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TOWN CLERK
ACTON

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
OCTOBER 7, 1997

The Board of Selectmen held their regular meeting on Tuesday, October 7, 1997 at 7:30 P.M. Present were F. Dore' Hunter, Wayne Friedrichs, Herman Kabakoff, William Mullin, Nancy Tavernier, Town Manager Don Johnson and Assistant Town Manager John Murray.

{The meeting was televised by cable}

CITIZENS CONCERNS

None Expressed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND APPOINTMENTS

JESSE LIBERTY

Jesse Liberty has suggested to the Board that a working group be formed and called the Consensus Committee. Mr. Liberty would like a representative from the Acton Building Committee, School Committee, A-B Regional School Committee, Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen. The goal of the committee would be only to ensure that the definition of whatever numbers are used while discussing the proposed capital school budget be agreed upon and understood and that the committee would help to define the meaning and nature of these numbers. The Board expressed their concern with the formality of this committee. Mr. Liberty emphasized that this committee would be informal. Nancy Tavernier stated that the committee that Mr. Liberty is describing are the duties of the FINCOM and suggested that they use these ideas and develop a subcommittee of the Finance Committee. Wayne stated that he was disappointed at the meeting that numbers were not known, and that without the numbers a lot of questions went unanswered. Dore' stated that he would participate in the committee process but indicated that he felt this was a Fincom goal

FINANCE COMMITTEE REQUEST

The Finance Committee is requesting up to \$500 additional dollars in their budget for an upgrade to the donated computer, a connection to the network and to fund a temporary employee. Nancy stated that the Board of Selectmen previously voted, during the budget process, to give \$1,000 to the Finance Committee budget to be used for dues and memberships and could not support a staffing request at that time and that the additional \$500 needed should be discussed this year during budget time for FY98. The Board stated that they are uncomfortable with additional requests in the middle of the year. Currently, the budget has a balance of \$430 and the Board discussed allowing the Fincom to use that money as they see fit. The general opinion of

the Board was that Fincom stick within the existing budget. HERMAN KABAKOFF - Move to authorize the chairman of the Fincom to spend within their budget up to and not over \$1000 in any manner as they see fit. NANCY TAVERNIER - Second. UNANIMOUS VOTE. Nancy reminded Fincom that if staff is added then the hiring of a person has to go through the Town Manager. .

SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS

RECREATION COMMISSION APPOINTMENT VANETTA HUNTER & EDWARD FLANNERY, JR

Dore' Hunter stated that he would abstain from this vote since it involves a family member. WILLIAM MULLIN - Move to appoint Vanetta Hunter and Edward Flannery, Jr. to the Recreation Commission with a term expiring June 30, 2000. HERMAN KABAKOFF - Second. UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ACTON 2001 DISCUSSION PLANNING COMMITTEE

Nancy Tavernier stated that the Acton 2001 Planning Committee suggested that a "real" consensus meeting be set sometime between now and January in order to attempt an actual binding consensus, for the building option. Bill Mullin stated that the consensus should be reached by individual boards not at a 2001 meeting. The objective of the 2001 committee is to understand each others opinions and it should not be anything more. Wayne Friedrichs stated that he felt 2001 works because of the way it is structured and that the process is still in the learning stage and that it gets better and better each time and we should leave it alone. Nancy stated that she will take the Board's comments back to the Planning Committee.

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Wayne Friedrichs and Herman Kabakoff presented the Board with a report of the Historic District Commission. Mr. Kabakoff and Mr. Friedrichs were asked by the Board last year to conduct a study of the Historic District Commission (HDC). After attending a few HDC meetings the findings of this study indicate that Mr. Friedrichs and Kabakoff felt that some citizens have been treated poorly by the commission and that the HDC seems to be too "picky" by having an aversion to "synthetic materials". Mr. Friedrichs and Kabakoff felt that the HDC is working properly and that the committee is hard working and committed. Mr. Friedrichs and Kabakoff suggest that the "Design Guidelines" be reviewed by the BOS for possible revisions especially regarding the use of synthetic material. Mr. Friedrichs and Kabakoff also suggested that the "Design Guidelines" be checked against Mass. General Laws (MGL) and Chapter P for possible conflicts.

During reappointments in July, the Board of Selectmen voted to extend the reappointments of Anne Forbes and Tom Peterman for six months instead of full term until after the findings of the study could be discussed with the HDC and BOS.

Nancy Tavernier stated that she felt the assignment was to review the bylaw not the attitude of the members and as chairman who gave the assignment, she wanted to make this clear. Bill Mullin suggested that an oversight meeting be scheduled between the two Boards and invite citizens who have had dealings with the HDC to come before the Board. The Board also suggested that we look to see if improvement can be made in the process and suggested that the Boards constructively work together.

