

Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting of May 27, 2014
Town Hall – Meeting Room #1 7:00pm

Present: Chairman Richard Ward, Vice-Chairman Ronald Clarke, Alan Dunham, Sarah Hewins, Helen Marrone, Michael Milanoski (TA) and Michele Doll

The Chair led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and read the announcements.

Girl Scouts Silver Award Project introduction

Ashley White presented her plan to raise funds to purchase and have installed a new double slide to replace the damaged unit at the Town playground. Hewins agreed to verify pricing with manufacturer and advise. The Board commended White on her presentation.

Motion to approve by Clarke. Dunham 2nd. Unanimous

Boy Scouts Flag Retirement

Matt Thomas of Cub Scouts Pack 63 requested use of Shurtleff Park on June 14th for Flag Retirement Ceremony. He has already spoken with and gotten approval from Fire Department for burning of flags. The ceremony is open to the general public and will educate on the proper way to retire old and tattered American flags. Residents are welcome to turn in old flags on this day, they will be held for 2015 ceremony, as all flags must be cut and prepared for burning properly. Nylon flags will not be burnt.

Motion to approve by Marrone. Clarke 2nd. Unanimous

Motion to waive fee by Dunham. Clarke 2nd. Unanimous

Public Comment

Corrine Clougherty announced the Community Blood Drive being sponsored by the Carver Girl Scouts to be held at the library on June 2nd from 1-6pm

Governance Committee Update

Chairman Stephen Gray spoke on behalf of Committee. First, affirmed by John Cotter and Jack Angley, also present, that all decisions of the Committee were agreed upon unanimously. All items were presented in detail to the BoS at public meeting held on May 13th. The Committee's mission is to improve operations and save money for the Town, by excluding possible political motivations and considering the best interests of the Town and its residents.

1. Appointment of Police Chief – Proposed Policy for hiring of Police Chief

Gray reviewed proposed outline of policy.

Motion to accept concept of proposed policy by Marrone. Clarke 2nd. Unanimous 5-0-0

Dunham - would like to see final product in written form. **Hewins** – BoS should participate in interviewing. **Cotter** – the process needs to be consistent and clear, due to the perceived political issues in the loss of the former Police Chief. **Dunham** – concurs with Hewins. **Marrone** – sees balance with TA and BoS. **Clarke** – believes suggested change would fundamentally change the Committee recommendation. Reminded the BoS they will still have veto power. There is less chance of a TA being politically motivated. **Gray** – ultimately the decision lies with BoS approval. Information will be accessible; the intent is to insulate the first steps of the process.

Motion by Hewins that BoS participate in interviewing process. Dunham 2nd. Failed 1-4-0
Motion by Dunham that the former 5 year contract be modified to a 3 year appointment. Clarke 2nd. Unanimous 5-0-0

2. Creation of Department of Public Works and Facilities year one

Dunham - would like to see final product in written form. **Hewins** – would like to hear from various department heads before voting. **Gray** – the Committee spoke with all department heads and found no opposition to the plan, but respects Hewins desire to speak with them directly. **Clarke** – has spoken to department heads and concluded the same as Gray.

Motion to accept concept of proposed policy by Clarke. Marrone 2nd. Passed 4-1-0 Hewins opposed.

3. DPW Commission (repeal act creating DPW Commissioners

Milanowski – from a policy standpoint authorization goes to BoS. Administrative responsibility goes to TA and DPW Superintendent.

Discussion to approve policy and have Town Counsel issue draft Article for the dissolution of the DPW Commissioners. Unanimous

4. Creation of Planning, Environment and Permitting Department.

Hewins – takes away ownership and pride of departments

Motion to accept by Marrone. Dunham 2nd. Passed 4-1-0 Hewins opposed

5. Conservation Agent Part-time

Hewins – Carver is conservation. A part-time agent cannot protect the rural character and drinking water of the Town. **Clarke** – has spoken with Hewins and considered Governance Committee recommendation and ‘pure conservation’ is not a full-time job. The BoS will always have the ability to revisit, if needed. **Dunham** – How did the Committee calculate the 19hours. **Gray** – deferred to **Milanowski** – worked with the head of Planning and the Health Agent. Together they felt that two (2) full days and one night of meetings would be adequate to support ‘strictly conservation’. **Dunham** – Job description? **Milanowski** – a draft job description has been developed and significant interest has been received. **Dunham** – estimated cost of grant writing. **Milanowski** – revised budget has \$8,000.00 for large grant writing and Department Heads will continue to write up smaller grants. **Dunham** – agrees the BoS can revisit, if needed. **Marrone** – thanked Hewins for her services. Found many pros and cons for position being full-time. Several surrounding towns are part-time. From a cost perspective, it is in the Town’s best interest to have part-time Agent. **Ward** – will be difficult process. Downsizing will affect services.

