

Board of Selectmen Minutes
January 4, 2004

Chairmen Gill called the meeting to order 7:20 PM at the Town Hall Auditorium with members Charles Coldwell, Joseph Gill, Doug Sears, Jerome Selissen and John Ryan present. Town Manager Dave Cressman, Town Counsel Charles Zaroulis and Recording Secretary Heather Tecce were also present.

Scheduled Agenda Items:

1. Small Cities Block Grant Application Hearing – Senior Center:

Appearing before this board was Consultant Mr. John Ryan to explain the process of obtaining the grant needed for the Senior Center. Joel Deputat, as member of the building committee and thanked people for the wonderful support.

The auditorium is filled with proponents and many came out tonight to speak in favor of the Senior Center. A sign-in sheet was circulated and returned with over 95 signatures. The ages ranged from teens to seniors, members of the historical society, quilting guild, teachers, nurses, the former police chief and Rep. Miceli's Chief of Staff.. They spoke how the senior center helps to keep the seniors physically and mentally fit. The Senior Center also has many extra curriculum activities but sometimes is just a place to go to talk. Speaking tonight Dave Marcus, Amesbury, Mass. Frances Sommerville, Elaine Walsh, Lorraine Patch, Muriel Gifford, Eric LaBella, Sandy Cruise, John Mackey, Linda Brabant, Sara Wareham, Virginia Desmond, Scott Consaul, Mark Wood, Tom McPherson all residents of Tewksbury.

Tara Coakley, Rep. Miceli's Chief of Staff said Rep. Miceli would like to be recorded as in favor of this proposal and he will be a liaison at the state level.

Motion by Mr. Selissen to submit application to the DHCD for the Senior Center Grant, second by Mr. Sears and the board voted unanimously. Board polled all yes.

Motion by Mr. Coldwell to have Chairman Gill sign application for Grant, second by Mr. Sears and the board voted unanimously. Board polled all yes.

Motion by Mr. Sears to designate Chairman Gill as Environmental Certifying Officer on this Senior Center Project, second by Mr. Coldwell and the board voted unanimously.

2. Northeast Cycle: Appearing before this board Peter Pappas, owner of Northeast Cycle, Scott Consual his Counsel and resident Lisa Higgins. Mr. Coldwell volunteered to become a mediator for this problem and believes that they have reached an agreement. Mr. Consual submitted a plot plan to all at this board and Ms. Higgins. Ms. Higgins had not seen this plot plan before nor did she understand where exactly the motorcycles were going to be placed. She did not say she was opposed but the plan really doesn't show where the motorcycles will be placed. Members of

this board are in agreement that this matter has gone on far to long and expected an agreement would be reached prior to tonight satisfactory to all parties.

This **Hearing** is postponed until 1-18-04. Mr. Gill expects that all parties be present including Mr. Sadwick, Mr. Colontuoni and all discussion be in our books.

Concluding that all Parties have been warned this will not continue.

3. Residents: Donna Pelsars, Trull Road, She expected some discussion about Smart Growth tonight and wondered how will she know when it will be discussed. Mr. Cressman informed her that it will be listed on the agenda and agendas are posted on the Website.

Town Manager

4. **Motion** by Mr. Mr. Ryan to approve Town Counsel Invoice, second by Mr. Sears and the board voted unanimously.
5. Department Head Salaries: This will not be executive session. Chairmen Gill relinquished the chair to Vice Chair Selissen at 9:02 PM.

Merit Raises: Mr. Sears asked who will determine the merit raises. Mr. Cressman said the town manager will with an annual evaluation measuring their goals and objectives. Mr. Ryan received clarification that these will be retroactive and the amount will be approx. \$17,000.00 and the money will come from their budgets or transferred from savings.

Motion by Mr. Ryan to make the adjustments to the six individuals involved for retroactive merit raises to July 1, 2004, second by Mr. Coldwell and the board voted unanimously.

It is the town managers recommendation to adjust current salaries to the proposed salaries to bring these in closer range to comparable communities.

Motion by Mr. Ryan to approve town managers recommendations to grant Dept. Heads and P.R.B. Group A approved raises for July 1, 2005, second by Mr. Sears and the board voted unanimously.

Chairman Gill took chair back at 9:15 PM and informed the board that these raises will have to be approved at Town Meeting.

6. Motion by Mr. Selissen to approve minutes of June 8, 2004 (reg and exec sess), second by Mr. Sears and the board voted unanimously. Mr. Ryan was not present June 8, 2004 and abstained from voting tonight
7. Reports: **Mr. Sears** brought up the issue of being 418 certified and also Smart Growth and sees the two issues tied together. Mr. Cressman responded that Mr. Sadwick is currently working on 418 certification. **Mr. Coldwell** was pleased to visit

a restaurant today without seeing the water ban notice. **Mr. Ryan** spoke of the 911 committee reaching ½ of their goal and anyone wishes to join is invited. He continued to speak to Mr. Cressman about when this board will see budgetary figures, Mr. Cressman responded early March. Mr. Ryan raised issue if the Town Manager, Mr. Gill or any members of FinCom had been invited to the Schools Building Improvement Project priced at 1.4 million. **Mr. Selissen** would like to invite C.R. Bard to this boards next meeting when Mr. Kunce of the DEP is present on the Perchlorate issue. Atty. Zaroulis see no objectives to inviting C.R. Bard. He informed this board that Massachusetts is getting 6.2 million in Homeland Security money. **Mr. Gill** wished that Mr. Cressman had acted sooner on the National Grid issue. Mr. Gill would like the overnight police shift to make note of “out of state” plates in driveways continuously. Mr. Cressman responded yes to Mr. Gill that he evaluates Dept. Heads annually.

8. Motion to file New England Metals – Class III License, second by Mr. Sears and the board voted unanimously.
9. **Motion** by Mr. Coldwell to appoint Brad Zarba and Kenneth Collins as associate members of the Board of Appeals terms will expire June 2005, second by Mr. Sears and the board voted unanimously.
Motion by Mr. Coldwell to appoint Robert Stephens and Marc DiFruscia as regular members of the Board of Appeals to replace vacancies left by Jennie McCarthy and Mike Firreno and their terms will expire June 2006 and June 2005 respectively, second by Mr. Sears and the board voted unanimously.

The next Board of Selectmen meeting will be January 18, 2005 at 7:30 PM at Town Hall Auditorium

Motion by Mr. Sears to adjourn at 9:35 PM and second by Mr. Selissen and the board voted unanimously. Polled all yes.

John Ryan, Clerk