

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES  
JULY 11, 2012

MEETING: Chairman Sushchuk called the meeting to order at 6:48 PM. Roll call established that Selectman Paul Sushchuk, Ronald Furmaniuk and Brian Patacchiola were all present.

Chairman Sushchuk declared the Sterling Lancaster Television as the only official electronic copy of the meeting.

GOAL SETTING: After the Board discussed their ideas for goals they agreed to prioritize and finalize the list of goals at the next meeting- July 18, 2012

7:05 PM

CHIEF CHAMBERLAND: Chief Chamberland gave a brief overview of the May and June, 2012 Police Dept reports. He informed the Board that the Dispatcher who was on medical leave has returned.

The bike race was held with no complaints.

The Police Department will be hosting handgun safety class, this class will also cover rifle safety. Chairman Sushchuk commended the Chief for holding the class.

The Chief informed the Board that for the first time, ever, he is reporting no accidents, at all, on Leominster Road.

Code Red was explained and that is now the New R911. All residents and businesses are encouraged to go to the web site in order to register.

7:15 PM

PUBLIC HEARING  
TRANSFER OF  
LIQUOR LICENSE FOR  
CHOCKSETT INN:

Chairman Sushchuk read the hearing notice into the record as advertised 6/24/2012 in the Worcester Telegram and Gazette.

John and Nicole Moorshead stated that the Chocksett Inn is similar to the Colonial Hotel in Gardner which they have operated for the past 8 years without having any infractions. They noted that they live in Westminster, will run both properties and make improvements to the building, will hold weddings and also will be launching a new web site.

Chairman Sushchuk noted that it is a beautiful facility with direct access to I-190 He asked if anyone in the audience had any questions, there were none.

The Moorshead asked if there were any problems reported with parking, Selectman Furmaniuk told them to check with the Chief of Police to see if any were reported.

Ron Furmaniuk made a motion to approve the transfer of All Alcoholic License to TPNC. Inc., DBA Chocksett Inn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian Patacchiola. All in favor.

SCHOLARSHIPS: The board met with Vern Gaw and Mr. Kilcoyne. The Board noted that all the applicants are very good candidates. Chairman Sushchuk noted that very little interest accrued in the scholarship funds that could be used in the award process. Selectman Furmaniuk noted that all candidates were excellent but one seemed to need the scholarship more than the other and the Board might consider granting a \$1,000 to that applicant and the \$500 to the other. The board agreed to revisit this item at their next meeting, July 18, 2012.

**VAULT UPDATE:**

The Vault Committee members, Don Murray, Mike Padula and Dawn Michanowicz were present to give an overview of the vault project, to date.. Mr. Murray reported that in 1700's a fire destroyed town records and would like to see the vault built to protect the records.

Mr. Murray reported on the progress of the project and the costs. The interior modular panels cost about \$66,000 and it requires an exterior building around that. The space needed is 250 sq. ft. On November 2011 the Board of Selectman chose architect Kafee Kang. West Wing location was chosen and the committee then proceeded with the soil testing, as well as lead and asbestos testing.

The lowest construction bid was from J & R Consruction - \$229,980+ including Firelock \$66,000 but excluding shelving for about \$20,000. The current balance in the vault fund is \$68,925. Mr. Murray reported that the committee worked very hard to get the price down and the quote expired 30 days after the bid date of May 18, 2012.

\$181,000 would be the needed amount to be voted at town meeting. Chairman Sushchuk agreed that the town needs to move ahead full steam this fall and stated he did not want to wait any longer. A vault is mandated by the State to protect the vital records. Selectman Furmaniuk stated that the town has been working on this project for 3 years and it is time to complete it.

Selectman Sushchuk expressed his concerns about being "penny wise and pound foolish" as with other Municipal building projects. He asked about cost cutting efforts made by the Vault committee to reduce costs. The Committee reported that they decided on a separate building with 6 hour fire protection, brick corners only, not all brick, changed the dimension and eliminated steel beams.