Motion to approve proposal by Marrone. Dunham 2nd. Passed 4-1-0 Hewins opposed

6. Appointment of Treasurer/Collector

Gray – TA would be required to consult with Finance Committee Chair, Capital Outlay Chair and Town Accountant.

Motion to approve policy and have Town Counsel issue draft Article by Clarke. Marrone 2nd. Unanimous.

7. Appointment of Board of Health

Dunham – BoH is doing a good job. Is decision just to save the \$1500 stipend? Issue needs more research. Cannot see strength in argument. **Clarke** – takes the BoH out of politics and offers a greater realm of candidates. **Cotter** – not a judgment on current Board. The Town needs to look towards the future and technical aspects. **Gray** – opens up opportunity to larger field of candidates. Health Agent was very candid that he has NO preference to appointment

verses election. **Marrone**- not in favor. Believes as many positions as possible should remain elected so the residents can have a say.

Motion to approve and have Town Counsel issue draft Article by Clarke. Marrone 2nd. Failed 2-3-0 (Dunham, Hewins, Marrone)

5 minute break

Town Administrator Update

Proposed Town Meeting Warrant

TA distributed draft copies of Warrant (with department comments) for Annual Town Meeting and offered quick review of new suggested format. Currently 26 Articles. Format is an informational summary. Proposed including like Articles/same topic as one Article with sub-parts, also to include appendix items in rear of document. Warrant needs to be approved 7 days before Town Meeting.

BoS Comment Period

Marrone – Memorial Day Parade was delightful. Enjoyed walking with all her fellow Board members. Thankful for all the participants: Veterans, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts.

Clarke – CCAT will be taping parade in 2015

Dunham – Elementary School Concert on June 4th. CMHS Choral Concert on June 5th at 7:00 in the auditorium. CMHS Band Concert on June 10th at 7:00 in the auditorium. Congratulations to 2014 Graduates and also to their parents.

Vote to support 2015 Senate Amendment #47:

Amendment 47 is a tax benefit for keeping land in agriculture when expenses outweigh possible profit.

Motion to approve by Hewins. Dunham 2nd. 4-0-1 Ward recused himself

Chapter 61A Federal Road

Town Planner, recommending Chapter 61A sub-committee, suggested passing on purchase of property. Permits already approved for Solar Array from Conservation and Planning Departments. Property is currently non-tax producing. It is also a good economical development tool and the Town does not have the money. Certified abutters list shows (2) homes in Wareham, currently no opposition.

Motion to not exercise option to purchase property by Clarke. Dunham 2nd. Unanimous

FY15 proposed budgets

Milanoski briefly reviewed updated items: DPW, Building and Grounds and Town/School Healthcare costs. Department Heads were invited to attend meeting.

NCWD Chairman Kevin Tracy requested release of allocated funds

Tracy requested the release of monies in escrow account for use on Clearwell expansion for water treatment plant. **Milanoski** - \$211,000.00 have been in escrow for 5 years and are retainage from construction of water treatment plant by Weston & Sampson. Retainage held by town due to breach of work not completed. Contractor has 7 years to file against town, but

their chance of winning the case are unlikely. Request Board permission to release funds to supplement the expansion project which will double current capacity with underground storage.

Motion to release funds for expansion project by Dunham. Marrone 2nd. Unanimous

Plymouth County Advisory Committee BoS representative appointment

Motion to allow Chairman to appoint representative at his discretion, upon further information regarding meetings by Clarke. Marrone 2nd. Unanimous.

Carver Historical Commission appointment

James Philip of Forest Street

Motion to appoint James Philip to Carver Historical Commission by Hewins. Dunham 2nd. Unanimous

Policy Proposals

1. Policy on waiving fees for use of Town property

Discussion to table. Unanimous

2. Treasurer/Vice Treasurer

Clarke – any legal obligations. **Milanowski** – the Board can set up own procedures. **Clarke** – has reviewed procedure in signing warrants and trusts everything is examined thoroughly beforehand. **Milanowski** – early payment discounts are available.

