

Town of Durham
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 24 2006; 7:00 pm, Durham Public Library

James McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm at the Durham Public Library.

Selectmen Members Present

Maryann Boord, Renee Primus Edwards, James McLaughlin

Pledge

James lead the meeting in a Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Approval of the Agenda

MOTION BY M. BOORD, SECONDED BY R. EDWARDS TO APPROVE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED WITH 3 AYES.

Public Comments

Donya Viola asked J. McLaughlin to explain how Robert Poliner arrived at a 42% increase in the Tax Collector s' salary, as published in Mr. Poliner s' letter to the Town Times (July 21st issue). J. McLaughlin informed D. Viola that she would have to contact Mr. Poliner for that information as he has no idea how Mr. Poliner derived a 42% increase in salary. J. McLaughlin explained that the Tax Collector received a 3% increase in salary as did all elected officials and Town Hall staff and that the hours of the Tax Collector were increased from 35 to 40 hours per week (14%) for the next fiscal year (per Annual Town Budget approval).

Traffic Control Authority Actions

A. Two changes in the 2006 Durham Fair Traffic Plan were reported by Francis Willett: 1) Current construction plans for RT. 66 were provided, and 2) Trial use of an AM radio station to broadcast Fair-related traffic, parking, and other relevant public information. M. Boord asked about insurance coverage for the tent used by craft vendors on the Town Green. F. Willett reported that the insurance certificate had already been submitted to Jan Muraca.

MOTION BY R. EDWARDS, SECONDED BY M. BOORD TO APPROVE DURHAM FAIR TRAFFIC PLAN AND SUBMIT TO BUREAU OF ENGINEERING AND HIGHWAY OPERATIONS. MOTION PASSED WITH 3 AYES.

B. State Commission Traffic Report regarding the passing zone on Rt. 17 was received by J. McLaughlin. The position of the Commission is they don't eliminate passing zones for business entrances. J. Corona noted that it wasn't the business, but rather the residents, who had asked for the elimination of the passing zone. J. McLaughlin said that doesn't change the position of the Commission. The passing zone is in front of the business. M. Boord suggested that this issue be placed on the next agenda so that residents can be informed about the Commission's position. J. McLaughlin stated that the Commission is waiting our acceptance of their position.

Appointments/Resignations

A. Economic Development Commission

MOTION BY M. BOORD, SECONDED BY J. MCLAUGHLIN TO APPOINT GARY SHELDON. MOTION PASSED WITH 3 AYES.

MOTION BY J. MCLAUGHLIN, SECONDED BY R. EDWARDS TO APPOINT DIANA MCCAIN. MOTION PASSED WITH 3 AYES.

Gary Sheldon will fill the vacancy of Scott Douglas (R), and Diana McCain will fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Gary Sawicki (R). Diana McCain, who is a democrat, is filling a republican vacancy to correct an error in 2005 whereby a republican filled a democrat vacancy.

B. Financial Officer Search Committee

MOTION BY M. BOORD, SECONDED BY R. EDWARDS TO APPOINT LEONARD BAGINSKI (D), ROSEMARIE NAPLES (R), WENDY MANEMEIT (R), JOSEPH GARUCH, KERRI FLANAGAN (D), AND JAMES MCLAUGHLIN (D) TO FINANCIAL OFFICER SEARCH COMMITTEE. MOTION PASSED WITH 3 AYES.

J. McLaughlin was asked about the number of resumes received. He stated that 12 applications have been received and reviewed and that the committee will meet on July 25 to discuss all the applications.

C. Resignation received from Brian Ameche, Regular member for Planning and Zoning Commission.

PALS Request

MOTION BY M. BOORD, SECONDED BY R. EDWARDS TO GRANT

PERMISSION TO PALS TO SERVE WINE AT THEIR ANNUAL REUNION RECEPTION, AUGUST 25, 2006. MOTION PASSED WITH 3 AYES.

Request For Veterinary Signage Along State and Town Roadways

J. McLaughlin spoke with the State Traffic Engineer and was informed that the State does not place signs of this nature on their right-of-way. J. McLaughlin explained that the Tree Farm signs are placed under the State Agricultural program. Steve Levy will contact the Farm Bureau to see if he can place signs on his own. Roger Kleeman suggested that J. McLaughlin write directly to the State Traffic Commissioner for permission to place signs on the right-of-way.

Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) re: Rod and Gun Property

J. McLaughlin provided a copy of a memorandum submitted by Bill Milardo, Assistant Health Official, informing the Town that Ms. Zmijewski, CT DEP, is asking for support from the Durham WPCA for the community sewage disposal system that has been proposed on the so-called Rod and Gun site located on Madison Rd. J. Corona, attorney for property owner, explained that a statement of willingness to cooperate is requested by the DEP as a matter of procedure. The statement provides an acknowledgment that the WPCA is aware of the proposed plans, but does not obligate the Town at this time. J. Corona mentioned that Connecticut Water Company may be selected by the property owner to manage this community septic system, and that the property owner will come before the WPCA at a later time with complete plans. J. McLaughlin stated that he will have Town Counsel review the request before he sends a statement to the DEP.

M. Boord asked J. Corona to convey the Town's continued interest in the potential gift of the Club House for a Senior Citizen Center from the owner.

Durham Center Community Water System Engineering Services

J. McLaughlin informed the Board that Chris Wester of Weston and Sampson Engineers, Inc. has requested payment for additional design engineering fees for the water project due to reconfiguration that was necessary based on insufficient project funds. J. McLaughlin was advised by Larry Wagner that the STEAP grant should be used to finance this request. J. McLaughlin asked M. Boord about her previous experience and she stated that the language in the grant must be reviewed to determine what expenses are covered. J. McLaughlin commented that he had contacted the DEP, who is administering this grant, to get more information regarding grant reimbursement requirements. M. Boord suggested that a new line be created for STEAP water project accounting.

Crooked Hill Road Update

J. McLaughlin provided the most recent billing information from Richard Adams totalling \$21,335.00 from March 3, 2006 to June 30, 2006. Special Town Meeting at 8:00 pm of this evening will vote on the conveyance of land to the Town of Durham for construction of Crooked Hill Road.

345kV Transmission Line Update

No new bills or any other information.

MOTION BY M. BOORD, SECONDED BY J. MCLAUGHLIN TO RECESS BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AT 7:55 PM UNTIL AFTER SPECIAL TOWN MEETING. MOTION PASSED WITH 3 AYES.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING RECONVENED AT 8:10 PM.

Discussion of Charter Revisions and Actions Relative to Proposal from Charter Revision Commission

See document attached for complete summary of actions taken on every proposed revision. The following sections/statements were discussed as being provided on the ballot in November as separate questions: **Section 2.1** (4-year terms for Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Town Treasure, and 2 Registrar of Voters); **Section 3.7** (increase the amount on special appropriations requiring approval by referendum); **Section 6.1** (Board of Education elections at November General Election; and **Section 6.22** (Term limits on land-use boards.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

MOTION BY M. BOORD, SECONDED BY R. EDWARDS TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING, JULY 10, 2006. MOTION PASSED WITH 3 AYES.

MOTION BY R. EDWARDS, SECONDED BY M. BOORD TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING, JULY 17, 2006. MOTION PASSED WITH 3 AYES.

MOTION BY M. BOORD, SECONDED BY R. EDWARDS TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING, JULY 18, 2006. MOTION PASSED WITH 3 AYES.

Old/New Business

M. Boord suggesting making the following changes in the job description for the

Financial Officer: 1) Board of Finance calculates the mill rate, not the Finance Officer, so remove this responsibility for the job description, and 2) Employee Union should be contacted regarding potential change in current insurance coordinator s job since the Finance Officer will be responsible for grants and administration of all insurance policies.

MOTION BY M. BOORD, SECONDED BY J. MCLAUGHLIN TO AMEND AGENDA TO GRANT FIRST SELECTMEN PERMISSION TO SIGN RESOLUTION REGARDING CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF CROOKED HILL ROAD. MOTION PASSED WITH 3 AYES.

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MOTION BY J. MCLAUGHLIN, SECONDED BY M. BOORD TO AMEND AGENDA TO APPROVE REQUEST BY DOUG MYERS OF OLD WALLINGFORD RD TO CLOSE OLD WALLINGFORD RD TO TRAFFIC ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 12TH FOR A BLOCK PARTY. MOTION PASSED WITH 3 AYES.

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MOTION BY M. BOORD, SECONDED BY J. MCLAUGHLIN TO AMEND AGENDA TO APPROVE FIRST SELECTMAN TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION AND CONTRACT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF DURHAM AND THE STATE LIBRARY FOR A \$7,000 HISTORIC DOCUMENTS PRESERVATION GRANT. MOTION PASSED WITH 3 AYES.

MOTION BY M. BOORD, SECONDED BY R. EDWARDS TO APPROVE FIRST SELECTMAN TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION AND CONTRACT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF DURHAM AND THE STATE LIBRARY FOR A \$7,000 HISTORIC DOCUMENTS PRESERVATION GRANT. MOTION PASSED WITH 3 AYES.

M. Boord notified the Board of the Governor s proposal that municipalities explore gasoline savings through state contracts.

Board of Selectmen Meeting for August 12, 2006 was canceled.

Adjournment at 11:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee P Edwards