Selectman Patacchiola stated that he was rather impressed with the work that the committee did and stated that they obviously had done their homework. There was discussion on the need for a vault and the possibility of copying records onto discs, saving money from the taxpayer's perspective. The Town Clerk cautioned the Board, stating that technology is always changing, and floppy disks will soon become obsolete.

Selectman Sushchuk stated that he would like to act with foresight. He stated that the project has been delayed for over 20 years. He also stated that the Town need to be moving into "electronic office mode".

Selectman Furmaniuk stated that now is the time to step up and get things done and made the motion to support the committee by going to Town Meeting for the funds in order to complete the project, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Patacchiola. All in favor.

**INTERVIEW  
EXECUTIVE**

**ASSISTANT POSITION:** The Board of Selectmen met with Ms. Kama Jayne, applicant for the Executive Assistant Position.

Ms. Jayne briefed the Board on her municipal experience in Sterling as well as West Boylston. She filled in for the Town Clerk during her medical leave and has the skill set and personality to deal with all kinds of people and their problems, good organizational skills and is a good listener. Ms. Jane stated that she was confident that she could do the job.

Selectman Furmaniuk made the motion to a hire Ms. Jayne for the position of Executive Assistant, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Patacchiola. All in favor. The Board directed Ms. Ackerman to negotiate start date. The Board also asked that everyone pull together during the transition, especially in the Clerk's Office, as the hire creates an opening in the Clerk's department.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

Selectman Furmaniuk read the attached appt. list and made the motion to appoint the individuals listed for the FY2013 appointments. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Patacchiola. All in favor.

Selectman Furmaniuk made the motion to appoint Linda Davis, as recommended by Gloria Rugg, to the Fair Committee. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Patacchiola. All in favor.

INTERMUNICIPAL  
AGREEMENT WITH  
WEST BOYLSTON:

The Select Board reviewed the Intermunicipal Agreement with West Boylston with regards to the Building Inspector's Services. Ms. Ackerman explained that there were 3 minor changes made to the agreement. The Selectmen voted unanimously to approve and sign the agreement.

ANTIQUE AND 2<sup>ND</sup>  
HAND DEALERS:

The Board voted unanimously to approve the Antique & 2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Dealers License for the Sterling Rare Coin Corporation, owned by Thomas Lisi.

NEIGHBOR TO  
NEIGHBOR FUND:

Selectman Patacchiola stated that he had met with Finance Committee Rep, Lisa Call, regarding the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund and how they were able to be creative using other funds to assist those in need. He stated he was recently informed that additional information was being submitted and requested the disbursement of funds be tabled until July 18<sup>th</sup>.

Selectman Furmaniuk suggested that the trades people in town be asked to donate to the Neighbor to Neighbor fund once a year.

APPOINTMENT  
POLICY:

The Board agreed to look at the appointment policy with hopes of making the policy more transparent by making 2 minor changes. The first change would be to take out the "after posting 21 days on cable TV" and the second to add Selectmen are allowed to make appointments as they see fit as long as it does not involve a joint vote from Finance and Personnel Board.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Selectman Furmaniuk announced that he Farmers Market is now open on Fridays from 3:00 – 6:30 PM, selling produce, meat and wine.

ADJOURNMENT:

Selectman Furmaniuk made the motion to adjourn at 9:40 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Patacchiola. All in favor.

TOWN ADMIN.  
FOLLOW-UP/  
ANNOUNCEMENT

Two custodians were hired. Paul Valentino and Ed Benoit.  
MIIA Insurance. Various credits: \$11,451 savings and 12% off premium.  
Purchase Vs Lease on Copier: (Per Finance Com. Request) Terri Ackerman researched both options and it is cheapest to purchase outright. Selectmen agreed.

Selectman Patacchiola will attend Dept Head meeting on July 25<sup>th</sup>. He will provide feedback and input to other Selectmen.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

BRIAN J. PATACCHIOLA  
CLERK