

**MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING
SEPTEMBER 26, 2011**

PRESENT: Lewis W. Stone (Vice Chairman), Gregory M. Hanley (Clerk), Arthur P. Boyle, Jr. (Selectman), Edwin J. Thorne (Town Administrator), Sabrina Chilcott (Executive Assistant), Jim Hannon, Frank Hackett (School Superintendent), Paul Bosworth (School Committee Chair), Suzanne Scroggins (School Committee VChair), Kathleen McCarthy (Treasurer), John Mattinson (PMB Cable), Mikaela Slaven (Pembroke Express), and others.

Acting Chairman Stone turned the meeting over to Selectman Boyle who noted the passing of Bill Wall, resident of Pembroke active in the Knights of Columbus and St. Joseph's Church. He extended the Boards and the Town's sympathies and to the Wall family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Pembroke Recreation Department is hosting an Open House on Saturday, October 22nd from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. They hope to bring awareness of the programs and services that are offered by the Pembroke Recreation Department and show the many uses of the Pembroke Community Center. Events include children's touch-a-truck, BMX demonstration and the Troop 43 Pumpkin Patch.

State Representative Daniel Webster will be holding office hours to meet with all constituents on October 5th at 7:00 pm at Oliveira's Restaurant, no appointment necessary.

The Planning Board is holding a public hearing for a sign request for Stop and Shop at the Plaza on October 3rd in the Planning Board room.

7:00 JIM HANNON OF HANNON AND RYAN INSURANCE:

Mr. Boulter introduced Mr. Hannon by stating that Mr. Hannon had read about Pembroke's 300th Anniversary and contacted the Committee to make a donation. Mr. Hannon stated that he read that the committee has asked each resident to donate 300 pennies and, as Pembroke has been so good to him, he would like to make a donation of \$3,000.00 to jump start the fundraising from the business community. Mr. Boulter presented Mr. Hannon with the first certificate awarded; made out to Hannon and Ryan Insurance and an Anniversary plate, photos were taken. Mr. Boulter stated Presidential Titanium has also made a generous donation. Mr. Stone as Vice Chairman of the 300th Committee thanked Mr. Hannon as well.

7:10 STATION STREET REALTY TRUST

Mr. Boyle requested that this piece of business be taken out of order as all interested parties were present. Mr. Boyle motioned to vacate the judgment on 9 Emily Lane (Map F2, Parcel 32), 15 Emily Lane (Map F2, Parcel 31), 10 Emily Lane (Map E2, Parcel 48), 11 Elizabeth Lane (Map E2, Parcel 49) at the recommendation of the Town Treasurer. Seconded by Mr. Hanley; four votes in favor with none opposed.

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7:15 FRANK HACKETT: UPDATE ON SCHOOL DEPARTMENT CAPITAL PLAN AND FY13 BUDGET OUTLOOK

.Mr. Stone welcomed Frank Hackett, Superintendent of Schools, Paul Bosworth, School Committee Chairman and Suzanne Scroggins, School Committee Vice Chairman. Mr. Hackett thanked the Board and stated that their initial conversations had led them to appear before the Board to have early conversations about FY13 as hard to know what state revenues will look like. Important to be thoughtful with fiscal planning but always have had a great relationship with the Town and with the BOS and in that spirit, early communication is key. Mr. Hackett had provided handouts that reflected capital plan through 2014 put together by the school committee and the administration several years ago. Mr. Hackett explained they have made some progress and updated many of the schools issues as refers to the capital plan as they have gone along but the view of the School Committee is to forgo presenting anything up at the fall Town Meeting in capital expenditures in lieu of the spring Town Meeting. There is a lot of uncertainty surrounding the spring, FY13. The school department is not submitting any warrant articles for fall town meeting. With additional FY13 concerns, there was a cover page included in Mr. Hackett's handout with red, white and blue detail. Mr. Hackett notes the detail that every year since the Silver Lake separation, the school's budget represents a smaller percentage of the overall Town budget. So there has been a reduction in the overall percentage from 62% of the Town budget to 52%, then 49% with an increased enrollment, and the 2011 budget is essentially at 2008 levels. Mr. Hackett explained that enrollment is beginning to level off with expectation of a slight decline in enrollment. Mr. Boyle asked if the increase in enrollment could be explained by establishing our own school, resulting in fewer children leaving for private schools or are we growing as a town? Mr. Hackett said both factors applied to the increase; economic development and improved academic performance. Mr. Hackett also pointed out the statistic that of 328 school system in Massachusetts, 317 spend more than Pembroke which is not necessarily bad. Our performance scores are good as relates to MCAS; we performed very well. The scores were in the middle to upper middle of the pack by grade level. The SAT scores were relatively flat but the AP scores showed more kids taking AP classes and doing very well in AP classes. Pembroke is close to being accredited. The reason the schools aren't looking for money this fall is that they are still living off of \$800k in federal stimulus funds that we saved to use. They were one time monies that are not there next year to use. The school won't have that money next year in FY13. It was important to speak to the Board now to let them know going into FY13 there will be issues with the budget cycle. Mr. Hanley told Mr. Hackett that what the schools have been able to do conserving funds is a tribute to the School Committee and Mr. Hackett's management practices. Mr. Hanley questioned the line item on Mr. Hackett's cover page indicating the Town's portion of the budget 2004 vs 2011 and the increase of 100% and asked if that had to do with building the schools; Mr. Hackett replied that this is because the Town now owns those employees in the secondary education program and all of the costs associated with them versus paying a tuition bill.

