

Regular Session Minutes – Selectmen’s Meeting
Selectmen’s Meeting Room, Town Hall
Monday, February 10, 2014, 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: William S. Moonan, Chair, Margot R. Fleischman, Caroline Fedele, Michael A. Rosenberg, Mark Siegenthaler, and Town Manager Richard T. Reed

ALSO PRESENT: Public Works Engineer Adrienne St. John; Finance Director Victor Garofalo; Assistant Town Manager Jessica Porter; Finance Committee Member Ben Thomas; Bicycle Advisory Committee members Terry Gleason and Jan van Steenwijk; Zoning/Planning Board member Jeff Cohen, Press Representatives Mary McBride and Julie Turner

Chair Moonan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

14-185 Public Hearing – Street Acceptances – Hartwell Road, Ellingson Road, Donovan Drive, Copeland Drive and Buehler Road

Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to open the public hearing. Ms. Fedele seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

Public Works Engineer Adrienne St. John requested that the Selectmen vote to place 4 street acceptances on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant for streets in the Governor Winthrop Estates and Hayden Highlands. She reported that the streets were created in the 1990’s but the developer walked away from the project leaving a punch-list of items. They are currently negotiating with the previous owner to correct the items so that it can become a public way. The Town has been plowing and salting these roads even though they were not accepted streets. The four streets include Buehler Road, Copeland Drive, Donovan Drive and Ellingson Road.

A second request is to accept 2,090 feet of Hartwell Road from Concord Road to the westerly property of Instrumentation Laboratories (IL). Town Counsel recommended asking Town Meeting to vote to accept the roadway and various parcels already deeded to the Town. This will enable the Department of Public Works to repave Hartwell Road using either town or state funds. A second vote would include a 3,040 foot section of roadway along IL’s frontage. The Town hopes that IL will grant their portion of the roadway to the Town.

Ms. Fleischman asked if the Town layout shown could extend the sidewalk to Concord Road. Ms. St. John felt it could be accomplished, minus a grass strip.

Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to close the public hearing. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

Ms. Fleischman moved that the Selectmen recommend approval of street acceptances of Buehler Road, Copeland Drive, Donovan Drive and Ellingson Drive. Ms. Fedele seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Rosenberg made a motion that recommendation be given at Annual Town Meeting for Article 7 – Street Acceptance – Hartwell Road. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0

14-186 Revocable License Agreement with the Town of Lexington Approval – Use of Lexington Animal Shelter

Town Manager Reed advised that Bedford has been availing itself of the use of Lexington's animal shelter for several years at no cost. Lexington recently renovated its facility and has suggested that Bedford start paying for its use of the facilities on an as-needed basis. A Revocable License Agreement was created for this purpose. The agreement is effective through June 1, 2017.

Mr. Rosenberg made a motion that the Selectmen approve the Revocable License Agreement with the Town of Lexington for use of its animal shelter effective through June 1, 2017. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

14-187 Annual Town Meeting – Review of Draft Warrant – Article Recommendations

Mr. Reed announced that two new articles have been added to the Warrant – Article 12 Cable Television PEG Access Services Agreement Term and Article 15 – Bond Authorization – Sewer Main Improvements. Mr. Reed distributed sewer bond estimates of a 20-year borrowing at 3% Principal & Interest, as well as an email from Ms. St. John regarding the cost estimates for 3 methods to replace 2,700 feet of the 20" diameter force main which recently leaked.

Ms. St. John explained to the Selectmen the types of leaks and why they occurred, as well as the different methods to fix the problem, traffic delays and the time frames involved. The total estimate to rehab the pipe from the Westview Cemetery to Route 128 is \$1.8M excluding additional funds for contingency items and project administration fees. Hanscom Air Force Base and the Town have an agreement in which they are responsible for 20% of any repairs that occur from the intersection of Hartwell Ave/Bedford Street heading toward Lexington.

Mr. Reed reported that the overall revenue raised each year through the sewer rates is around \$4.5 million.

Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to recommend approval of Article 15 – Bond Authorization – Great Road/Bedford Street Sewer Force Main Improvement. Ms. Fedele seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Garofalo offered to do projections on the water and sewer rates before the next Selectmen's meeting.

Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to recommend approval for Articles 8, 9, 10 and 11 – Street Acceptances. Ms. Fedele seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

Discussion ensued on Article 17 – Capital Projects Plan – Fiscal Year 2015. Chair Moonan noted an \$800,000 in the education budget gap that needed to be closed by the Finance Committee members before the Selectmen should offer their recommendation. Mr. Garofalo noted that the Finance Committee would be meeting this week and would relay that message. Mr. Reed suggested that the Selectmen could vote a recommendation this week but would have the opportunity to change their vote at the next Selectmen's meeting.

Mr. Siegenthaler recommended approval of Article 17 – Capital Projects Plan – Fiscal Year 2015. Ms. Fedele seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Reed explained the reason for new Article 12 - Cable Television PEG Access Services Agreement Term. The Cable Television Committee (CTC) would prefer to establish a five-year contract (3 years with two one-year extension options) rather than the standard three-year contract. Massachusetts General Procurement Laws will now permit a five-year contract if Town Meeting authorizes such contract. Mr. Reed noted that the CTC is scheduled to come before the Selectmen at their next meeting to discuss the draft Request for Proposals (RFP) process and deliver a status update on the Comcast Renewal License.

Mr. Siegenthaler made a motion to recommend approval of Article 12 - Cable Television PEG Access Services Agreement Term. Ms. Fedele seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Reed explained that Article 26 - Salary Plan Additional Funding is annually placed on the Warrant to provide funding for all salary increases for non-union personnel based on the economic adjustment as well as performance based for their raises. This article represents a 3.3% increase over the prior year.

Ms. Fleischman made a motion to recommend approval of Article 26 - Salary Plan Additional Funding. Mr. Rosenberg seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

14-188 Miscellaneous Action Items – Chapter 268(A), Section 20(b) Exemptions – Stacey Valley – Kindergarten Teacher to Assistant Director of Summer Adventures

Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to grant a Chapter 268(A), Section 20(b) Exemption to Stacey Valley. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

At this point Chair Moonan asked Bicycle Advisory Committee Chair Terry Gleason if he had something to informally present to the Selectmen. Mr. Gleason indicated that the committee had legitimate grounds to revisit The Great Road street design at 285 The Great Road because it does not meet the qualifications of the standards of 'Complete Streets'. It also does not include a standard 5-foot bicycle lane. He cited that the road's shoulders are only 4-foot wide due to the accommodation of a proposed center turning lane. Mr. Reed clarified that the plan he possessed was a plan created by an engineer for its applicant, adding that since the road is a state right-of-way, Bedford has no control over what Massachusetts Department of Transportation (DOT) does. Chair Moonan noted that the state approved the plan in 2012 and would not be doing a formal review process. He added that if Mr. Gleason has safety concerns, the Selectmen could write a letter advising those concerns to the DOT Director but could not act on this unless it was a formal agenda item. The Selectmen invited Mr. Gleason to attend the next Selectmen's meeting where this topic could be formally discussed.

14-189 Minutes – Regular Session January 27, 2014 and February 3, 2014

Ms. Fleischman made a motion to approve the Minutes of Monday, January 27, 2014, as amended. Ms. Fedele seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

Ms. Fleischman made a motion to approve the minutes of Monday, February 3, 2014, as amended. Ms. Fedele seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

14-190 Town Manager's Report

Mr. Reed reported that a grant award ceremony was held at the State House last week and Bedford was the recipient of a Community Innovation Challenge Grant and Tick Reporting Project that is shared by 35 other communities in eastern MA. Bedford will be the lead community for that grant which will be managed by Board of Health Director Heidi Porter. The second grant in the amount of \$147,800 was the Middlesex 3 Coalition's Transportation Planning proposal to expand shuttle bus service and create a

Transportation Management Association (TMA) in the Middlesex 3 region. Billerica will be the lead agency for that project.

14-191 Open Discussion

Mr. Siegenthaler noted that this week he plans on attending the February 11th Planning Board meeting and the February 12th Conservation Commission that will address the Notice of Intent for the proposed Bedford Green Apartments at the Bedford VA Hospital.

Chair Moonan called attention to the letter that was received today from a member of the Bedford Historical Society (BHS) concerning the number of BHS members that will be appointed to the new ad hoc Historical Museum Study Committee. He noted that the Volunteer Coordinating Committee members were not enthusiastic about asking residents to volunteer until a firm 'committee charge' is finalized. Ms. Fedele noted that the VCC has not yet met to discuss these openings. Chair Moonan requested that this topic be put on the next agenda.

Ms. Fleischman made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Siegenthaler seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

The Regular Session meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.