

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 14, 2005

Call to order

First Selectwoman Maryann P. Boord called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Durham Public Library: Board of Selectmen members present: Maryann P. Boord, Ernie A. Judson, and Renee J. Primus.

Request for Records Management system for public safety

M. Boord explained that although this request was made for the next budget year, she is suggesting that the Board of Selectmen recommend to the Board of Finance an appropriation to purchase the equipment during this Fiscal Year. The previous request was for about \$27,000 and this present request is for \$35,852. Scott Wright (Chief of Service/Ambulance Corps) explained that after talking to technical professionals, the increase in request is due to wireless and remote needs using Windows and a terminal service, which increases cost factors significantly and is more costly than the XP version. He then firmed up the quotes from others involved, tightened the request for HIPA requirements. He noted the work is usually done off site. Tabled computers generate statistics for the ambulance corps while they are at the medical response site.

R. Primus noted that previously Mr. Wright had presented a telecommunications request and wondered if this was the same. S. Wright responded that no, it was entirely different. He said it makes sense to administer data from one site; they were out of compliance as of January 1st with reporting to the State Fire Marshal due to the changes in reporting format the state initiated. He noted additional funds would have to be spent to come up to compliance. R. Primus said to S. Wright that he also said we would not be in compliance in the telecommunications budget. S. Wright said the corps members would be able to generate reports, which they couldn't previously with the new software. He added that it is a "paper chase" right now.

Fire Chief Steve Levy said the System would help the fire company with their statistical analysis and looking at the **false alarms**; they would be able to extract data. He said he has many components of emergency services, which can't be tracked now; it will get us into a more professional mode.

M. Boord asked S. Wright if there was any money in their present budget, otherwise the issue would have to go to town meeting. She reported that S. Wright had told her we could use unspent money from the service billing line item that was set up; she also asked if the fire company could give money to the expenditure. S. Levy said their money is committed, that they never had a line item for technical systems. He noted the fire company has already spent beyond the 50% mark of their operating budget.

S. Wright said that the Ambulance Corps is a beta test site by the Department of Public Health (DPH) but its implementation was rolled back by two years and C. Mansfield confirmed the beta system is unusable. S. Wright said they have tried to do the low cost way and it isn't happening. He added that the two tablets are for EMS and are used at the scene and on the way to the hospital. C. Mansfield said they could get signatures electronically for HIPA provisions and refusals. S. Wright said they would be able to triangulate in the field topographically to hone in on 911 calls. The server will be at the firehouse, locked up. They will maintain a log as to who has looked at the data. They did not put in for desktop equipment because you can buy one from DELL

Bill Witecki stated that about \$2,000 could be received for billing fees for false alarm calls per the local ordinance. S. Levy noted that the False Alarm Ordinance is very good and there are specifics to quote in that alarm #3 should be finable. Clearly the problem of false alarms could be fixed if the companies [who are having repeated false alarms] would maintain their equipment. He said that the Board of Selectmen are charged with issuing the bills. S. Wright maintained that this software will kick out the bills for this. S. Levy said the companies all know the specifics of the ordinance. M. Boord suggested that the Fire Chief sign off on the bills also.

M. Boord reported that a woman was in her office today who has an anticipated ambulance bill in excess of \$500 for her husband's last use of the ambulance and since the woman's husband is very ill, expects to need ambulance service often. The woman is very concerned about meeting these expenses. This led to a discussion of the bundle billing issue. C. Mansfield said that the **bundle billing** should cover her bills and that Middlesex Hospital is holding our bills until our program is in place, and even then it should be a reduced bill. S. Wright also noted that there is a co-pay with Medicare, so her bill should be much lower than she fears. It will be investigated.

MOTION M. BOORD, SECONDED BY E. JUDSON THAT THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF FINANCE THE APPROVAL OF AN APPROPRIATION OF \$35,852, FY 04-05, FOR A PUBLIC SAFETY RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM; 3 AYES.

Back to the False Alarm issue: E. Judson asked when the town would be generating the bills for the false alarm violations. S. Levy and B. Witecki said there is a working spreadsheet -- and that the billing can occur now. M. Boord suggested they meet with Eileen Murphy, Administrative Aid, to begin the process once they have everything in place.. S. Levy said he wants to be involved in the appeals process.

