

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Proctor School Library
Minutes of March 17, 2014**

Chairman Ken Vogel called the meeting to order at 7:30PM. Board members present, in addition to Chairman Vogel, were Martha Morrison, Dick Gandt, Laura Powers and Eldon Goodhue. Of the Selectmen's staff, Town Administrator Kellie Hebert and Board Secretary Donna Rich were in attendance. Other persons present during all or part of the meeting were Topsfield Cable operators Caleb Hudson, Tri-Town Transcript reporter Anna Burgess, Police Chief Evan Haglund, Fire Chief Ron Giovannacci, School Committee Chairman Susan Archer, residents Jen Hunt and Stephen Lais, and Captain Jen Collins Brown.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Selectman Powers announced that Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley OFM Cap, Archbishop of Boston would be celebrating at the 11:30AM Mass on March 23rd at St. Rose of Lima and wanted to memorialize the event by presenting a citation signed by the Board of Selectmen.

Chairman Vogel announced that he would be resigning as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen at the end of this meeting because of his immediate relocation to Denver, CO. Chairman Vogel thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve Topsfield in the many roles he had been elected to serve.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Old Business

ATM Warrant: Selectman Morrison made a motion to open the Annual Town Meeting Warrant, seconded by Selectman Powers.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to add an article entitled: Triennial Re-Certification for All Real Property Values for \$47,500 seconded by Selectman Powers; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Powers made a motion to close the Annual Town Meeting Warrant, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Powers made a motion to remove articles entitled: Police/Fire Medical Fund, Deminimis Property Tax Assessment, and Other Post-Employment Benefits OPEB Fund-Water Enterprise, seconded by Selectman Gandt; so voted: 5-0.

New Business

Auxiliary Police Officers: Selectman Morrison made a motion to appoint Daniel Bell, James Kivlehan, Brendan Gahagan and Jason Maguire as (new) Auxiliary Police officer/Prisoner watch, to a term to begin March 17th and to expire on June 30, 2014, seconded by Selectman Powers; so voted: 5-0.

Road Closing Request: Selectman Morrison made a motion to approve the closing of South Common Street at 4:30-8:00PM for the Library's Annual Summer Reading Kick-Off event to be held on June 20, 2014, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 5-0.

Council on Aging Members: Selectman Morrison made a motion to appoint Martha Davis for a term to expire June 30, 2014 and Annette Cohen for a term to expire June 30, 2016 to the Council on Aging Board, seconded by Selectman Powers; so voted: 5-0.

CITIZENS QUESTIONS & COMMENTS *none heard*

Old Business (continued)

ATM Warrant (continued): Town Clerk-elected to appointed: Selectman Morrison began by expressing that although she is in favor of the change from elected to appointed for the Town

Clerk, she feels that there should be more public discussion and that might not be possible before this year's Town Meeting. Selectman Powers expressed her disappointment, relaying that sometimes difficult decisions have to be made. Selectman Gandt made a motion to remove the Town Clerk-elected to appointed, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 3-2, Selectmen Powers and Vogel opposed.

Petition for Pouring Licenses Article: Selectman Morrison reported that the Alcohol Licensing Advisory Committee recommends the Board request eight (8) pouring licenses for conference and event facilities and full restaurants be put forward in an article. There was a discussion regarding how the article could affect existing conference and event facilities presently in Topsfield. Selectman Morrison reminded the Board that there should also be a non-binding ballot question relative to this article.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to include a petition to the state for a special act authorizing the Town to issue eight (8) pouring licenses for conference and event facilities and full restaurants, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to remove North Shore Vocational School District Assessment and rename article entitled Essex No. Shore Agricultural & Technical School to read Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical School District Assessment, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 5-0.

Capital Projects/Override for Elementary School: There was a discussion relative to capital items and the expected estimated \$290,000 the School Committee has requested for an override amount. School Committee Chairman Susan Archer spoke to the estimated \$90,000 being requested for technology which includes the purchase of iPad's. The Board agreed that the already committed capital items should be held harmless.

Selectman Powers made a motion to open the Annual Town Meeting Warrant, seconded by Selectman Morrison; so voted: 5-0. Selectman Powers made a motion to add an article entitled: Purchase of Technology Equipment for the Elementary Schools, seconded by Selectman Morrison; so voted: 3-2. Selectmen Goodhue and Gandt opposed. Selectman Gandt made a motion to close the Warrant, seconded by Selectman Morrison; so voted: 5-0.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to approve Large Capital Projects-Borrowing Articles identified as Highway Sander/Snow Plow vehicle, Fire Rescue vehicle and Fire Quint/Ladder Truck, seconded by Selectman Powers; there was a discussion regarding the impact of borrowing to fund the three items, so voted: 4-1. Selectman Gandt opposed.

Selectman Gandt made a motion to change the Conservation Commission membership article to be Amend Membership of Conservation Commission, seconded by Selectman Powers; so voted: 5-0.

Citizen Petition for Special Town Meeting: There was a discussion related to the petition to repeal/rescind the 2009 Town Meeting vote to enter into the Regional Emergency Communication Center. It was agreed that the date would be April 22nd, provided the Finance Committee and Moderator were available.

Correspondence & Reports

Correspondence

Joe Geller was acknowledged for maps provided to the Boston & Maine Railroad Historical Society.

J Barrett & Company notified the Town that they are in the final phase of selling units at The Meadows on Wildes Road.

Dartmouth Board of Selectmen requested the Board send a letter to our legislative delegation regarding a modification within the current state tax classification.

Letter received from Bridgewell explaining their intended use the property at 39 Averill Street.

Reports

Trust Commissioners submitted minutes of January 7, 2014 and draft of March 5, 2014.

Conservation Commission submitted minutes of January 22, 2014.

North Shore Vocational School submitted minutes of January 16, 2016 and an agenda for March 13th.

Invitations

Independent Living Center invited the Board to their award and legislative event to be held on May 9th beginning at 9AM.

At 9:30 PM Selectmen Goodhue made a motion to adjourn and Selectman Powers seconded the motion; so voted: 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Rich, Secretary
Selectmen's Office

Approved as amended at the April 28, 2014 Board of Selectmen's meeting.

Per the Open Meeting Law, the documents that were either distributed to the BOS before the meeting in a packet, or at the meeting were:

1. Agenda
2. 2014 ATM Warrant Articles
3. Road Closure request from the Town Library
4. Auxiliary Police Officers Appointments request
5. Council on Aging appointments request
6. Boston & Marine Railroad Historical Society letter of acknowledgement
7. The Meadows, Wildes Road notification of final phase
8. Dartmouth request for support.
9. Bridgewell Inc. of Lynnfield, MA intent for 39 Averill Street
10. Trust Commissioners minutes of January 7, 2014 and draft of March 5, 2014
11. Conservation Commission minutes of January 22, 2014
12. NS Vocational School minutes of January 16, 2014 and Agenda of Marcy 13, 2014
13. Independent Living Center invitation for May 9, 2014 event.
14. Citation from Board of Selectmen to Archbishop of Boston

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.