

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**  
**September 12, 2005**

Call to order:

The Board of Selectmen's Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by First Selectwoman Maryann P. Boord in the Durham Public Library. Board of Selectmen present: Maryann P. Boord, Ernie A. Judson, Renee J. Primus.

Also present were townspeople including Attorney John Corona, Nancy Bernet, Donna Viola, Elmer Clark, Ron Melnik, Diana McCain, Scott Marks and Lou Wickham representing Little League, Kurt Bobers, Road Foreman, Jeff Klein (Middletown Press), and others.

Amend the Agenda

**MOTION M. BOORD, SECONDED BY E. JUDSON, TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO DISCUSS APPROVAL OF LETTERS IN RELATION TO THE DURHAM FAIR; APPROVED WITH THREE AYES**

Proposal by Little League to install lights at major league field

Members of the Board were provided with a presentation which supported the advantages of lights at the Major League Little League fields. Scott Marks- Chairman Light Committee went on to explain that the Cuginchaug Little League would have fundraisers to raise the \$70,000 that would be needed for installation, while the Town of Durham would be asked to fund the connection of the electrical line to the system an estimated \$1k-\$1.5k, with the possibility of an additional \$3k for a transformer. In addition to the electricity use with an estimated 1.6w/hr for each fixture (18 fixtures), at 300 hours use @ \$0.1034kw/hr (\$895 per year/ 2 ½ hrs/day for 20 days/month for 6 months). Lighting System Specifications equals four (4) poles, one behind each dugout and one at each foul pole, 60' – 70' high. Mr. Marks went on to discuss the effective light control is, stating that Light Structure Green custom fits lights onto the field, keeping the light out of neighbors' windows. He also stated that the lights would work with a manual on/off switch which would be in the Atcherson Building having lights on only when the field is in use.

M. Boord stated that CL&P may be willing to participate in donating time & services.

R. Primus expressed question if there is adequate lighting for the streets & parking areas as a safety concern. Kurt Bobers stated there have been improvements; however, down Pickett Lane they are not in working condition and need to be further checked in the parking lots.

**MOTION M. BOORD, SECONDED BY E. JUDSON TO MOVE INSTALLATION OF LIGHTS AT MAJOR LEAGE FIELD PLAN AHEAD TO PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION WHILE CONTINUING TO FOLLOW UP ON IF CL&P WILL PARTICIPATE WITH DONATIONS AND RESOLVE FINANCIAL AND SAFETY ISSUES. APPROVED WITH THREE AYES.**

Approve taking to a Special Town Meeting the following items:

a. Smith Property Purchase.

Brian Ameche, Chair Conservation Commission, presented a recommended open space acquisition of 30 Acres owned by Jennifer A. Smith. With an appraised value of \$60,000 with an addition \$5,000 for closing and association fees.

Donna Viola asked if this property is buildable? Mr. Ameche replied that it is in wetlands area and is not buildable for homes.

M. Boord asked if there is a requirement of annual haying of the lots and cutting down so that residents of Durham can have use and enjoy all open space property? Mr. Ameche stated that would be discussed with the next round of budget.

M. Boord asked if there can be an easement given from Casa Lane for access because you cannot access the property from James Road East or Saw Mill due to the wet lands, in order to put the equipment on the property to maintain it. Mr. Ameche stated that he would rewalk the site prior to the town meeting.

**MOTION E. JUDSON, SECONDED BY R. PRIMUS WITH 3 AYES, TO BRING TO THE TOWN MEETING FOR APPROVAL.**

Woodland Manor: (Water Pollution Control Authority)

Attorney John Corona on behalf of Gullitti Builders, and Nancy Bernet, resident representing the Woodland Manor Association, discussed the septic system (subsurface sewage disposal system) reserve fund and how the concerns of the present and future owners of the condominium housing project and the concern of the short fall of money should something happen.

**MOTION M. BOORD, SECONDED BY E. JUDSON TO RELEASE THE FUNDS IN EXCESS OF \$4000 IN CITIZENS BANK ACCOUNT, WITH THE EXPENSES TO BE OVER SEEN BY WILLIAM MILARDO, TOWN SANITARIAN, FOR REPAIR OF SEPTIC SYSTEM AT WOODLAND MANOR; APPROVED WITH 3 AYES.**

Durham Fair Letters

The following letter to be sent out regarding the 2005 Durham Fair, granting permission to the Durham Agricultural Fair Association, Inc to act as the Town of Durham's Agent for the purpose of contracting with a transportation company for the orderly and safe transportation of fairgoers for the period of September 23, 24, and 25, 2005. A letter addressed to Ms. Susan Viccaro, Superintendent of Schools RDS #13, that the Town of Durham requests that on September 19, 20, 21, 22, & 23, 2005 an alternate form of transportation to and from school be provided for the Salva children who reside at 18 Town House Road, due to the congestion in that area during Durham Fair week. A letter was addressed to Ms. Cheryl Salva stating that a request by Regional School District #13 for her children to be picked up and dropped off at the Durham Public Library during this year's fair, just as it was done last year and the final letter being addressed to the property

owners adjoining Main Street stating that no parking will be allowed within the state highway right-of-way along Main Street on September 23, 24, & 25, 2005.

**MOTION E. JUDSON, SECONDED BY R. PRIMUS TO ACCEPT THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE LETTERS; APPROVED WITH THREE AYES.**

Minutes

The committee agreed to hold off on approval of August 22, 2005 & August 29, 2005 until the September 26, 2005 meeting when all board members have had a chance to review them.

