40,000.

Mrs. Krieger invited the audience to participate in a public meeting to be held on Sunday, March 16, 2008, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. to discuss possible future uses of the Stone Building.

The Selectmen support the opportunity to host the Massachusetts Climate Action Network 90-minute training program for builders on green building code and needs. Mrs. Krieger has spoken to members of the Planning Board and Gary Rhodes, the Building Inspector, who all think it would be a good program to offer.

Recreation Fees

Ms. Simmons, Recreation Director, representing the Recreation Department and Committee, requested an increase in the recreation program fees. The Recreation Department reviews the fees on an ongoing basis and recommends proposed increases to the Recreation Committee. The Recreation Committee has already approved the fees as presented. The increases are necessary because of the increase in the minimum wage, higher utility costs, and higher costs for expenses such as chemicals, program supplies and fuel surcharges on deliveries.

The fee increases are being split between FY2008 and FY2009. If attendance remains at the current level, it is estimated that the proposed fee increase over the two-year period will generate approximately \$145,000 in new revenue. The three largest program areas are: aquatics, athletic fields and the golf course.

The aquatics program is one area that will have fee increases in two fiscal years. Swim tags are already being sold for the 2008 season; therefore the new fee will be implemented in 2009. The increased fees will be:

Selectmen's Meeting – March 10, 2008

| <b>Aquatics</b>         | <b>FY2008</b> | <b>FY2009</b> |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Non-resident family tag | \$325.00      | \$350.00      |
| Resident Family Tag     | 165.00        | 190.00        |
| Adult tag               | 60.00         | 70.00         |
| Child Tag (up to 18)    | 45.00         | 50.00         |
| Senior Tag              | 45.00         | 50.00         |

Daily admission and swimming lesson fees will be implemented in the summer of 2008. The recommendation for fee increases is to keep the 30-minute class at the existing \$40 per session and increase the 45-minute class to \$50 per session. For daily admission it is recommended that a single admission rate of \$5 be charged for Lexington residents and their guests with a family cap of \$20 per day. The recommendation for the daily nonresident fee is \$6 per person, with a family cap of \$24 at the Old Reservoir. The total aquatics increase is expected to generate approximately \$38,000 in new revenue over two years.

For Athletic fields, the Recreation Department permits over 44,000 hours to youth and adults; Lexington schools and youth organizations have priority for permits. The recommendation is to increase the per person fee from \$10 to \$13 per child per season beginning after July 1, 2008.

Under the new per person fee structure, customers can reserve a field for one hour and pay for only one-hour. This new procedure will be evaluated at the end of the permitting season to see if it is cost effective with our limited resources.

Lincoln Park continues to run a deficit and is supported by other recreation programs. In addition to operating expenses associated with Lincoln, the Recreation Department pays \$100,000 annually on the debt. Therefore, it was recommended that the fees to use the 3-infill synthetic turf fields increase in an effort to break-even. The new fee would go into effect immediately for new requests.

The largest component of the Recreation Enterprise Fund is the golf course. In December, the management contract will go out to bid and it is estimated that it will increase by 10%. The recommendation is to increase the fee by \$1.00 per round and \$2.00 per electric golf cart, which will generate approximately \$36,000.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 5-0 to approve the recreation fee schedule as recommended by the Recreation Committee and dated March 10, 2008.

### Lexington Muster Day

Ms. Crocker, representing the William Diamond Fife and Drum Corps, came before the Selectmen to request that the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of every May be designated as Lexington Muster Day. The William Diamond Jr. Fife & Drum Corps hosts a Colonial Tattoo & Muster annually on the first Saturday of May; this year being the sixth annual event. They are designed to promote the

Selectmen's Meeting – March 10, 2008

study of both music and history among young people in Eastern Massachusetts and to perpetuate the traditions of fife and drum music. They are a teaching corps and consist of 40 youth aged ten to 18. Several members of the local fife and drum and colonial militia community provide instruction.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 5-0 to designate the first Saturday of each May as "Lexington Muster Day" to raise the awareness of the Corps and of Lexington's colonial heritage.

