BOARD OF SELECTMEN – NOVEMBER 8, 2010

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chairman Alex Vispoli reconvened the Board of Selectmen from Executive Session to their Regular Meeting at 7:02 P.M. in the Selectmen's Conference Room at the Town Offices. Present were: Chairman Vispoli, Selectman Ted Teichert, Selectman Brian Major, Selectman Mary Lyman and Selectman John Hess. Also present: Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski and Town Clerk Larry Murphy. The meeting was duly posted and cable-cast live.

II. Executive Session

Chairman Vispoli called the Board of Selectmen's meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. in the Selectman's Conference Room in the Town Offices. Present were: Chairman Vispoli and Selectmen Mary Lyman, Brian Major, Ted Teichert and John Hess. On a motion by Selectman Teichert with a second by Selectman Hess, it was unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session to discuss negotiation strategy with non-union personnel and to return to Open Session. Roll call vote: Selectman Lyman – Y, Teichert – Y, Vispoli – Y, Hess – Y and Major – Y. On a motion duly made and recorded it was voted to adjourn the Executive Session and to return to Open Session at 6:45 P.M.

III. Opening Ceremonies

A. Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

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

IV. Communications/Announcements/Liaison Reports

The Town Manager made the following announcements:

~ The Veterans Day Program will start at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, November 11th at West Parish Cemetery, followed by a ceremony at 11:00 A.M. at Spring Grove Cemetery and a ceremony at Ballard Vale Green at 12:00 P.M.

~ The Planning Board and the I-93/Lowell Junction Task Force will meet on Wednesday, November 10th at 7:00 P.M. in the Community Development & Planning Conference Room to discuss the mitigation plans for the Ballardvale neighborhood as part of the I-93 project.

~ The Mid-year Review will be presented on Tuesday, November 16th at Memorial Hall Library.

Town Clerk Larry Murphy reported on the results of the November 2nd Election stating 14,224 residents or 62.9% turned out to vote. The election went smoothly. The Special Town Meeting is scheduled for December 6th at the Collins Field House. Unregistered voters who want to vote in the December 6th Special Town Meeting, have until November 26th to register and the Town Clerk's Office will be open on Friday, November 26th to accommodate residents.

Selectman Major said the Town Yard Task Force met on Friday, November 5th and will meet again on November 19th at 7:30 A.M. in the Board of Selectmen's Conference Room.

V. Citizens Petitions and Presentations - None

VI. Regular Business of the Board

A. Town Manager's Contract

Chairman Vispoli said the Board is pleased to announce the completion of the Town Manager's new five-year contract. Since they unanimously voted to re-appoint Mr.

Stapczynski for another five year term, the Board has been working diligently to realign the contract with different goals in mind. The new contract is more in line with private business contracts with incentive-based goals that are clearly defined. The goals are measurable and attainable and will be reviewed with the Town Manager at the end of the year to determine compensation for FY-2012.

Highlights of the contract include: elimination of a Town car, reduction in vacation time from 6 weeks to 4 weeks, elimination of vacation buy-back, reduction of insurance buy-back and elimination of deferred compensation. The new compensation contract is completely merit based; information on the highlights of the contract will be available for public viewing. Chairman Vispoli recognized and thanked former Selectman Jerry Stabile who was instrumental in initiating the new plan.

Selectman Major motioned to approve the Town Manager's contract as presented. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lyman and unanimously voted to approve.

The Town Manager thanked the Board for bringing the process to conclusion and appreciates their confidence. He stated that the contract is a different in that it is more of a private sector approach to performance.

Dan Kowalski, 24 Enfield Drive, asked if the contract could be put on-line along with the other Town contracts. The Board agreed to his request.

B. <u>One Day Beer & Wine License</u>

Selectman Lyman motioned to approve the request of Cindy Surman, on behalf of Lyn Evans Potpourri Designs, 9 Main Street, for a one-day beer & wine license for use on Thursday, November 18, 2010 from 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. for a shopping night at their place of business. The request has been reviewed and approved by the Town Clerk's Office subject to the condition that all other requirements of the Town are met prior to the issuance of the licenses. The motion was seconded by Selectman Hess, and voted 5-0 to approve.

C. <u>Special Town Meeting</u>

A copy of the Special Town Meeting Warrant was included in the Board of Selectman's packet. The Board discussed and voted on the warrant articles:

<u>Warrant Article #1 – Purchase of 3 Blanchard Street (P)</u>

A presentation on this Warrant Article was provided at the last Board meeting; the property owner offered to reduce the price and the Soccer Association committed $50,000 towards expenses for demolition of the buildings. A hand-out of the Blanchard Street fields with and without the 3 Blanchard Street parcel was distributed.

Selectman Major motioned to recommend approval of Warrant Article #1 – Purchase of 3 Blanchard Street – in the amount of $350,000. The motion was seconded by Selectman Teichert, and voted 4-1 to approve. Selectman Lyman was opposed.

Selectman Hess reiterated his request from the previous meeting, to consider incorporating walking trails around the property that would be available for all residents to enjoy.

<u>Warrant Article #2 – Grant Application for Fosters Pond Conservation Land</u>

The Town Manager reported that the Warrant Article to purchase the Conservation Land was approved at the 2010 Town Meeting. In the meantime, the Conservation Commission submitted and was approved for a Land Grant proposal for the property,

pending formal approval at the Special Town Meeting on December 6th.

On a motion by Selectman Lyman with a second by Selectman Hess, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Warrant Article #2 – Grant Application for Fosters Pond Conservation Land as presented.

Warrant Article #3 – Bancroft Elementary School

Selectman Lyman motioned to recommend approval of Warrant Article #3 – Bancroft Elementary School. The motion was seconded by Selectman Major and unanimously voted to approve.

School Building Committee Chairman Mark Johnson said the full amount of the project, approximately $44.6M, is to be voted on December 6th with the bonding amount reduced by the percentage of reimbursement from the State, anticipated to be 45%, voted on at the January 25, 2011 Debt Exclusion Special Town Meeting.

Chairman Johnson congratulated and recognized Plant & Facilities Director Joe Piantedosi for his persistence in pursuing the full amount of a 2% reimbursement for maintenance of the schools. The State is pleased with the job the staff of the Plant & Facilities Department has done in maintaining the school buildings. The members of the School Building Committee were also recognized for the excellent work and the time they have put into this project.

Warrant Article#4 – Easement from Town to the School Department – Bancroft Elementary School

On a motion by Selectman Teichert with a second by Selectman Lyman, it was unanimously voted to recommend approval of Warrant Article#4 – Easement from the Town to the School Department – Bancroft Elementary School – as presented.

VII. Adjournment

On a motion by Selectman Major with a second by Selectman Teichert, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:28 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Delorenzo
Recorder