#### Parking for the Durham Fair at the firehouse

M. Boord explained that one of the reasons for holding off on the approval for **parking vehicles at the firehouse during the fair** was that consideration was being given to portable offices at the firehouse during the renovations at the town hall. She noted that they have considered either portable buildings or leasing Adams Commons. A decision has not yet been made but Adams Commons would likely be a more preferable site. The portable buildings would have to be set up, taken down, septic installed -- could turn out to be a very expensive plan. M. Boord said she wanted to clear up another thing: were the cars parked over the leach fields? She noted she has talked to the sanitarian, who told her the leach field areas are not soggy since they are not in use at the present time. Frank Behrens said the leach field area is always fenced off and they set the generator there. The request for a certificate of insurance for the Explorer Scouts was made. MOTION R. PRIMUS, SECONDED BY E. JUDSON, WITH THREE AYES, THAT THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN APPROVE THE PARKING OF VEHICLES DURING THE 2005 DURHAM FAIR ON THE FIREHOUSE PROPERTY.

#### Minutes

MOTION M. BOORD, SECONDED BY E. JUDSON, TO APPROVE THE AMENDED MINUTES OF JANUARY 24, 2005, WHICH WERE CORRECTED FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS. R. Primus said she feels the edits she recommended at the last meeting. M. Boord commented that the minutes are not meant to be a transcript of the meeting. Vote on the motion: 2 ayes (Boord, Judson) 1 nay (Primus)

MOTION R. PRIMUS, SECONDED BY E. JUDSON, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 2, 2005; 3 AYES.

MOTION R. PRIMUS, SECONDED BY E. JUDSON, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF **MARCH 7, 2005**; 3 AYES.

Tax Refunds

MOTION E. JUDSON, SECOND R. PRIMUS, WITH THREE AYES, TO APPROVE TAX REFUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,376.88, AS FOLLOWS:

1. SUBARU LEASING CORP.  
P.O. Box 6000  
Cherry Hill NJ 08034-6000  
Account #56365; List Year: 2003; Reason for overpayment: vehicle sold - 2000 Subaru Legacy; Tax refund in the amount of \$252.71.
2. JESSE R. ALFORD  
84 Grand Street 1st Floor  
Middletown, CT 06457  
Account #50085; List Year: 2003; Reason for overpayment: vehicle sold -- 1986 Honda Prelude; Tax refund in the amount of \$45.92.
3. FORD MOTOR CREDIT  
P.O. Box 105704  
Atlanta, GA 30348  
Account #52223; List Year: 2003; Reason for overpayment: vehicle sold -- 2001 Ford F-150; Tax refund in the amount of \$191.33.
4. KENNETH AND VERA MILLER  
64 Coe Road  
Durham, CT 06422-3603  
Account #54560; List Year: 2003; Reason for overpayment: vehicle sold - 1998 Pontiac Grand Prix; Tax refund in the amount of \$178.05.
5. ROBERT R. ANDERSON  
344 Haddam Quarter Road  
Durham, CT 06422  
Account #50153; List Year: 2003; Reason for overpayment: vehicle sold - 1998 Chev CK 1500; Tax refund in the amount of \$325.61
6. CHRYSLER FINANCIAL CO.  
89 Forbes Blvd  
Mansfield, MA 02048-1125  
Account #51217; List Year: 2003; Reason for overpayment: vehicle sold - 2000 Jeep Grand Cherokee; Tax refund in the amount of \$158.08.
7. CHASE MANHATTAN AUTO FINANCE CORP.  
P.O. Box 5210  
New Hyde Park, NY 11042-5210  
Account #51165; List Year: 2003; Reason for overpayment: vehicle sold -- 2000 Mazda B2500; Tax refund in the amount of \$171.18.
8. STANLEY G. AND SANDRA MACHNIK  
11 Trevor Lane  
Durham, CT 06422-1917  
Account #54066; List Year: 2003; Reason for overpayment: payment error -- 1995 Subaru Legacy; Tax refund in the amount of \$54.00

Resolutions

1. MOTION E. JUDSON, SECONDED BY R. PRIMUS, TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS, WITH THREE AYES:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Americans have recognized that the future welfare of the United States is greatly enhanced by communicating and understanding other nations that have different languages and cultural backgrounds, and,

WHEREAS, according to the 2000 decennial census of the population, 9.3% of Americans speak both their native language and another language fluently, compared to the 52.7 % of Europeans who speak both their native language and another language fluently; and,

WHEREAS, the study of foreign languages increases a student's cognitive and critical thinking abilities, which compares and contrasts cultural concepts; and after 4 or more years in a foreign language study scored higher on the verbal section of the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) than students who did not; and,

WHEREAS, the American intelligence community stresses that individuals with proper foreign language expertise are greatly needed to work on important national security and foreign policy issues, especially in light of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF DURHAM, hereby recognize the Year 2005 as the **Year of Foreign Language Study**, during which foreign language study is promoted and expanded in elementary schools, secondary schools, institutions of higher learning, businesses, and government programs to encourage and support initiatives to promote and expand the study of foreign languages.

