

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
July 18, 2012

Open Meeting

Chairman Sushchuk called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM. Roll call VOTE: Selectman Paul Sushchuk, Selectman Ronald Furmaniuk and Selectman Brian Patacchiola. All AYE.

Chairman Sushchuk declared the Sterling Lancaster Cable Television as the only official electronic copy of the meeting. Sue Staudaheer is making a recording.

GOAL Setting

After discussion, Selectman Sushchuk made a motion that the Select Board agreed to 5 goals for FY13:

- Build the vault
- Implement paperless meetings
- Consider and implement viable options from the Government Study Committee
- Consider a Town Planner/Grant Writer position for the town.
- Set up Policy/Strategy meetings

140 Rendezvous

Selectman Paul Sushchuk recused himself and left the room. Steven Kilcoyne requested that the 140 Club be allowed to host the Veteran's ride (motorcycles) on August 20th by increasing the restricted capacity imposed after complaints last year. Selectman Patacchiola and Selectman Ron Furmaniuk concurred that they want to encourage Mr. Kilcoyne and his business. However, in light of the fact that a one year restriction was previously imposed on the establishment and one year has not passed since that decision, they voted to continue with the restrictions until the next license renewal for the 140 Rendezvous Club.

1835 Town Hall

Vern Gaw reported that the following on the septic and roof:

- Septic pipe runs to Waushacum Ave from the 1835 Town Hall.
- Unable at this time to give timeline or cost for either septic design or construction but will report back to the Selectmen on August 30, 2012.
- 1835 Committee will explore the possibility of a grant to assist with the cost of septic.
- Septic system will require a nitrogen removal system as well as connection.
- North Star will be doing repair on the 1835 Town Hall roof. There are some loose tiles that require attention.
- The roofing estimate is \$3,000.00 (to be paid out of 1835 Town Hall Funds).
- Roof repair will be completed by September, at which time the road barriers can be removed.
- The 1835 Town Hall Committee will apply for the Massachusetts Historical Grant in the Spring.
- There is a possibility that the 1835 Town Hall may request funds at the

Annual Town Meeting in May 2013.

- The Committee has purchased 5 windows for the building, which they hope to have installed this fall.

Terri Ackerman reminded Vern Gaw that if the 1835 Town Hall needed to place an article in the Special Town Meeting in November, details would be required in September.

Ambassador Program

Jeff Donaldson advocated becoming more proactive with businesses within the community in order to promote more business in town. He suggested recruiting volunteers and students to gather information and to make recommendations (so that they might advocate for businesses)

Selectmen enthusiastically endorsed the Ambassador Program and requested that a Professor from MBA come to a meeting in order to provide further information on what might be accomplished with the assistance of students from the University.

Planner/Grant Writer

Presentation from Amanda Amory. She advised the Select Board that a Master Plan for Sterling will take two years to complete and will last 20 years. The initial cost would be under \$150,000 however, the action plan for the Master Plan needs to be updated every 5 years, if we want to be eligible for Grants. ‘

Keeping a Master Plan on track requires a Town Planner at an estimated cost of \$100,000.00 annually. Selectmen request that Amand Amory return to a future meeting to discuss what other communities in our area have done about the creation and update process of Master plans.

Government Study Report

This topic was postponed until August 1st at 7:15 pm. Selectman Patacchiola and Town Administrator will put together a synopsis for consideration.

Format for Tracking Items

Selectmen discussed the need for tracking items. The consensus was that the Board has a good handle on items after implementing prior changes.

Policy Meetings

The first Policy/Strategy meeting was scheduled for September 5, 2012 from 7-8 pm

Scholarships

John Kilcoyne and Vern Gaw joined the Selectmen in the discussion as to whom the scholarship money should be awarded. There were 7 applicants for the Jacob Grant and 2 applicants for the Maria Houghton scholarship. The total available is \$6,531.00. In order to preserve some money for the future, it was decided to grant each of the applicants a total of \$350.00, at a total of \$2,450.00.

Town Administrator's Follow-up

Terri Ackerman discussed the MWRA meeting which was hosted by Representative Harold Naughton.

Kama Jayne will begin work as the Executive Assistant on July 30, 2012

Appointments

The following Appointments were recommended:

Scott Crossman – Animal Control Board – Term to expire – June 30,

2013

Francis Simonds – Animal Control Board – Term to expire June 30, 2013

Ronald Cote - Sr. Center Building Committee – Term to expire – June 30, 2013

VOTE: Selectman Patacchiola moved to appoint both new members.

Selectman Furmaniuk 2nd the motion. All in Favor.

VOTE: Selectman Furmaniuk moved to accept Matt Emsley's resignation from the Finance Committee. The Board thanked Mr. Amsley for his service. Selectman Patacchiola 2nd the motion. All in favor.

Neighbor to Neighbor

Selectman Patacchiola and Lisa Call from the Finance Committee have been working together with the Town Administrator and the Town Treasurer, Anne Cervantes. They propose that \$650.58 be taken from the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund and \$800.00 be taken from the Albert Farwell Fuel Fund, in order to assist Applicant A.

They also propose that \$901.03 be taken from the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund and \$800.00 be taken from the Clarissa Freeman Fund, in order to assist Applicant B.

VOTE: Selectman Sushchuk made a motion to approve this action and Selectman Furmaniuk 2nd. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Board discussed the revised Appointment Policy.

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 PM.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

BRIAN J. PATACCHIOLA
CLERK