

Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
7:00 p.m., December 17, 2007
Town Hall, 3rd Floor Meeting Room

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order and Roll Call

Laura Francis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance.
John Szewczyk and James McLaughlin present.

Approval of the Agenda

MOTION BY LAURA FRANCIS SECONDED BY JAMES MCLAUGHLIN TO APPROVE AGENDA. 3 AYE

Public Comments

Donia Viola commented how appreciative she was of the towns' crew and the good work done with the latest storms.

She also commented that although the timing was not in the best interest of the seniors she felt it necessary to have public input from all residents relative to the proposed Senior Center property. She continued saying that the property currently up for consideration was not the best location for a senior center and would like to make this happen without excessive cost or space.

Sue Vanderzee asked about the status of the Emergency Services Facility Committee Report. L. Francis stated that she met with Steven Spooner and asked him to keep the committee open to do more work to better organize the project and budget figure to put into a plan. She also stated that she would like to talk to the Board of Selectmen about prioritizing projects.

End of year appointments

2007 Year End Term Expirations Appointments

MOTION BY LAURA FRANCIS SECONDED BY JAMES MCLAUGHLIN TO RE-APPOINT PETER CASCINI, GARY SHELDON AND DIANA MCCAIN TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FOR A 2 YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 2009. 3 AYE

MOTION BY LAURA FRANCIS SECONDED BY JAMES MCLAUGHLIN TO RE-APPOINT MICHAEL FUMIATTI TO THE INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY FOR A 3 YEAR STAGGERED TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 2010. 3 AYE

MOTION BY LAURA FRANCIS SECONDED BY JOHN SZEWCZYK TO RE-APPOINT LINDA HANDLEY AND KATE MCLAUGHLIN TO THE RECREATION COMMITTEE FOR A 2 YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 2009. 3 AYE

MOTION BY JAMES MCLAUGHLIN SECONDED BY LAURA FRANCIS TO APPOINT BRENDAN O'CONNELL AS AN ALTERNATE TO THE RECREATION COMMITTEE FOR A 2 YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 2009. 3 AYE

MOTION BY LAURA FRANCIS SECONDED BY JOHN SZEWCZYK TO APPOINT TERENCE KEENAN AS TREE WARDEN FOR A 2 YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 2009. 3 AYE

Review of elected officials salaries

Laura Francis stated that having to have this conversation is uncomfortable but necessary and started the discussion by recapping the salary survey that was conducted 2 years ago with consultant Randi Frank that addressed the non-union structure including elected officials. She continued saying the prior Board of Selectmen recommended that the final report be addressed by the Compensation Review/ Personnel Policy Commission (CR/PPC). The CR/PPC made their final recommendation in a report to the Board of Selectmen, recommending the 'minimum/maximum' pay scale over the 'step' pay scale. The commission was in agreement with all other Randi Frank recommendations. After review of their recommendations the Board of Selectmen agreed to compensate non-elected, non-union town employees for an adjusted pay increase effective as of July 1, 2006. At the August 7, 2007 meeting of

the Board of Finance this was accepted stating that elected officials would be discussed at another time.

L. Francis stated that the goal of the study was to put value and function to job positions and to create a systematic way of increasing the salary situation with supervisors and direct reports. Over the years the differential has been compressed, that salaries were equal or very close. This is happening in the Tax Collector and First Selectman's office with direct reports. She questioned whether this situation could be fixed by setting up a process continuing that she felt this was a tough subject but feels the board needs to find a solution that is fair and equitable.

John Szewczyk stated that he felt uncomfortable with making any increase in salaries for elected officials within this specific four year term and suggested that part time officials' increases take effect after this four year term and full time take effect now. J. McLaughlin agreed with J. Szewczyk that it was awkward to make decision by a sitting board and would endorse the CR/PPC recommendation.

Martin Anderson commented that the salary structure was already set up along with a grading schedule and indicated that although the data was getting old with time and needed to be adjusted the commission would come up with a firm recommendation at their next meeting on January 17th.

Discussion of 2008-2009 budget process

L. Francis discussed a budget schedule prepared by Maryjane Malavasi for the FY08-09 year.

MOTION BY LAURA FRANCIS SECONDED BY JAMES MCLAUGHLIN TO ACCEPT 2008-2009 BUDGET SCHEDULE. 3 AYE

Set special budget workshop dates

MOTION BY LAURA FRANCIS SECONDED BY JAMES MCLAUGHLIN TO ACCEPT SPECIAL BUDGET WORKSHOP DATES. 3 AYE

Approval of Meeting Minutes of December 10th, 2007

MOTION BY LAURA FRANCIS SECONDED BY JAMES MCLAUGHLIN TO TABLE UNTIL NEXT MEETING. 3 AYE

Selectmen's Comments

L. Francis asked the Board of Selectmen if they were available to meet on January 7th, 6:00 p.m. in an executive session to discuss the proposed senior center property purchase. All agreed.

Public Comments

Donia Viola requested the Board of Selectmen ask the Senior Citizen Board to get a second appraisal of the proposed property.

Adjourn

MOTION BY LAURA FRANCIS SECONDED BY JAMES MCLAUGHLIN TO ADJOURN MEETING AT 7:45 P.M. 3 AYES

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Moncata