

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
AUGUST 5, 2009
MINUTES

MEETING: Chairman Sushchik called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Roll called showed that Selectmen Sheppard, Philpot and Sushchik all present.

AGENDA: Selectman Sheppard made the motion to approve the agenda as submitted. 2nd by Selectman Philpot. All in favor.

MINUTES: Selectman Sheppard made the motion to approve the minutes of June 24, 2009 as submitted. 2nd by Selectman Philpot. All in favor.

Selectman Sheppard made the motion to approve the minutes of July 8th, 2nd by Selectman Philpot. All in favor.

Selectman Sheppard made the motion to approve the minutes of July 22nd, 2nd by Selectman Philpot. All in favor.

MICHAEL PADULA
HEYWOOD ROAD:

Mr. Padula, 139 Heywood Road, presented his request to the Board of Selectmen for replacement of "No Parking" signs on the both sides of Heywood Road in the vicinity of Sholan Farms. He explained that there were signs at one time and would like to see them replaced due to excessive cars parking along both sides of the road. Selectman Sheppard made the motion to approve the request of "no parking" signs and to confer with Chief Chamberland and Superintendent Tuttle for the placement of at least 4 signs, two on each side. 2nd by Selectman Philpot. All in favor.

FY10 ANNUAL
SELECTMEN'S
GOAL SETTING
SESSION:

Ms. Ackerman gave a brief summary and the status of actions taken from the FY09 Selectmen's annual goals.

Chairman Sushchik then polled each member of the Board, asking them for their list of goals that they would like to see accomplished for FY2010.

Selectman Philpot expressed his desire to see the Town Common revitalized expressing the need for a good plan to be developed and presented to the Town for input. Once the Common is completed a longer term goal would be to continue out of the town center to the Memorial Center. He stressed that communication is an important factor and that it is up to the Board of Selectmen to keep the voters and taxpayers informed. He added that he would like to see the continuation of the All Boards meetings and asked the other members why the meetings had stopped. It was determined that the Board needed to establish a pattern of meetings so that everyone knew how to plan.

Selectman Sheppard listed his top 7 goals he would like addressed in FY2010; a resolution to the location for a new Senior Center, to concentrate on the new hire of a Town Clerk, to finalize the vault design and have it built and to contact Clinton's BOS with regards to the dams located at the Weekepeke, the safety issues they are creating and the effects it will have on our residents if they are not repaired, to repair Gates Road and the acquisition of 73 Chace Hill Road to be used as a water source for Sterling and the airport acquisition.

Talk of the dams created a discussion with regards to ownership, should Sterling explore mutual interest or possible ownership so that the town can protect its interest and residents?

Chairman Sushchik made the motion to continue the discussion of goals after the appointments and business was done.

ROBERT PROTANO

GATES TERRACE:

Mr. Protano explained to the Board of Selectmen that he had applied for a variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals, not a special permit, for the purpose of tearing down and then rebuilding a house on 3 Gates Terrace. By doing so it would improve the property making it less non-conforming by moving the front line of the house from 9' to 25'. Selectman Philpot reminded the Board and Mr. Protano that he purchased the property with no guarantees that it could be used for any particular purpose and that he was already granted permission to perc the land at which time he agreed to leave \$1000 on the table if the property did not perc. Now he has come before the Board again with yet another request. Selectman Philpot would like to see the deal completed now. Mr. Protano explained that it was 2 ½ years ago that he bid on the property and at no fault of his own could not get a clear title. With the changes that have occurred in town within the past few months a variance is required before he can tear down and rebuild. Selectman Sheppard pointed out that Mr. Protano is willing to clean up the property making the house less non-conforming resulting in tax revenue; he sees this as a win/win situation and feels the Board should grant Mr. Protano permission to proceed with the application of a variance. Chairman Sushchuk agreed stating that the title issue had taken on a life of its own and he wants to see the deal completed. Selectman Sheppard made the motion to allow Mr. Protano to proceed with requesting a variance with the stipulation that Mr. Protano complete the process once the Zoning Board of Appeals makes their decision. 2nd by Selectman Philpot. All in favor.

7:18 PM

WAUSHACUM

VILLAGE PROJECT

UPDATE:

Charles Locke from the Waushacum Village Association informed the Board of Selectmen that the on-site sewage disposal system project has been completed for the Waushacum Village Homeowner's Association and has been found to be in compliance with the terms and conditions of the Consent Order established April 13, 2000. Mr. Locke expressed his appreciation to the past and present Board for their support throughout the process. Chairman Sushchuk commended Mr. Locke, the Planning Board, DPW and MRPC for their management of the project and working so well together. This project and its completion have helped to improve the property.

