

Selectmen's Meeting
February 12, 2007

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Monday, February 12, 2007, at 7:30 p.m. in Cary Auditorium. Chairman Krieger, Mr. Kelley, Mr. Pagett, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Manz; Mr. Valente, Town Manager; and Ms. Chabot, Assistant to the Executive Clerk, were present.

Public Comment

John Bartenstein on behalf of the Friends of Arlington's Great Meadows presented their 2006 Annual Report. They look forward to the Board's continuing support.

Patrick Mehr, Precinct 3, suggested reducing the Town's health benefits budget as a way to save money in a level service budget. He requests to meet with the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen to discuss this.

Lorraine Fournier, Precinct 8, complained that she couldn't hear the broadcast of the Selectmen's meetings at home even though she turns her volume all the way up. Mrs. Krieger will convey her concerns to the Communications Advisory Committee.

Water/Sewer Commitments and Adjustments

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 5-0 to approve the following water and sewer adjustment:

Adjustments of Water/Sewer Charges for the period 11/1/06 to 11/30/06 -\$17,896.82

Department of Public Works Facility Presentation

Jon Himmel, Permanent Building Committee, presented findings and recommendations for the final development plans of the new DPW facility. These recommendations are based on the efforts of the Advisory Group since the December Special Town Meeting. HKT Architects prepared plans and received sign off of the revised facility program and plan by users and Town Management on January 22, 2007. The project is currently in the Design Development phase. A proposed building façade was presented based on the suggestion that it be utilitarian/practical. The Transition Plan, presented by Bill Hadley, lists possible uses at Minuteman Regional High School. A full cost estimate for the project will be prepared prior to the presentation at Town Meeting and will be based on the 50% Construction Documents Set. The Permanent Building Committee recommends that the Board vote in favor of continuing with the preparation of the 50% construction documents.

The Board discussed inside vs. outside vehicle storage and heated vs. unheated vehicle storage/operations workspace. Charles Lamb gave recommendations on behalf of the Capital Expenditures Committee and Steve Kropper spoke for the Energy Conservation Committee. The Selectmen all support inside, heated vehicle storage and workspace, as well as a

Selectmen's Meeting – February 12, 2007

combined facilities maintenance organization for the Town and Schools. Mr. Kelley suggests that the building be able to support a working temperature of 60 degrees, and feels it is important to establish that this will be a DPW facility under the supervision of the Town Manager. Mr. Manz and Mr. Pagett would also like to see the operation reporting through the Town structure.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 5-0 to endorse the interior storage of equipment and vehicles and to design at a temperature to be sustained at not less than 45 degrees with the consideration of costing equipment for a 60-degree temperature.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 4-1 (Mr. Kelley abstained) to recommend to proceed with the design process based on the signed floor plan in order to prepare for 50% construction documents and 50% cost estimate for Town Meeting.

Mr. Kelley explained that he abstained because the most important aspect of this is that we have a solid agreement and a good management structure for a central facilities operation. This is vital for him to go forward.

Capital Expenditures Committee – Capital Projects Discussion

Charles Lamb, Capital Expenditures Committee, presented the FY2008 Capital Appropriation Summary and noted that this is a work in progress. He pointed out the differences in what the CEC recommends versus what was requested. With respect to the Douglas House Project (\$300,000) request, the CEC will recommend passage if the Douglas House is paying either a PILOT or taxes. They are deliberating on the Geographic Information System (\$195,900) request and would like to know from the Town Manager if more FTEs are required to operate the system, and if so, what fiscal years those will start in. For the Lake Street reconstruction (\$300,000) request, the CEC is going to stay with their (\$40,000) Debt Exclusion only recommendation. They are fine with the request for Women's Showers at the Fire Department Main station (\$35,000), but ask the Town Manager to please make sure that it gets put in the location that Chief Middlemiss has asked for. They need some details for what the Town Manager has planned for the ADA (\$75,000) request. The CEC is going to send a separate email regarding the Schools. They do not think the Schools need Debt Exclusion money for the LHS mechanical project (\$1.3 million) or for the first phase of Clarke (\$990,000).

Mr. Cohen confirmed with Mrs. Krieger that when it is time for the Board to take a position on the articles, there would be presentations on any articles that the Board feels it needs more information.

Selectmen's Meeting – February 12, 2007

Budget Discussion

Mr. Valente explained that this is a continuation of the discussion at the February 5th meeting, on the proposals to close the FY 2008 general government budget gap. The only additional information relates to the proposed fee increases.

Mr. Kelley does not agree with the increased fees relating to the Community Development Department and Police Department False Alarm fees. Mr. Pagett said that budget reductions and revenue increases may be the best way to balance the budget this year, but is concerned that it is not viable as a long-term solution. At some point the Town will have to deal with the question of service reductions.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 4-1 (Mr. Kelley opposed) to adopt the Town Manager's proposed changes to the FY 2008 general government operating budget dated February 5, 2007.

Appointment – Transportation Advisory Committee

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 5-0 to appoint Patrick Goddard to the Transportation Advisory Committee for a three-year term to expire September 30, 2009.

Town Manager Appointment – Historical Commission

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 5-0 to approve the Town Manager's appointment of Wendall C. Kalsow to the Historical Commission, for a three-year term to expire March 31, 2010.

Historical Society – Hancock-Clarke Grant Application Support

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 5-0 to approve and sign the letter of support to be included with the grant application requesting funds for the restoration of the Hancock-Clarke House from the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

Consent Agenda

One-Day Liquor License – Temple Emunah

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 5-0 to approve the request for a one-day liquor license from Temple Emunah for Saturday, March 10, 2007, from 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight at Temple Emunah for a Casino night fundraiser.

One-Day Liquor License – St. Brigid Parish

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 5-0 to approve the request for a one-day liquor license for St. Brigid Parish for Saturday, March 10, 2007, from 6:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. at St. Brigid Church, 2001 Massachusetts Avenue, for an Irish Night fundraiser.

Selectmen's Meeting – February 12, 2007

Minutes

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 3-2 (Mr. Pagett and Mr. Kelley abstained) to approve the minutes of February 5, 2007.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to adjourn at 10:05 p.m.

A true record; Attest:

Diana B. Chabot
Assistant to the Executive Clerk