Tom Peterman, Chairman of the HDC, stated that he would prefer to defer comment until the November 4, 1997 Selectmen's meeting. Mr. Peterman did say he was surprised by the findings and conclusions and suggested that we poll the citizens that have had dealings with them in the last couple of years for their input. Mr. Peterman also indicated that synthetics have been approved in the past and he feels that the HDC is reasonable. The Board of Selectmen urged the HDC to submit comments in writing. Anne Forbes stated that she was not aware that Mr. Kabakoff and Friedrichs were reviewing something other than the bylaw and requested that the Mr. Friedrichs and Kabakoff reveal their sources of the report and the methodology used.

This issue was rescheduled for November 4, 1997 at 8:00 PM.

WINDERMERE SUB-DIVISION DISCUSSION

Based on previous discussion this item was asked to be placed on the agenda. Town Counsel has stated that the Board of Selectmen have the responsibility for deciding whether or the road should be constructed. Mr. Mullin has indicated that the Board of Selectmen should reserve this option and to include legal action if necessary. The Board asked staff for a further report and to reschedule this to October 21, 1997 at 8:15 PM. Bill Mullin stated that a petition has not been received and that we should sit tight. The Board also directed the Town Manager to release the confidential letter from Anderson and Kreiger and make it part of the public record.

STOW/MARTIN STREET

The Board directed staff to install previously authorized traffic signs immediately, prohibiting parking on both sides of the road from Maple Street westward for a distance of 850 feet to Fort Pond Brook and to contact Ms. Berry informing her of the Board's action.

VOLUNTEER BOARDS

The Board questioned whether a Selectmen could serve on a Volunteer Board within the Town of Acton. Bill Mullin stated for the record that he has not been sworn in as a Recreation Commission member and will attend meetings as a citizen of Acton. WILLIAM MULLIN -

Move to direct the Town Manager to contact Town Counsel regarding the rights, duties and responsibilities of Selectmen who wish to serve on additional volunteer boards. HERMAN KABAKOFF - Second. UNANIMOUS VOTE.

HALLOWEEN

The Board discussed the memo from the Police Chief regarding Halloween. The Board suggested that a press release be issued as a guideline to have a safe Halloween for the protection of the youngest children. The Police will issue press release and the Board will write a letter to the editor. The Town Manager will contact the Police Chief to make sure the town is adequately protected on this occasion.

CONSENT AGENDA

WAYNE FRIEDRICHES - Move to approve consent calendar as printed. NANCY TAVERNIER - Second. UNANIMOUS VOTE.

TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING OCTOBER 14, 1997

The Board stated that there will be a Special Town Meeting on October 14, 1997 at 7:00 PM and the draft motions will be included in the October 10th packet for Board review. It was asked that any motion which might be different than the printed version in the warrant be displayed on an overhead for public review.

MAGIC MEETING

Wayne to represent the Board at the October 9th meeting.

BREAKFAST WITH LEGISLATORS

Staff reminded the Board that there will be a breakfast with the Legislators at the Colonial Inn in Concord on October 16, 1997 at 8:00 AM.

WILLIAM MULLIN - Move to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing security for Halloween. NANCY TAVERNIER - Second. UNANIMOUS VOTE.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM.

Sheryl Ball
Clerk

11/4/97
Date

Sheryl Ball

Sheryl Ball
Recording Secretary
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September 18, 1997

TO Board of Selectmen
FROM: F. Dore' Hunter, Chairman
SUBJECT: Selectmen's Report

AGENDA
Room 204
OCTOBER 7, 1997
7:30 P.M.

I. CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS & APPOINTMENTS

1. 7:45 JESSE LIBERTY- Mr. Liberty will present and discuss the enclosed proposal.

III. SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS

2. WINDERMERE SUB-DIVISION DISCUSSION
3. STOW/MARTIN STREET TRAFFIC/PARKING ISSUES - Enclosed please find a letter and staff comment regarding the concerns expressed by Stow Street resident Elissa Berry
4. FINANCE COMMITTEE REQUEST - Discussion and response to enclosed requests.
5. 2001 - Enclosed please find a memo from Selectman Tavernier for discussion.
6. OTHER

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

7. ACCEPT MINUTES - Enclosed please find a copy of the August 12 Minutes for Board approval and signature.
8. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT -EDWARD W. FLANNERY, Jr. - Enclosed please find Mr. Flannery's Citizen Resource Sheet and VCC's recommendation for his appointment to the Recreation Commission for a term to expire June 30, 2000.
9. ACTON HOUSING AUTHORITY - Enclosed please the Annual request for Selectmen's support and Board signature regarding the AHA's Annual Application for Section 8 Housing Vouchers.
10. OCTOBERFEST - Enclosed please find the Town Manager's comments and recommendations.

V. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

MEETINGS

Special Town Meeting October 14th at 7:00

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Enclosed please find additional correspondence that is strictly informational and requires no Board action.

FUTURE AGENDAS

To facilitate scheduling for interested parties, the following items are scheduled for discussion on future agendas. This IS NOT a complete Agenda.

October 21

Private Way Plowing Public Hearing and vote
Site Plan Re-opener - Wetherbee Plaza

Nov. 4 -

Nov. 18

Dec. 2

Dec. 16

Oct. 7 -

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