

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING

MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2010

PRESENT: Willard J. Boulter, Jr. (Chairman), Daniel W. Trabucco (Vice-Chairman), Lewis W. Stone (Clerk), Arthur P. Boyle, Jr. (Selectman), Gregory M. Hanley (Selectman), Edwin J. Thorne (Town Administrator), Diane M. Tobin (Executive Assistant), John Mattinson (PEMBTV), Becca Manning (Pembroke Express), Ben Bastianelli, Attorney Jay Teehan, Kathleen McCarthy, Doris Mann, and others.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Veteran's Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Dog Licenses: An announcement was submitted by the Town Clerk to advise residents that dog license tags are available and should be obtained before Sept. 1st.

Affordable Properties: A reminder notice was read regarding the availability of two affordable properties in Pembroke in the Pine Grove Condominiums on School Street.

Pembroke High School Cheerleaders: Permission was granted to hold a fundraiser car wash on June 26th in front of the Community Center.

Commission on Disabilities: Tom Weinreich wrote a letter to the Selectmen reminding of the 20th anniversary of the Commission on Disabilities coming up on July 25th. He noted the accomplishments of the commission such as transportation of disabled residents, the handicap ramp on the Town Green, automatic doors at the Town Hall, and accessibility to the library. Mr. Weinreich thanked community leaders for their efforts.

Recreation Tennis & Basketball Courts: The courts in the town center will be closed for resurfacing from Tues., June 15 through Monday, June 21st.

MINUTES: The Selectmen accepted the minutes of June 7, 2010 as written.

COUNCIL ON AGING: Mr. Boyle moved, seconded by Mr. Stone, to appoint James C. Baillie to serve on the Council on Aging Board of Directors for a term to expire in June 2012. Voted 5/0 in favor. There is still a vacancy on this board.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE: It is expected that there will be three vacancies on the Advisory Committee as of June 30th. Applicants are encouraged.

MOORING BALL: The request for a mooring ball in Stetson Pond was withdrawn.

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PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX COLLECTION: The Treasurer/Collector, Kathleen McCarthy advised the Selectmen that there is approximately \$307,000 in outstanding personal property taxes. She told them these bills become uncollectable after a certain amount of time. She proposed the use of agencies that are available to be used as deputy collectors for a fee of 33%. The Town would get back the full amount owed and the 33% extra would be paid by the business owner. Personal property tax is the tax on equipment or space that is used to operate a business in town.

Mr. Boyle moved, seconded by Mr. Stone, that the Selectmen give the Treasurer/Collector permission to look at hiring an agency after giving a second notice to businesses that they will have to pay their outstanding bill. This would be effective as of August 1, 2010. Voted 5/0 unanimously in favor.

ASSISTANT TREAS/COLL AND PRINCIPAL CLERK: The current Principal Clerk in the Treasurer's Office, Jennifer Grasso, has been promoted to the Assistant Treasurer/Collector position which became available through the retirement of Mary Ann Toland. Mr. Boyle moved, seconded by Mr. Stone, to grant permission for the Treasurer to fill the Principal Clerk's position. So voted 5/0 unanimously in favor.

POND ISSUES/DORIS MANN: Ms. Mann is very concerned about the condition of the pond. She feels it is a health issue. Mr. Boyle agreed and asked if we could go forward to treat Oldham Pond as a health risk despite the discovery of eastern mussels. Ms. Mann asked Selectmen Hanley to jump on board to get Vanessa Yandell from the State Dept. of Public Health to respond quickly to testing the water and getting the clean up started to control the algae bloom. Mr. Boyle suggests encouraging the Board of Health to help with persuading DEM to go forward. Copper Sulphate used to be used on the ponds but because of the mussels, DEP said no. Aquatic Control proposed using a different chemical but it needs to be cleared by Fisheries and Wildlife. Ms. Mann feels we need an answer immediately before the summer is over.

Vaness Yandell will come down to Pembroke on Wednesday as a result of seeing the photos that Doris Mann sent to her. She will perform tests and get the results back to us quickly. The Chairman could declare a state of emergency to be able to move forward with treatment if it turns out to be a health risk.

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BONNEY STREET TRAILER: Mr. Boyle moved, seconded by Trabucco, to extend permission for the temporary trailer at on Bonney Street for 60 days to give the attorney the opportunity to get into court with the property owners lawsuit against the contractor.

SELECTMEN'S CONFERENCE: Selectman Hanley attended the Mass Municipal Assoc. Selectmen's Conference and he asked the Attorney General about the bylaw for docks. The Attorney General advised that since there is an existing bylaw in the town that regulates uses on the ponds, the Selectmen have the authority to create policy as opposed to a by-law change to define areas of the existing bylaws that remain silent on an issue. He suggested that a proposal could be brought forward as a board policy to clarify the existing bylaws relative to docks and rafts.

300TH ANNIVERSARY: Selectman Boulter reported that the Police, Fire and DPW and others talked about the parade at last week's meeting. The route will begin at Pembroke High School, proceed down Hobomock St. to Center Street and end at the Town Green.

SURPLUS PROPERTY & SCHOOL ST.: Town Administrator Thorne informed the Selectmen that an ad will be run for the property at 630 School Street. The previous ad had restriction but the Selectmen may want to re-consider imposing those restrictions on this particular lot because the only interested party is the abutter who would be unable to expand their facilities and dorm space with those restrictions.

Mr. Trabucco moved, seconded by Mr. Boyle to strike the restrictive language in the advertisement. So voted unanimously in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mr. Boyle moved, seconded by Mr. Hanley, to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation with town counsel, and upon conclusion no further public business to be discussed.

Roll Call Vote: Trabucco, yes – Stone, yes – Boyle, yes – Hanley, yes – Boulter, yes

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.