

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Working Session
Minutes of March 23, 2009

Chairman Jackson called the meeting to order at 5:03PM. Board members present in addition to Chairman Jackson were Richard Gandt, Martha Morrison, Nancy Luther and Karen Dow. Of the Selectmen's staff, Town Administrator Virginia Wilder and Board Secretary Donna Rich were in attendance. John Kinhan, Town Moderator, was also present.

Chairman Jackson stated the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the order of items within the Warrant, along with suggested additions or deletions.

Articles 22 & 23 on the Ipswich Road Water Main Project were discussed. The question was raised if two articles were required or can they be grouped together in one. Chairman Jackson will have a discussion with the Water Commissioners with answers to be available for Wednesday's meeting.

Article 13 Board of Health Revolving Fund was discussed as to its necessity. Chairman Jackson offered to find out more details and will report at Wednesday's meeting. Ms. Wilder gave information regarding placement of a "sunset clause" in the fund that would remediate the extra funds residing in such funds. However, the Board felt that sunset clauses on revolving accounts were not necessary.

Article 16 – 21: The capital expense articles were reviewed with most of the discussion centered on the Fire Department's request on a new pumper to replace Engine 3. Different scenarios of how to possibly fund the expense of the pumper were reviewed with no final decision. Chairman Jackson reminded the Board of their responsibility to the citizens, which is to spend money wisely and to make hard choices that need to be made.

Article 24, relating to marijuana, was discussed and removed off the warrant.

Article 25 Regional Emergency Communications Center was discussed and amended. It was stated that a member from the Sheriff's Department should be at Town Meeting to answer any questions or concerns.

In terms of the Zoning & Planning Articles it was noted that they were still being reviewed by Town Counsel and at the time of the meeting were not yet available for the Board's review.

Article 33 Small Town Road Assistance Program was reviewed and Moderator Kinhan requested that the article reference the statute requiring town meeting approval. Chairman Jackson offered to review this with Dave Bond, Superintendent of Highway.

Article 34 Demand Charges for Delinquent Taxes: Moderator Kinhan suggested clarifying the wording by adding: "demand for delinquent municipal taxes". Selectman Luther requested that in the explanation it end at "local Collector".

Article 35 Littering Chapter LII: Selectman Morrison expressed changing the name to Litter Bylaw. Selectman Gandt has been reviewing further changes from legal counsel.

Article 36 is still being reviewed by legal counsel and is not in its final format.

It was agreed to move the Small Town Road Assistance Program up in sequence to be right after the Massachusetts Highway Department Contract. Also agreed upon was to remove HAWC and Tri-Town Council from the Operating Budget and place their funding request on the Warrant as Articles. It was decided that charitable contributions should not be included in the Town Operating Budget. The Hazardous Waste Collection line item was taken out of the Operating Budget in December. The Board discussed options for putting it back in the budget.

Warrants: The Selectmen signed and approved warrants in the amount of \$ **597,471.93**. The breakdown is as follows:

Warrant FY09:	
077	\$ 71,200.09
077School	\$ 205,569.08
078	\$ 320,702.76

At 6:59PM, Chairman Jackson moved the motion to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Dow; so voted: 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Rich, Secretary
Selectmen's Office

Approved as amended at the April 13, 2009 Board of Selectmen's meeting.