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Mr. Hanley asked if any of the costs of the schools is included in these figures; Mr. Thorne said the debt services figures are minimal and primarily on the older building projects because the newer projects were covered by the MSA formula; we received more money up front, financed less so the only significant debts left are the early projects like Hobomock. Mr. Hanley then asked if there is any possible help from School Building Assistance SBA? Mr. Hackett said he doesn't believe so as the buildings are in good shape but some were renovated ten years ago therefore have ten year old roofs. Mr. Hanley pointed out that capital projects over a certain value qualify, \$100,00.00, like Hobomock's roof. Mr. Hackett pointed out that coming up with our share would still be rough. Mr. Hanley said that accreditation is good news and congratulated Mr. Hackett. Mr. Stone thanked the School Committee members for attending and also thanked Mr. Hackett.

7:30 MINUTES

Mr. Hanley moved, and the Selectmen voted four in favor, to accept the minutes of the meeting of September 19, 2011 as presented. None opposed.

**7:30 CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF CANDIDATE TO HISTORIC
DISTRICT/HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

Mr. Boyle moved to accept the appointment of Stephen Hermann to the Historical Commission based on the letter of recommendation from the Chair of the Commission, Elizabeth Bates. Mr. Hanley seconded; four votes in favor, none opposed.

7:35 TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Thorne announced that October 5th is tentatively set for a joint Capital Planning-Cash Management Meeting at 6:30pm to discuss the warrants that have been submitted.

Mr. Thorne then requested a vote on the surplus property bids that were opened at the BOS meeting September 12, 2011. They were tabled by vote at the meeting of September 19, 2011 pending further review. Mr. Boyle moved that the Property #1, B4-145, Elmer Street \$25,000.00 bid be accepted by the BOS, Mr. Hanley seconded the motion; Mr. Boyle then amended his motion to state "with no representations made". Vote was taken; there were four votes in favor of the motion to accept \$25,000 bid with no representations made for B4-145 Elmer Street, none opposed.

Mr. Boyle moved that property #14, E10-52, 174 Fairwood Drive \$5,000.00 bid be accepted by the BOS as a non-buildable lot and that no structure will be put upon it; Mr. Hanley seconded the motion. Four votes were in favor of the motion; none opposed.

Mr. Boyle moved that property #23, B2-3196, D street \$250.00 bid be rejected by the BOS as it won't cover the cost of doing the paperwork; Mr. Hanley seconded the motion. Four votes were in favor of the motion; none opposed.

Mr. Boyle moved that property #6, 56 Standish Street \$50,000.00 bid be rejected by the BOS as it comes with contingencies; must reject as there is no purchase and sale here. Mr. Hanley seconded the motion. Four votes were in favor of the motion; none opposed.

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Mr. Boyle moved that property #8, E3-57, Pelham Street \$1,500.00 bid be accepted by the BOS as wetlands only and deemed non-buildable; Mr. Hanley asked about the BOS putting conditions on the sale; Mr. Boyle stated the successful bidder is aware of the conditions. Mr. Thorne confirmed this fact. Mr. Hanley seconded the motion. Four votes were in favor of the motion; none opposed.

Mr. Boyle moved that property #9, E3-58, Pelham Street \$5,500.00 bid be accepted by the BOS as wetlands only and deemed non-buildable; Mr. Hanley seconded the motion. Four votes were in favor of the motion; none opposed.

Mr. Boyle confirmed that he and Mr. Thorne spoke with the Assessor; each of these properties defined this evening as such were clearly described as wetlands and deemed non-buildable in the assessors office. Mr. Thorne wanted to let residents know the proceeds of both the surplus real estate sales and surplus vehicle sales go into the capital fund. Mr. Thorne wanted the Board to know that since the report from the Recycling Committee last week on the hours of the Recycling Center, he has asked Deborah Wall to put a survey on the Town website asking whether residents prefer Saturday or Sunday hours at the Recycling Center; Saturday is currently leading at 63%. Mr. Boulter asked what Mr. Valenti's preference would be. Mr. Thorne has a meeting with Mike Valenti tomorrow and shared an update on the target completion date for the capping of the landfill is the middle of November. Mr. Boulter mentioned that once this area is grassed in and has trees planted, his preference for the skatepark is at this area instead of downtown. Mr. Stone said once the area is finished, the Skatepark Committee may want to take another look at it. Mr. Thorne pointed out it will look a lot different; it will be spectacular. Mr. Boulter said it will be ideal for inline skating, bike riding. Mr. Hanley reminded everyone that Environmental Partners said there would be significant savings through good overseeing, good contracting. It may be time for post-close uses to be considered now using the funds that were saved while the contractor is still there. Mr. Boulter pointed out the skatepark be crowded behind the library.

Mr. Stone wanted to let residents know that in June there was a forum at the library. Twenty-three people developed a long range plan for the library and formulated objectives. On Sunday, there will be an Open House to show the new lap top computers and demonstrate the new technology. Mr. Stone wanted to commend the trustees and the staff for all of their hard work and positive results. Mr. Stone also wanted to let the rest of the Board know he attended a meeting of the Massachusetts Selectmen's Association with the MMA. They provided a legislative update, specifically their views on the casinos, state aid, cuts in local aid that will be distributed in October, pension changes, insurance. There has been nothing decided; there were just shared philosophies and questions answered. The casinos were hotly debated. Mr. Boyle said it was good news that Brockton Power Plant wasn't entitled to use Silver Lake's water as their coolant. He thanked Senator Murray and Representative Webster for their lobbying efforts on this issue. Mr. Stone said Mr. Trabucco will have a Fore River Bridge update on his return. Mr. Thorne told the BOS that Dancer's World is holding a car wash on the Town Green October 1st from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mr. Hanley moved, seconded by Mr. Boyle, to go into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares, and upon conclusion no further votes or public business to be discussed.

Roll call vote: Stone, yes – Hanley, yes – Boyle, yes – Boulter, yes

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.