Use of money from False Alarm fines

As stated in the Board of Finance minutes dated September 7, 2005, it is agreed that Rett Mancinelli, Finance Officer, should establish a new line item for this revenue.

Approve taking to a Special Town Meeting the following items:

b. Recommended Town of Durham make a contribution of \$10,000 to the Hurricane Katrina Relief Effort:

M. Boord requested this be brought to the Town Meeting to discuss to whom the check should be made out, and what is the best way for the funds to be disbursed.

Molly Nolan stated more information should be gathered as to additional relief funds than just the Red Cross or Salvation Army, stating there is also Americares.

Lori Stevens stated that <http://www.charitynavigator.org> rates the associations on how money is disbursed.

R. Primus stated that at the next Town Meeting we should provide additional information on how to help the hurricane victims and what other organizations are available.

M. Boord agreed that when attending the next Town Meeting there will be more information on where the funds can be directed to help support the hurricane victims.

Kurt Bober suggested donating the town's old ambulance & fire truck that are town owned, and send them to use for emergency services. M. Boord asked if we know the value of those vehicles, and Mr. Bober stated it was unknown at this time.

Donna Viola suggested the possible donation of the home on Main Street, that was previously considered by Habitat for Humanity, to a family in need from Hurricane Katrina.

**MOTION R. PRIMUS, SECONDED BY M. BOORD TO SEND THE ISSUE OF HOW THE DONATION SHOULD BE DISBURSED TO TOWN MEETING; APPROVED WITH THREE AYES.**

**MOTION R. PRIMUS, SECONDED BY M. BOORD TO CALL A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2005, AT 8:00 P.M. AT THE DURHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY; APPROVED WITH THREE AYES.**

**TOWN OF DURHAM  
CALL TO A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING of the Electors and Citizens qualified to vote at Town Meetings of the Town of Durham will be held in the Durham Public Library, in said Town of Durham on Monday, September 19, 2005, at 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

1. To approve the expenditure and purchase of 30 acres of property known as the Smith Property for open space at a purchase price not to exceed \$65,000, said funds to come from: \$25,000 from the Open Space Reserve Fund and \$40,000 from Fund Balance and Surplus; as approved by the Board of Finance at its meeting of September 7, 2005.
2. To authorize the expenditure of \$10,000 to make a contribution to the Hurricane Katrina Relief Effort; said donation to come from Account #6020 - Contingency in the 2005-2006 budget year, as recommended by the Board of Finance at its meeting of September 7, 2005.

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Maryann P. Boord  
First Selectwoman

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Ernie A. Judson  
Selectman

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Renee J. Primus  
Selectwoman

Dated in Durham, Connecticut, this 12th day of September 2005.

### Old/New Business

M. Boord stated there were two (2) truckloads brought to the armory with supplies for the hurricane victims. The Ambulance Corps is again going to collect back packs for the children next weekend.

A letter was received from Susan Bransfield, The First Selectwoman of Portland, thanking the Durham Fire Department for their assistance with the fire on July 6, 2005 at Portland Boat Yard.

A letter from Robert Morpurgo has been received asking that the Board of Selectmen revisit his reappointment as Fire Marshal for a period of six months. He has requested a legal opinion on the matter. This issue has been forwarded to our Town Attorney and will be revisited at a later date.

A letter was received from the ACLU regarding a poll that has been set up on the town web page. The poll pertains to Political Lawn Signs and asks if political organizations should put out the lawn signs prior to the Durham Fair Weekend or after. M. Boord explained that the intent of the poll was to solicit local opinions, and to see if (especially new) residents were aware of the unwritten tradition of waiting until after the Fair to put up the lawn signs. She further explained that consideration was given to the added expense of replacing signs vandalized during that weekend. R. Primus advised that maybe the wording on the website should be changed to clarify the reasoning for the question.

A letter was received from Rosa Delauro in regards to the wording in the legislation which has caused seniors to be billed in excess of \$400 per trip when our volunteer ambulance is the first responder and a paramedic is called. If the legislation passes, the change would allow paramedics to bill Medicare directly.

There will be a household hazardous waste collection at the Lawrence School in Middletown. Signs will be placed on the Town Green and at the Transfer Station. The dates & times will be noted on the webpage. <http://www.townofdurhamct.org>

The testing on wells #1 and #2 resulted as follows:

- 86.7 gallons per minute for well #1
- 85.1 gallons per minute for well #2

The pre-bid conference for the water project is scheduled on September 29, 2005, at 11am at Town Offices and a bid opening on October 13, 2005, at 1pm at Town Offices.

The Historic District Commission's walking tour will take place on Saturday October 22, 2005 at 10am. The Board of Selectmen has been personally invited to attend.

The firehouse repairs are expected to be completed by mid to late October.

Public Comments:

Ron Melnik asked if the poll question pertaining to Political Lawn Signs could be taken off the website. M. Boord stated that she will talk to Town Clerk Laura Francis about it tomorrow.

Molly Nolan, Chairman of the Democratic Town Committee, discussed the Fire Marshal issue specifically regarding the term of the current Fire Marshal, and asked if we currently have a Fire Marshal. M. Boord responded that we do have a Fire Marshal and again stated that the present Fire Marshal has requested a legal opinion on his appointment.

Diana McCain asked at what meeting Robert Morpurgo discussed his retirement. M. Boord stated it was a meeting between Bob & herself in her office. Diana McCain suggested that in the future there be something in writing.

Adjourn

**MOTION M. BOORD, SECONDED BY E. JUDSON, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:13 P.M.; 3 AYES**

**Respectfully,**

**Kamey Ahrens**