

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

August 17, 2009

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:05pm by Chairman Patuto with all Selectmen present.

CITIZENS' TIME:

Resident Greg Smith came before the Board and complimented on how nice the Town Common looks with the new side walks installed.

532: VOTE: Disability Access Committee/Use of Handicap Funds

Veterans Services Director Robert Hogan came before with a request for funds to rewire power to the automatic door. Selectman Gianino moved to approve \$534.50 Disability Access Committee/Use of Handicap Funds to fix the auto switch on the automatic door. Seconded by Selectman Zenkin and unanimously voted. (5-0)

533:DISCUSSION: Recycle Committee/Massachusetts Bottle Bill

Gretchen Carey, Betty Gilman and John Tuccinardi came before the Board to seek their support of the new bottle bill. The new bottle bill will include water bottles and sports drink bottles. The new bill will bring more revenues. They would like to see the benefits of the new bill once the detail are worked out.

534:DISCUSSION: Council on Aging/Senior Olympics

COA Director Marge McDonald spoke to the Board about holding Burlington's first Senior Olympics to be held Tuesday, September 15th-Friday, September 18th. Selectman Zenkin moved to endorse the Council on Aging/Senior Olympics. Seconded by Selectman DiTucci and unanimously voted. (5-0)

535:DISCUSSION: Council on Aging/Property Tax Program

COA Director Marge McDonald requested to raise the amount seniors receive when they do the Property Tax Program and to increase the number of people allowed to participate. The Program allows income eligible seniors in Burlington to volunteer their time and receive an abatement on their property taxes. They can work up to 100 hours at \$6.00/hour and receive \$600 off their tax bill. She requested that the Selectmen increase the amount to \$800 and add two more slots. Selectman DiTucci said if there are too many participants then a lottery should be put in place so not to turn away new comers. Selectman Zenkin said he thinks this is a great program. Selectman Zenkin moved to approve the Council on Aging/Property Tax Program increase to \$800 and an additional two slots added. Seconded by Selectman DiTucci and unanimously voted. (5-0)

536:VOTE: Earth Removal Permit

Burlington Heights/235 Cambridge Street

Attorney Mark Vaughn was present representing Burlington Heights. As part of the petition the applicant also requested that the Board waive the required public hearing. Chairman Patuto questioned waiving a required public hearing. T.A. Mercier said that is how it has been done in the past and it has already been through the Planning Board public hearing process. Attorney Mark Vaughn said the regulations state the Board may waive a public hearing because earth moving is related to construction and have met the qualifications. Selectman Rollins moved to approve the Earth Removal Permit/Burlington Heights/235 Cambridge Street. Seconded by Selectman Zenkin and unanimously voted. (5-0)

537:VOTE: Cafeteria/Common Victualler
Oracle/4 and 10 Van de Graaff Drive

Eric Carlson was present representing Oracle. He said they currently use a labor company to run the cafeteria and would like to use Bon Appetit. Selectman Gianino moved to approve the Cafeteria/Common Victualler/Oracle/10 Van de Graaff Drive. Seconded by Selectman Rollins and unanimously voted. (5-0)

538:PRESENTATION: Town Flag Presentation

Selectman Zenkin presented the winner of the Flag design competition. There were 33 participants. He said they wanted to keep the same theme as the original flag in 1974 but wanted to include the Town Seal. Director of the Burlington Chamber of Commerce Jim Murphy presented Sara Martin with an award of \$500 and the first copy of the new flag. Selectman Chairman Patuto read aloud a proclamation. Selectman DiTucci moved to accept the new flag. Seconded by Selectman Zenkin with Selectman Rollins, Selectman Patuto, Selectman Zenkin and Selectman DiTucci voting in favor and Selectman Gianino abstaining. (4-0-1)

539:DISCUSSION: September 30th Town Meeting Articles

Town Administrator Mercier gave the Board a brief update on the upcoming Town Meeting articles; Elected Officials Health Insurance and the removal of stipends, Policy on Solicitation, 40 & 44 South Bedford Street, 2010 Annual Election Date and Chapter 137.

Selectman Gianino said he has asked before that the Recreation Commission meetings be televised on BCAT. The Board agrees and would like to see those meetings televised.

540:SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Presented by Selectman Gianino the Fire Department ambulance bids went out. They have received three bid packages. Roof work began this week. Fire Ops 101 Class will run September 17th-19th and is sponsored by local 2312. The Fire Department presented Fire Muster Day. There was a meeting two weeks ago with Mt. Hope. They are looking into putting on an addition. Truck Day will be September 13th.

Presented by Selectman DiTucci the Ice Palace is coming along very well. The rink and the cafeteria are done. People Helping People will be having some fund raisers in August; Tuesday, August 25th at Flatbread Pizza, Thursday, August 27th at St. Malachy's there will be Jazz and chocolate from 7:00pm-9:00pm at \$10 per person and there will be a walk for the food pantry on August 30th beginning at St. Malachy's and ending at the Town Common at \$15 per person. The automatic trash collection is showing success. Recycling is up from 13% to 27% and tonnage is down 38%. Overflow bags can be purchased 5 for \$10. Chairs, sofas and mattresses can be picked up by calling 1-800-442-9006. The automatic meter reader is out to bid. The cemetery wall at Chestnut is being repaired. The Bruce/Alma Rd drainage is completed. Final paving remains at the Human Resources parking lot. The Bedford Street reconfiguration at Grandview is coming to completion and the sidewalk around the common is down. Beginning August 18th micro surfacing on the streets will begin.

Selectman Rollins met with the BLINE Committee last week. They have completed their first month with the new bus company. People are pleased and she has received positive feedback. The Historical Committee Fall Air is scheduled for Saturday, September 26th on the Town Common. There are more than 30 vendors registered. The Committee is still looking for vendors and volunteers. Recycling has increased to 27%. The

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Grandview Farm Committee brick program is up to 330 bricks by completion of Phase I. The Economic Development Committee will meet next week and the 3A Subcommittee will be meeting soon.

Selectman Zenkin said the Town is teaming up with Shawsheen Tech for Phase II of the Grandview Farm renovation. They will use Grandview as their classroom. He thanked the Police, Shaw's, Culinary Creations and the clubs that helped participate in the night out. The Police Chief position has been posted.

541:TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

The Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company will begin their vegetation management. Selectman Rollins moved to approve the Mitre Licensing Agreement for the Triangular Parcel and to give Town Administrator Robert Mercier authorization to sign on the behalf of the Town. Seconded by Selectman Zenkin and unanimously voted. (5-0)

542:CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chairman Patuto congratulated the Burlington Cal Ripkin baseball team, coaches and parents for the entrance into the 2009 World Series. The Middlesex Sheriff was at the Police Night Out. NSTAR will begin their vegetation management along with Tennessee Gas. NSTAR has a booklet available at the Selectmen's Office. He said he is concerned why Burlington was left off the Stimulus money and the clean energy and alternative energy awards. He asked T.A. Mercier to direct the Administration to look into the awards.

Selectman Rollins moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:20pm. Seconded by Selectman Zenkin and unanimously voted. (5-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Nichols
Recording Secretary