2. MOTION M. BOORD, SECONDED BY E. JUDSON, WITH THREE AYES, TO APPROVE A **FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION**.

3. MOTION R. PRIMUS, SECONDED BY E. JUDSON, WITH THREE AYES, TO APPROVE A **FAIR HOUSING POLICY STATEMENT**.

4. MOTION E. JUDSON, SECONDED BY M. BOORD, WITH THREE AYES, TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO **COMPLIANCE WITH TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964**.

5. MOTION R. PRIMUS, SECONDED BY E. JUDSON, WITH THREE AYES, TO APPROVE AN **AFFIRMATIVE ACTION POLICY STATEMENT**.

Policy for Canceling Meetings

This issue was raised relative to having meetings during inclement weather and when/how/who should decide to cancel the night's meetings. The discussion was crysalized by E. Judson who said the First Selectwoman should make the decision to close town hall/library/BoS meeting; she should then tell the Librarian, who will call the Chairmen of the meetings scheduled for that night at the library. This should be done by 4 p.m., or earlier.

Old/New Business and Update from the First Selectwoman

1. The Department of Public Health (DPH) came down today to look over proposed sites for the wells. A site just to the south of the gravel road, on White's property, appears to meet their criteria: there is room for 2 wells, which have to be 30' apart; adequate fencing and a mound around the wells would be required; Lori Mathieu (of the DPH) will meet with the Conservation Commission, who should approved the documents but authorizes the First Selectwoman to sign the Agreement to be clear on the title. M. Boord said she wants to be sure they get water out of the well before going to the Conservation Commission. Ms. Mathieu will explain the DPH process. DPH had initially looked for a yield which would cover all of Main Street's needs but the grant only covers the Durham Center Water Company system. M. Boord said the DPH is now being cooperative in moving the project along.

She said she spoke with Gene Chiappetta (President/Durham Fair) and John Corona (their attorney), who have decided not to go to the Fair with proposed mutual agreements until all the documents are ready -- all depends on the DPH approval. M. Boord explained that part of the site for the wells is on White's Farm open space property, parking for the fair would be affected. There is a need for an agreement between the town and fair if the storage tank and pump house are located on Fair property. She said 35/gal/min is needed to service the present customers but also the potential is there for other properties in the area who now have their own wells.

2. A letter was received from William Meyers, a DEP police officer, bringing to their attention the use of ATV's on the town's open space property. He sent copies to everyone. She noted that the Conservation Commission has put money into their line item for the next fiscal year for this problem but Mr. Meyer is very concerned about the destruction on Dead Hill Road. E. Judson noted that residents have raised their concerns on this question many times. Trish Dynia noted there is also access from the Town of Madison side and reported that the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency suggested a \$2,000 fine. E. Judson said nothing will stop a 2 ton pickup truck!

#### Public Comments

Mr. Baffa noted that if a police officer finds an unregistered motorcycle or ATV, the vehicle would have to be taken away.

#### Selectmen's Concerns

none

#### Budgets

1. MOTION M. BOORD, SECONDED BY E. JUDSON TO APPROVE #2510 UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION AT \$11,155; THREE AYES.
2. M. Boord reported she has not received a number for Radio Communications line item. She gave a corrected figure of \$15,472 (miscalculation in figures). MOTION M. BOORD, SECONDED BY E. JUDSON, TO APPROVE \$15,472 FOR RADIO COMMUNICATIONS; 3 AYES.
3. Re Finance Officer rate increase. M. Boord gave the history as related to her. The Board of Finance originally approved \$40/hr for the position; R. Kalinowski (former First Selectman who hired Mr. Mancinelli) offered R. Mancinelli \$35, who said he didn't have enough experience yet and so he would take \$30/hr. She noted she had asked Mr. Mancinelli if he wanted to attend the meeting tonight but he declined. The Board of Selectmen agreed they are content with the \$32/hr figure they already approved.

#### Adjourn

MOTION R. PRIMUS, SECONDED BY E. JUDSON, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:30 P.M. APPROVED WITH THREE AYES.