#### Article Positions/Presentations

Mr. Mehr presented the following articles:

- Article 37 Amend Tree Bylaw
- Article 40 Double Utility Poles
- Article 41 Municipal Electric Utilities

The Selectmen were split on supporting Article 37. Three Selectmen do not support because they feel an additional fee on top of the building permit fee is not necessary. Mr. Manz was not prepared to take a position. Mr. Cohen is willing to support.

All Selectmen support Articles 40 and 41.

The Selectmen took positions on several of the projects under Article 9, Appropriate the FY2009 Community Preservation Committee Operating Budget and for CPA Projects. The Selectmen support all the projects with the following exceptions:

- c) Hancock-Clarke House Restoration – Mr. Kelley does not support
- e) Senior Center Design, Renovation and Expansion – waiting for further information
- o) Stone Building Renovation – waiting for further information
- p) Land Acquisition – waiting for further information
- q) Munroe Fire Prevention System Replacement – Mr. Kelley does not support

Mr. Kelley supports Article 14, Appropriate for Recreation Capital Projects, and Article 15, Appropriate for Municipal Capital Projects and Equipment.

All Selectmen support the following articles:

- Article 18, Appropriate for School Capital Projects and Equipment
- Article 19, Appropriate for Public Facilities Capital Projects
- Article 21 – Appropriate Money – Laconia Street – if legal

Selectmen's Meeting – March 10, 2008

Department of Senior Services Reorganization

Mr. Valente presented information regarding how youth and family services would be provided. The Superintendent offered this position space at the Administration Offices.

- A Director would be hired as soon as possible;
- Candidates will be recruited with a LCSW, MSW or related degree;
- The Director will report to the Town Manager's Office;
- The Director would be responsible for: information and referral for youth and family issues in Lexington; coordinate with the School, Police, Recreation, Health and other State and local support groups that deal with youth and family issues;
- The Director will coordinate educational and other programs directed towards youth and their families;
- The Director will coordinate and refer people to Lexington counseling professionals who may be willing to volunteer their services; and
- The Director will be staff liaison to the Fund for Lexington Board.

If the Selectmen approve the proposal, the next steps will be:

1. Coordinate recruitment and interview process for Director's position with the Human Services Committee and Youth Services Council.
2. Clarify the role and charge of the Human Services Committee and Youth Services Council.
3. Coordinate with the Youth Forum Task Force on developing programs for the Youth and Family Services Office. Address follow-up steps from the Forum held in February.
4. Continue discussions with the School Department regarding coordination on youth and family services.
5. Identify options for where the Youth and Family Services Office should be located.

Mr. Manz is pleased with the proposal and the commitment to hire a qualified candidate, but wants to see much more. Mr. Burnell is concerned that the Youth and Family Services is fractured with no real policies and procedures. He wants to see a lot more coordination and also clarification as to what and how the program would work.

All Selectmen felt it was important to make sure volunteers in the area were involved in the hiring process and on how to structure the position and then move it forward.

Mr. Kelley has no problem with the proposal, but still concerned about one go-to location. He wants to know what the Human Services Committee thinks.

Selectmen's Meeting – March 10, 2008

Mr. Blout, Chair of the Human Services Committee, presented the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee and the Human Services Committee, which uses the same dollars as the existing budget. The emphasis would be on a coordinated and integrated Human Services Department. The Director must be qualified to supervise masters' level interns in social work and counseling psychology. The use of volunteers is key; the Director would be responsible for developing and administrating a robust volunteer program. The Director would need to work closely with the three community boards (COA, YSC and HSC) to identify and respond to needs and to coordinate and maximize use of community resources. The recommendation is to have a Director of Human Services, an Assistant Director of Senior Services, an Assistant Director of Youth and Family Services and an outreach worker.