Motion to approve by Dunham. Clarke 2nd. Unanimous

Motion to appoint Alan Dunham as Treasurer by Clarke. Marrone 2nd. Unanimous

Motion to appoint Ronald Clarke as Vice Treasurer by Marrone. Dunham 2nd. Unanimous

3. Establishment of a joint ad-hoc committee between BoS and School Committee

Dunham and Clarke volunteered to represent the BoS and make presentation to the School Committee.

Discussion to approve ad-hoc committee. Unanimous

Discussion of Prayer at meetings

Marrone requested the Board members consider including a non-denominational prayer after Pledge of Allegiance to offer support and consolation to all. **Clarke** – supports Marrone. Reminded the Board that the Supreme Court ruled that it was ok for local communities to open meeting with prayer. The US Senate and US Representatives have instituted prayer. Tolerance works both ways, and they are not trying to dictate anyone's religious values. Clarke read aloud a sample prayer submitted by Reverend Merritt. **Hewins** – this is the 'Publics House' and is no place for prayer. Feels it is inappropriate. **Marrone** – has done research and found majority of the town have religious beliefs. **Ward** – is not opposed. Suggested a motion to table for further discussion. **Clarke** – sometimes religious tolerance goes one way, with concern for the minority over majority. This is a benign effort to help bring community together. **Marrone** – quoted Judge Anthony Kennedy. **Dunham** – Rev. Merritt's prayer is excellent and in favor of the motion to table and allow time to digest information. **Marrone** – We are representing this community at every meeting and other decisions are made every week. Questioned why we are delaying this for 4 weeks. **Milanowski** – propose doing one time then determine if should continue.

*Motion by Clarke to open next meeting with a prayer written by Rev. Bob Merritt . Dunham 2nd.
Approved 4-1-0*

Use of Sampson's Pond on June 1st by Mass Fish Finders:

Fishing Tournament

Motion to approve by Marrone. Dunham 2nd. Unanimous.

(2) One Day Special Licenses for St. John's Club on June 23rd and June 24th

Motion to approve by Dunham. Marrone 2nd. Unanimous.

One Day Special License for Bartending Service of New England on June 7th

Sportsmen's Club

Motion to approve by Marrone. Dunham 2nd. Unanimous.

(18) One Day Special Licenses for King Richard's Faire

*Motion to approve contingent on verification of payment of taxes by Hewins. Clarke 2nd.
Unanimous.*

Approval of meeting minutes for 5/13/2014

Dunham requested modification to page 4

Motion to approve with amendment by Clarke. Dunham 2nd. Unanimous

Public Comments

Jennifer Valencourt of Plymouth Street, member of Conservation Committee, feels cutting Conservation Agent to 19 hours is going to cost more and not going to work. Also, feels Marrone is headed in the right direction, consider a mission statement verses a prayer.

Dan Foran of Brook Street supports prayer and also feels town needs full-time Conservation Agent. 'See how it works, is not the best approach'. Foran is a Commercial Chicken Farmer and feels the Town should reconsider the Fee for Chickens. Carver is the only town in the area who charges. The fee is \$10.00, but his concern is more on principle. Also, Board of Health and Agricultural Commission voted to apply horse regulations to chickens on set-back regulations?

Ed James of Harbor View Way agrees with including prayer. 'This country was founded on freedom of religion, not from religion. 'Let God back in.'

Stephanie Clougherty of Russell Trufant Road made 2nd announcement regarding Community Blood Drive. Suggested instituting a pledge, instead of prayer. Read aloud the Girls Scout Promise and spoke of how much pride it gives the young girls of Carver.

Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining negotiations with unions (Clerical, Dispatchers, DPW, Police) and for non-union negotiations with all non-union personnel not under contract, and to consider the lease or value of taxes for the Southern Sky Renewable Project at the Carver Landfill, Borrego Solar Project on Purchase Street that may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the town if held in open session, and to reconvene in open session for the purpose of adjournment.

Roll Call Affirmative: Marrone, Clarke, Hewins, Dunham, Ward. Unanimous

Return to open session 11:10pm

Motion to adjourn by Dunham. Hewins 2nd. Unanimous