

Selectmen's Strategy and Policy Meeting
October 15, 2012

All of the Selectmen were present. The meeting began at 7:00.

Selectman Furmaniuk made the motion to accept the agenda. Selectman Patacchiola 2nd. All in Favor.

Selectman Furmaniuk made the motion to approve the minutes from September 4, 2012 meeting. Selectman Patacchiola 2nd. All in favor.

Government Study Recommendations for Consideration

#5A Recommendation to eliminate the Earth Removal Board and its responsibilities transferred to the Planning Board, with the Building Inspector, acting in his role of Zoning Enforcement Officer, to be charged with enforcement.	<p>Ron Pichierri was present to represent the Planning Board. Mr. Pichierri is also a member of the Earth Removal Board. Scott Michalak , who is a licensed engineer, was present to represent the Earth Removal Board.</p> <p>Mr. Pichierri stated that the Planning Board does not wish to take over the responsibilities of the Earth Removal Board. He gave the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning Board does not have the expertise to take the place of the members on the current Earth Removal Board. He stated that Scott Michalak knows all the rules and regulations that apply to earth removal.• Mr. Picchierri suggested that without the engineering services of Scott Michalak, who donates his time and professional expertise, the Planning Board may very well have to pay another engineer to perform those same duties.• There are 16 current Earth Removal permits for which the Earth Removal Board must make 2 yearly site visits. (Additional sites may be added during construction processes.) These visits must be performed during a week day. Mr. Pichierri reports that these yearly visits take an entire day to complete and that while, the Earth Removal Board makes this accommodation, the current Planning Board members are not prepared/able to carry out these duties during regular business hours. <p>Terri Ackerman. Town Administrator, reported that Mark Brodeur, the Building Inspector, has no concerns as to which Board oversees the earth removal since his job is to enforce, regardless.</p> <p>Selectman Sushchyk stated that eliminating the Earth Removal Board would require a by-law change.</p> <p>The consensus was to further consider this recommendation and to revisit it at a later date.</p> <p>On behalf of the Town, the Select Board thanked both Mr. Pichierri and Mr. Michalak for their service.</p>
#5B Recommendation to	Present to represent the DPW board were Larry Favreau, Greg Aubin and Don

<p>change the currently autonomous, elected, DPW Board to an advisory Board appointed by the Board of Selectmen and that the DPW Superintendent report to the Board of Selectmen through the Town Administrator</p>	<p>Harding.</p> <p>The Select Board explained that one main reason for this policy recommendation was to alleviate confusion for the resident and to provide more effective service. If this policy is implemented, residents would request services through the Select Board via the Town Administrator. The Board stated that the DPW Board would continue to make most of the decisions, however, in an advisory capacity. Authority would be transferred from the DPW Board to the Select Board.</p> <p>While the change from an autonomous board to an advisory board must be decided at Town Meeting, the Select Board asked the DPW Representatives for their input regarding this possibility.</p> <p>The DPW Board is emphatically against this change. They stated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a citizen has an issue, it is a more streamlined process to bring their complaint, problem or concern directly to the DPW Board where the issue will be dealt with quickly by people who are dedicated and experienced in handling the specifics of such issues. • Current DPW Board members have a wealth of construction/public works knowledge and experience. • By adding more steps to the process, efficiency would suffer. <p>The consensus of the Select Board was that they needed more time to consider this issue. It will be further discussed at a future Strategy Meeting.</p>
<p>#2 Define the Role of the Select Board:</p> <p>Mission Statement</p> <p>Agenda Request Form</p> <p>Approve Policies and Procedures</p>	<p>The consensus of the Board was that they need an up-dated mission statement. Selectman Furmaniuk will draw up a new mission statement to be considered at the next Strategy meeting.</p> <p>The consensus was that the Web agenda request form and the agenda request form that is available for citizens in the Town Office should require the same information. Kama will prepare a new agenda request form for approval at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Board considered the Draft for the Policies and Procedures. They decided upon some changes and the revised draft will be available at the next Strategy meeting.</p>
<p>#3 Review Draft "Role of the Town Administrator"</p>	<p>The Role of the Town Administrator will be considered at the next Strategy Meeting.</p>
<p>Next Policy Meeting</p>	<p>At the next meeting is scheduled for Dec. 12, 2012.</p> <p>The Board intends to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss/draft language for changing Government structure- Special

	<p>Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the Earth Removal Bylaw • Review BOS Mission Statement • Approve Agenda Request Form • Approve BOS Policies & Procedures • Review and Approve “Role of the Town Administrator” • Discuss electronic Citizen Handbook • Discuss Transportation and Mart Van • Decide whether they will support the consolidation of the Earth Removal and Planning Boards. • Further discuss the change of the DPW Board from an elected, autonomous Board to an Advisory Board. • Accept a report from Selectman Patacchiola in regard as to whether the MRCP is both willing and able to provide free services to the Town of Sterling.

VOTE: Selectman Sushchuk made a motion that the next Policy Meeting be scheduled for December 12, 2012 at 7:00. Selectman Patacchiola 2nd. All in favor.

Selectman Furmaniuk made a motion to adjourn at 8:40. Selectman Patacchiola 2nd. All in favor.