

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES – NOVEMBER 23, 2009

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chairman Alex Vispoli called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 6:12 P.M. **in the Selectmen's Conference Room at the Town Offices. Present at the Regular Meeting:** Chairman Vispoli – Y and Selectman Lyman – Y and Selectman Major – Y. Also present: Assistant Town Manager Stephen Bucuzzo. The meeting was duly posted and cable-cast live.

II. Opening Ceremonies

Chairman Vispoli asked for a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Work Session

The Board discussed creating a policy for naming rights at length. There are two requests before them to consider – one to name the original Town Meeting Hall (upstairs facility) as the James D. Doherty Meeting Hall and the other is a potential request for a dedication to Jay Leno. The Board talked about policy language to consider and ideas for recognizing residents who have given substantial service to the Town. Assistant Town Manager Bucuzzo said it is the responsibility of the Board to look at the bigger picture beyond the individual with the absence of a policy or process on how to consider requirements to be honored and how future requests would be considered. The Board continued to deliberate ideas for the requests before them.

Selectman Major motioned to dedicate the facility on the second floor of the Town House as the James D. Doherty Meeting Hall and to create an Honor Roll of Distinguished Service for recognition of residents who have made substantial contributions to the Town. The motion was seconded by Chairman Vispoli and voted 3-0 to approve.

The criteria for distinguished service would be determined at a later date.

The Work Session ended at 7:09 P.M. and the Regular Session began at 7:10 P.M.

IV. Communications/Announcements/Liaison Reports

Selectman Lyman reported that the Tri-Board Communications Sub-committee has named their blog, The Andover Budget Blog which will supply an outlet for residents to respond to questions on the budget, explain the process and a link with the Town website.

Selectman Major received an e-mail from School Committee members Dennis Fogue and David Birnbach to investigate the use of turbines for energy use. Selectman Major contacted Plant and Facilities Director Joe Piantedosi who informed him that the turbines would not work because there is not enough wind in the area they suggested.

Chairman Vispoli provided an update on the IT Committee's progress and read a statement from Committee Chairman Len D'Innocenzo. The consulting company, BlumShapiro, has begun the process of interviewing Town and School employees for input and focus groups are in progress. The final plan will give the Town a roadmap to the future. The IT Committee will meet next on December 16th at 3:00 P.M. in the **Selectmen's** conference room.

Chairman Vispoli reported that the Firefighters Annual Holiday Parade will be held on Sunday, November 30th at 1:00 P.M.

V. Citizen Petitions and Presentations

John Pasquale, 47B Whittier Street, was very impressed with the content and presentation of the Mid-Year Review held at the Memorial Hall Library last week. He also commented on the new entranceway to the Veteran's Memorial Auditorium and suggested a picture be taken now showing the new railings and patio.

VI. Continued Public Hearing

A. FY-2011-FY-2015 Capital Improvement Program

Assistant Town Manager Steve Bucuzzo provided a summary of the Town Manager's Recommended FY-2011 CIP, stated the total recommended for FY-2011 is \$7,655,207 and is made up of various projects funded from several funding sources as previously outlined in the Town Manager's presentation. The Board discussed the Water/Sewer Enterprise Funds and the water rates. A monthly update on the Water and Sewer Funds will be provided to the Board every month. Mr. Bucuzzo said the \$1M for the Water Department GAB is to request authorization and to spread issuance of the debt over several years. Tony Torrisi stated a drop off in the debt would help the whole budget. Mr. Bucuzzo said the objective is to keep level debt service capacity within the budget. The Sewer Reserve is in excellent shape and the plan is to avoid increasing sewer rates.

Mr. Pasquale asked if the Board would commit to dedicating some part of the money into repairing sidewalks. Selectman Major explained that funds from Water Reserves cannot be used elsewhere but agrees that funds need to be appropriated for sidewalk repair. Mr. Pasquale questioned the reason for the sewer rate change from 1.98 to 3.09 which is an increase of 59% on page 96 of the CIP. Mr. Torrisi explained that the data on page 106 shows all the Sewer projects undertaken.

The Board discussed the \$355,000 request for vehicle purchasing for the Police Department, Fire Rescue and Town. Chairman Vispoli suggested setting a separate agenda item for vehicle replacement to discuss replacement strategies and justification for replacements. They also agreed to have a discussion on the debt exclusion cap. Selectman Major said a short review of the projects exempt from borrowing (Bancroft, Fire Station, Town Yard) and what the impact will be should also be included in the discussion. Mr. Bucuzzo said the December 7th Tri-board meeting would be an opportunity for the three boards to discuss these matters. Andover's legislative delegation has also been invited to attend the meeting. Selectman Major asked that they be reminded of the unfounded mandates and how the changes have impacted us.

Selectman Lyman motioned to close the public hearing on the FY-2011 – FY-2015 CIP at 8:02 P.M. The motion was seconded by Selectman Major and voted 3-0 to approve.

VII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Selectman Lyman, with a second by Selectman Major and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee DeLorenzo

Dee DeLorenzo
Recorder