The Selectmen and Town Manager are concerned that the proposed salaries would not be competitive with other communities.

Mr. Dugan appealed to the Selectmen to make sure the administrative gaps get plugged and that there is a go-to person. Mrs. McDonald is hoping that the Youth and Family Services person, if located at the School Administrative Offices, could help capture kids in need before the MST program is needed.

Mr. Diaz, School Committee, believes the School Committee needs to be included in the process and that there should be no delay in hiring a Youth and Family Services person. There also needs to be coordination with the Superintendent and Town Manager and coordination with the MST Director. The MST cost should be part of the discussions.

A majority of the Selectmen support the proposal because they feel it makes some progress in the need for a Youth and Family Services position.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 4-1 (Burnell) to approve of the proposal for a Youth and Family Services Office, as recommended by the Town Manager.

#### ArtsCycle Parade – ArtSpan and Munroe Center for the Arts

Ms. Hammond-Hagman, ArtSpan Director, requested permission to hold an ArtCycle Parade, which is a family inclusive art parade of modified and decorated bicycles, scooters, wheelchairs, strollers – anything and everything non-motorized and on wheels. The parade participants are expected to number between 75 to 100 and they will begin arriving on Saturday, May 17, 2008, at 12:00 noon on the Visitor Center lawn. At 1:00 p.m. the parade will begin to head toward Munroe Center for the Arts. The parade is expected to be over by approximately 3:00 p.m. when they arrive at the field behind Munroe Center for the Arts.

## Selectmen's Meeting – March 10, 2008

The Town Manager, Police, Fire and DPW have been contacted and approve the request, contingent on the presence of two or three police details available for the event and that the eastbound lane be used for the parade. It is also requested that ArtSpan contact the DPW regarding the use of the Visitor Center lawn and making sure the grass is not damaged.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 5-0 to approve the request of ArtSpan to have an ArtCycle Parade on Saturday, May 17, 2008, beginning at the Visitor Center lawn and ending at the Munroe Center for the Arts, contingent on working out the details with Police Sergeant Callahan to have two or three police details for the entire event, using the Eastbound lane of Massachusetts Avenue, and coordinating with David Pinsonneault in DPW regarding the proper area to use on the Visitor Center lawn for the non-motorized vehicles.

### Town Counsel Reappointment

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 5-0 to reappoint the firm of Anderson and Kreiger, represented by William L. Lahey, as Town Counsel for Lexington for a term to expire on March 31, 2009.

### Appointment – Permanent Building Committee

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 5-0 to appoint William Bruckman to the Permanent Building Committee as the Selectmen's representative on the DPW facility project.

### Consent Agenda

#### Permission for Discovery Day

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 5-0 to approve the request of the Lexington Retailers to have exclusive use of the Muzzy Street/Waltham Street parking lot on Saturday, May 24, 2008 (rain date May 31, 2008), from 5:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for the annual Discovery Day celebration. The approval includes permission for the following: erect seven temporary signs; park flat bed trailer in Lexington Center; and provide free parking, as presented in the letter from the Lexington Retailers Association dated February 26, 2008.

#### Local Official Bond – Assistant Town Manager

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to approve a Local Official Bond for Dianne Snell as the new Assistant Town Clerk.

#### One-Day Liquor License – Temple Emunah

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 5-0 to approve the request of Temple Emunah for a one-day liquor license to serve beer and wine for a Casino Night Fundraiser to be held on Saturday, March 29, 2008, from 8:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Selectmen's Meeting – March 10, 2008

Minutes

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 5-0 to approve the minutes of February 25, 2008.

Executive Session Minutes

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 5-0 to approve the executive session minutes of February 25, 2008.

Executive Session

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted by roll call 5-0 to go into executive session for the purpose of collective bargaining discussion, with no intent to return to open session.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to adjourn at 10:40 p.m.

A true record; Attest:

Lynne A. Pease  
Executive Clerk