TEMPORARY

TOWN CLERK:

Selectman Sheppard made the motion to appoint Florence Coughlin as Temporary Town Clerk until such time as a new Town Clerk is hired. 2nd by Selectman Philpot. All in favor.

FY10 CONTINUATION

OF APPOINTMENTS:

Chairman Sushchuk read the list of remaining appointments for FY10. Selectman Philpot made the motion to appoint those listed, designating Mr. Clemence and Mr. Johnson as assistants to the Building Department with Mr. Wilson as the alternate. Selectman Sheppard 2nd the motion amending the list to remove the Building Needs and Utilization Committee until the Board had a chance to vote on the continuation of the committee. All in favor.

TOWN ADMINISTRATORS

FOLLOW-UP:

Ms. Ackerman informed the Board that the Government Study ad had been advertised with several changes suggested by Ms. Bennet. A meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 10th at 2:00 PM with Ms. Roberti, Ms. Larson, Judy Janda and Chief Chamberland to discuss new regulations for Lake Waushacum and how to enforce them. She reported that she received a list from Mr. Jeff Simon, Director of Infrastructure and Investment, of projects not funded by ARRA which included items on Sterling's list. Ms. Ackerman reported on the progress of the interviews

for the Human Resource, Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk and the Assistant Treasurer Collector positions. Ms. Ackerman hoped to have the positions filled by late September.

COUNCIL ON AGING
INVOICE

AUTHORIZATIONS: Selectman Sheppard made the motion to authorize Sharon Bloom, Chairperson for the Council on Aging, to sign the MART invoices, provided they are processed correctly. He also authorized Karen Phillips to sign invoices as an alternate should Sharon Bloom be unavailable. 2nd by Selectman Philpot. All in favor.

NEW SENIOR CENTER: The Board voted to move the discussion for possible sites for the new Senior Center to their next meeting on August 19th.

Selectman Sheppard informed the Board that he had some discussion with Neal Davidson, Pastor of Hope Chapel, with regards to land options on Chocksett Road for a new Senior Center. Chairman Sushchik suggested that the Building Needs Committee look into the prospect of using some of the land Hope Chapel is offering for sale or lease.

FACILITIES MANAGER
SURVEY:

The Board of Selectmen reviewed the draft 3 of the facilities management quick survey. After reviewing the questions the Board decided on 3 questions, plus additional comments or suggestions. Ms. Ackerman was to draft the final version.

140 SAFETY
IMPROVEMENT
TASK FORCE:

Selectman Sheppard announced the meeting being held on August 13th at 7:00 PM at the Chocksett School with the 140 Safety Improvement Task force to discuss options for RTE 140.

BOARD POLICY: Chairman Sushchik asked that the item on Board Policy be moved to the August 19th meeting.

CONTINUATION OF
GOALS:

Chairman Sushchik spoke to the 12 goals he had for FY2010. In addition to those previously listed he would like to see government operations, bond rating, emergency operation plan, revenue enhancement, water protection, town garden and affordable housing also addressed. When discussing the vault issue Ms. Ackerman suggested the Board may want to delay final design of the vault after (that the best thing to do with the vault design and the hiring an Assistant Town Clerk would be to address the issues after) a Town Clerk was hired. The Board agreed. The three members of the Board discussed the listed goals and voted the 5 top goals for FY2010 to be the vault, town common, senior center, communication and the government study.

BUILDING NEEDS
COMMITTEE:

Chairman Sushchik asked that the Board resolve the issue of the Building Needs Committee and to take a vote on continuing the committee and implementing the new charge and purpose for one year. Selectman Philpot stated that continuing the committee and its work is not a negative reflection on the facilities manager and Chairman Sushchik agreed, saying the Building Needs Committee would work on the strategic planning. Selectman Philpot voted yes to the continuation of the Building Needs Committee, 2nd by Chairman Sushchik. Selectman Sheppard voted no. Two in favor, one against.

Chairman Sushchik made the motion to appoint Amrith Kumar and Susan Harragin to the Building Needs Committee. 2nd by Selectman Philpot. Selectman Sheppard voted no. Two in favor, one against.

ADJOURNMENT: Selectman Sheppard made the motion to adjourn at 9:10 PM. 2nd by Selectman Philpot. All in favor.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

RUSSELL R. PHILPOT
CLERK