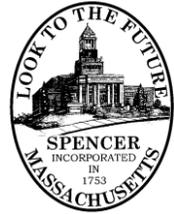


Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen



Date: Monday, February 27, 2012
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA
Present: Chairman Berthiaume, Vice Chair Pepe, Clerk Woodbury, Members Durant & Fritze, Town Administrator Gaudette, Administrative Assistant Torti

At 6:04 p.m. Chairman Berthiaume called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Business Meeting and Executive Session of February 13, 2012 and Workshop Meeting of February 22, 2012 (Pepe/Durant) passed 5/0 with Mr. Durant and Mr. Woodbury abstaining from the minutes of the 22nd and Mr. Fritze abstaining from the minutes of the 13th.

Citizen Input: none

Communications:

Mr. Pepe announced that the newly formed chapter of the Fraternal Order of Eagles made a contribution to the Parks and Recreation Commission in the amount of \$500.00. The Order is still looking for new members and anyone interested can contact Mr. Pepe.

Mr. Berthiaume informed the Board and Public that he met with the Principal of the High School and in April some of the students will be participating in the Candidates Forum on Talk of the Town.

Mr. Berthiaume next noted that the Celebrations Committee has scheduled Family Fun Day for June 30th and noted that fundraising efforts were beginning which include holding "Movie Nights" at the High School.

Mr. Berthiaume also asked the Board to forward any comments/requests pertaining to the new high school to him so that he could share them with the Building Committee.

Mr. Berthiaume announced that nominations are being accepted at the Town Administrator's Office for the Meritorious Service Award and will be accepted until noon on March 26th. Nomination forms will be available at the Town Administrator's Office and on the Town website.

New Business:

- a) Action Item: Authorize Town Administrator to sign U&F contract for Design Services (Pleasant Street and Lincoln Street Reconstruction). Mr. Steven Tyler, Supt. of Utilities and Facilities was present to answer questions from the Board. He told the Board this project is more than just a paving project. He recommended the Board go with FST. Mr. Woodbury asked about ADA compliance. Mr. Tyler indicated there may be a need for a waiver at the end of High St. and asked if he could meet with the Disability Commission regarding design and ADA issues.

A motion to authorize the Town Administrator to enter into a contract agreement with FST for the Lincoln and Pleasant Street design services (Woodbury/Fritze) passed 5/0.

- b) Memorandum of Agreement with East Brookfield for Emergency Shelter Services (attached as part of this record). Fire Chief Parsons came before the Board to answer questions. Agreement provides for sharing costs and equipment.

A motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement as drafted (Woodbury/Pepe) passed 5/0.

- c) Public Hearing (6:15 pm): Application for a Class II License for George Ragsdale. Mr. Berthiaume opened the public hearing at 6:20 p.m. Mr. Woodbury recused himself from this hearing due to previous personal involvement and pending litigation. Mr. Ragsdale and his attorney, Michael Meloche were present. Mr. Ragsdale noted that he has no employees at the moment and therefore has no worker's compensation policy. Mr. Berthiaume asked how many total cars would be on the lot and Mr. Ragsdale indicated that a limit of 100 cars would be acceptable. Mr. Berthiaume also asked if there were any outstanding issues with DEP and Mr. Ragsdale told him all issues were taken care of. There were no questions or comments from the public.

A motion to close the public hearing (Fritze/Durant) passed 4/0.

A motion to approve the Class II license for 100 vehicles (Durant/Pepe) passed 4/0.

Mr. Berthiaume then announced there would be a 10 minute break.

The meeting was reconvened at 6:35 p.m. by Mr. Berthiaume and Mr. Woodbury returned to the meeting.

- d) Joint Meeting with the Finance Committee and SEBRSD School Committee: Budget Presentation by Dr. Namin. Mr. Namin gave the Board a handout (attached as part of this record) and reviewed it with the Board. He noted that no additional assessment will be required. Mr. Pepe asked about health care expenses. Dr. Namin informed the Board that the school had a new insurance broker and hoped for better investigation of costs and liabilities as well as plans for working toward greater CBA contributions. Mr. McCarthy of the SEBRSD Committee noted that the school is rated on claims experience and the new broker will help with predictive modeling. It was also noted that while Ch 32B can be adopted at any time, it cannot be implemented for 100 days following the adoption. Mr. Pepe commented that he was glad to see the increased spending on technology services and the increase in teachers. Dr. Namin discussed various issues with Board including student retention, after school transportation, parental involvement, financial transparency, student population needs, and organizational structure changes. Mr. Berthiaume thanked Dr. Namin for the upbeat report and congratulated him on being one of five finalists nationwide for Superintendent of the Year. Mr. Pepe asked Dr. Namin about long range planning and the need for the Town to be able to incorporate the schools needs into the Town's long range plan.
- e) Discussion with Sewer Commissioners regarding WWTP NPDES Permits. Sewer Commissioners Larry Dufault, Frank White, and Michael Mercadante along with WWTP Supt. Mark Robidoux came before the Board to answer any questions they might have regarding the recent newspaper article about the contribution of the WWTP to the pollution of South Pond. Mr. White read a response (attached as part of this record). The Commissioners assured the Board that there were no permit violations and that the Commission was not late in filing for their permits. Mr. Dufault acknowledged that tighter restrictions are coming and once the new permit is received new numbers and a timeline for compliance will be provided while some numbers will be required to have immediate compliance. Mr. Berthiaume asked if public hearings were planned as part of the permit application and the Commission invited the Board to attend. The Commissioners were invited to attend the March 19th workshop and give the Board an update.

Old Business: None

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Town Administrator's Report: None

Board Liaison Reports: Mr. Pepe told the Board he'd met with the Finance Committee and Mr. Berthiaume noted that he'd met with the Building Committee for the High School and reminded the Board that their comments/concerns were being asked for by the Building Committee.

Citizen Input: Al Atchue of Meadow Road asked about the intersection at Route 9 and Wall Street. He told the Board that people pull too far forward on Route 9 at the light and block off Wall Street. The Town Administrator agreed to review this with Utilities and Facilities Superintendent, Steve Tyler. Mr. Atchue also inquired about the condition of the roads under the bridges at Lyford and South Spencer Roads asking if they could be repaired. Mr. Atchue next spoke about the quality of the Town trash bags and brought in a sample for the Board to look at. Mr. Gaudette explained that the trash bags were purchased through a bidding process as required under Chapter 30B and asked that anyone with issues contact the Supt. of Utilities and Facilities.

Don Nussey of 4 Pond Street informed the Board that the light at Meadow Road and Route 9 is not turning green. Mr. Fritze indicated it was probably the sensor pad and that MassDOT should be contacted.

Board Member and Staff Comments: Mr. Berthiaume announced that the next Board meeting would be on March 12th and reminded everyone to vote in the Presidential Primary next week.

A motion to adjourn (Woodbury/Pepe) passed 5/0. The meeting concluded at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura J. Torti
Administrative Assistant

_____ Chairman
_____ Vice Chairman
_____ Clerk
_____ Member
_____ Member
_____ Date