

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**Minutes of March 1, 2010**

Chairman Martha Morrison called the meeting to order at 7:32PM. Board members present in addition to Chairman Morrison were Richard Gandt, Karen Dow and Laura Powers. Nancy Luther was absent. Of the Selectmen's staff, Town Administrator Virginia Wilder and Board Secretary Donna Rich were in attendance. Other persons present during all or part of the meeting were Evelyn Hammond of the Topsfield Cable.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Chairman Morrison announced that the Board would go into Executive Session to discuss ongoing litigation and the Police Union Contract and would not return to Open Session. Chairman Morrison praised the efforts of the Fire, Police and Highway Departments during and after the storm that hit Topsfield last Thursday night, February 25<sup>th</sup>, which carried hurricane force winds and torrential rain that flooded roads, took down many trees, and affected power lines.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Old Business**

2010 Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting: Ms. Wilder reviewed the 51 articles with the Board. There was discussion and clarification throughout the articles with some being removed. It was noted that the Warrant would be voted on at the March 15, 2010 meeting.

**New Business**

Americans with Disabilities Act Proclamation: Selectman Gandt made a motion to proclaim "ADA Day" on July 26, 2010 recognizing the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act, seconded by Selectman Dow; so voted: 4-0.

Energy Audit & Solar Site Assessments for Town Buildings: Chairman Morrison noted that Steward School and the Police Department have been omitted from the quote for an energy audit of all town buildings. The contract with Joe Green Home Solutions of Salem, MA was therefore held for further clarification and will be taken up again at the Board's next meeting on March 15, 2010.

**Liaison Reports**

Selectman Gandt reported that the Masconomet Regional School FY 2011 budget Public Hearing was held on Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup> and Dr. Lockwood (currently Superintendent in Tyngsboro, MA) was appointed the new Superintendent.

**Town Administrator's Report:**

- Reported on the Masconomet Budget Presentation
- Reported on the PERAC meeting which interviewed candidates for Chair of the Essex Regional Retirement Board
- Public Safety Committee is to meet tomorrow to debrief the storm of February 25<sup>th</sup>
- Charter for the Town Building Study & Master Planning Committee

**Selectmen Minutes:**

Selectman Powers made a motion to accept the Working Session Minutes of January 11, 2010 as presented; seconded by Selectman Dow; so voted 3-0. Selectman Gandt abstained.

Selectman Powers made a motion to accept the Executive Session Minutes of January 11, 2010 as amended and to hold until all issues have been resolved; seconded by Selectman Dow; so voted 3-0. Selectman Gandt abstained.

Selectman Gandt made a motion to accept the Minutes of January 19, 2010 as amended; seconded by Selectman Powers; so voted 4-0.

Selectman Gandt made a motion to accept the Executive Session Minutes of January 19, 2010 as written and to hold until all issues have been resolved; seconded by Selectman Powers; so voted 4-0.

Selectman Gandt made a motion to accept the Minutes of February 1, 2010 as amended; seconded by Selectman Powers; so voted 4-0.

Selectman Powers made a motion to accept the Executive Session Minutes of February 1, 2010 as written and to hold until all issues have been resolved; seconded by Selectman Dow; so voted 4-0.

Selectman Powers made a motion to accept the Working Session Minutes of February 8, 2010 as amended; seconded by Selectman Dow; so voted 4-0.

Selectman Powers made a motion to accept the Executive Session Minutes of February 8, 2010 as written and to hold until all issues have been resolved; seconded by Selectman Dow; so voted 4-0.

## **Correspondence & Reports**

### Correspondence

Parson Capen House: A copy of a letter was received from Peter Bryson, Code Consultant, to Glenn Clohecy regarding the proposed addition to the rear of the Parson Capen House.

Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant Program: Department of Energy Resources Green Communities Division has sent a letter denying funding of the project that was submitted.

Emergency Regulations Regarding Standards of Performance: Kopelman & Paige PC has sent a memorandum regarding Standards of Performance for Emergency Preparation & Restoration of Service for Electric Distribution & Gas Companies.

Letter of Thanks: Barbara Stowe & Family has sent a letter of thanks and appreciation of the flowers sent in memory of the Reverend Richard Stowe.

Topsfield Bakeshop: Mary Bandereck has sent a letter to several people regarding obstacles she is experiencing in trying to open a bakeshop in Topsfield.

Emerson Field: Park & Cemetery Commissioners have submitted a letter requesting the Board of Selectmen lease the Emerson Field from the Congregational Church for FY 2011.

### Reports

North Shore Regional Vocational School District submitted a short and long version of the Annual Report-January 1-December 31, 2009.

**Warrants:** The Selectmen signed and approved warrants in the amount of **\$ 389,558.23**. The breakdown is as follows:

Warrant FY10:	
071T	\$ 78,306.15
726	\$ 311,252.08

At 9:21 PM, Selectmen Dow made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss ongoing litigation and the Police Union Contract; seconded by Selectman Gandt. In a roll call vote, a yes vote was recorded for Chairman Morrison, Selectman Gandt, Selectman Dow and Selectman Powers. The Board would not return to open session.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Rich, Secretary  
Selectmen's Office

*Approved as amended at the March 15, 2010 Board of Selectmen's meeting.*

Pursuant to the 'Open Meeting Law,' G.L. 39, § 23B, the approval of these minutes by the Board constitutes a certification of the date, time and place of the meeting, the members present and absent, and the actions taken at the meeting. Any other description of statements made by any person, or the summary of the discussion of any matter, is included for the purpose of context only, and no certification, express or implied, is made by the Board as to the completeness or accuracy of such statements.