

SELECTMEN'S MINUTES

NOVEMBER 9, 1999

Present: Herman Kabakoff, F. Dore' Hunter, William Shupert, Wayne Friedrichs
Peter Ashton, and the Town Manager and Asst. Town Manager
(The meeting was televised)

CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

Anne Forbes 25 Martin Street – She noted that it seems that HDC or HC is criticized in November each year on an Election Day. Last year she tuned in to get election results only to hear the Board trashing the Historical Commission. This year she tuned in to hear conversation about an issue that they were uninformed on. She and most members of her board are angry that this is happening to a volunteer board and wants the trashing to stop. She talked about the Board Meeting last week and the comments made by Dore'. It was noted that the reason that they were not involved because the parcel is not in the district, so therefore they have no jurisdiction.

Herman apologized that they did not have all the information. He suggested Dore' would address this if he decided to. Wayne took issue with her addressing this to the entire Board. She asked about Town Counsel's opinion that was referred to at that meeting. Herman said it would be in the mail to her by Friday.

Herman further said that when in his judgment all facts are gathered and the Board feels it will be a useful use of time they would pursue this further. In regard to the Gardner Field decision, Wayne said he was not sure what position they will take but he is in support of the neighborhood. The neighborhood does not want a parking area there and would not support it. They felt it was a neighborhood park and people would be walking to the park. He asked how much parking is needed at a neighborhood park if the neighbors use it and walk?

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND APPOINTMENTS

SKATE PARK PROPOSAL- They want a safe place to skateboard. They lost their friend in an accident on a street. They want to do what they like to do on their skateboards without being harassed by police.

Joe Lawton said the group has raised \$13,000 and some of the Money has been raised with help from local business and skateboard company representatives. \$45,000 is what they will need to build the park.

Chris Prehl spoke as the Youth Officer and urged the Board to try and give them a spot, that it is an ongoing problem, and this would go a long way to resolve it

Wayne asked about the number of people in this group, 20-30. They think they could attract up to 50 people. Wayne asked if we could integrate this into Nara. Don

noted that they felt Great Hill or Nara would be the two places available. The group wanted a place closer to the High School. Don noted we have been looking at this issue for the past year and liability and other issues needed to be addressed. The Skate Park would need to be adequately constructed. Our recreation people are very enthused.

Peter applauded the fund raising. He asked if they had talked to the Recreation and Staff. They have and the Recreation people are in favor.

Trey supports this and has some experience with Skate Parks at a condo he owns. He urged them to continuing to work with staff. His logical thought for location would be school property. But maybe there could be accommodations made to get a park closer to the school.

Herman noted that if it is the School property they wish, they need to address this to the schools.

WAYNE FRIEDRICHES –Move to Work to move toward a more suitable resolution, The Board support the concept of a skate park and will follow up in 60 days. TREY SHUPERT – Second. UNANIMOUS VOTE.

SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS

SIDEWALK REQUESTS – Herman spoke about the request from North Briar to build a sidewalk from their neighborhood to NARA. They asked the Town Manager to provide the sidewalk plan, which was provided.

Peter Ashton asked about the funded projects and noted that at least two that were scheduled for this period and noted that staff had been pulled to work at NARA. He also noted that the project is on the list under Main Street to North Briar.

Don asked that they use the new green sheet as reference to rank order of priority. He went over the sidewalk projects scheduled for the next two years. They proposed to move them into 01 and 02 and spread it out in a two-year process.

Peter asked about Ledge Rock way and the cost of \$12,000. He noted if we move it up on the list, but only did that segment instead of the whole side walk from 2A/Main to North Briar it would solve the issue with the park. Peter noted that the funds are already in place. Don agreed and we can consider it funded. Peter really felt that this segment should be moved up as near to the top as could be done. Wayne said we should run it through TAC. All agreed it should be moved up to near the top.

Herman noted that we were being asked to squeeze a 400-foot sidewalk costing \$12,000 into this Spring's list.

Wayne felt we have an obligation to put this on the top of the list. Peter agreed, the point is if we had not created NARA, we would not need to address it so quickly. It demands that we pay attention to this.

Trey agreed also and that North Briar has always asked for sidewalks. Now we have made it more dangerous.

TREY SHUPERT- Move to move to install the sidewalk from Main to Ledge Rock Way to North Briar length of 400 feet in FY200 and to start construction ASAP and also to proceed with a full sidewalk from Main/2A to Ledge Rock. PETER ASHTON – Second. UNANIMOUS VOTE

MBTA ASSESSMENT

Don said that we received notice from LRTA to follow the MBTA Assessment process. He wanted to know if we should be writing a letter such as is included in the packet.

Herman felt that we had already communicated our displeasure with the assessment and Senator Pam Resor is working on this and supports our position. Herman asked if we felt that a letter should be sent to Atkins.

PETER ASHTON - Moved to send letter to Cory Atkins indicating our opposition to the assessment and amendment and will copy our letter to Senator Resor and Governor Cellucci as well as Mr. Birmingham. WAYNE SECOND -UNANIMOUS VOTE

OTHER BUSINESS

Peter asked about the status of the Nashoba Road petition. He wanted to know if we were looking for signage along Mohawk and Nashoba. Trey explained that there were two issues for stop signs and the Manager will report them together when all information is gathered and reviewed.

Wayne complimented John's memo about the Re-Engineering and asked that School Committee and Water District is asked to act to support it within the next 30 days.

Steve Probst made a presentation on the Sewer District funding. Asked them to vote to support sewers. Sewers are good for Acton and to use true costs when evaluating them. Herman asked about SR funding if not received. He said all the costs will go up. Peter asked about financing over 30 year is preferential over 20. He noted his model used 20-year assumes that most people move before that time. Peter asked if we have explored legally how we assess benefits. Is it square footage, frontage and width, and flow method adjusted. Steve said it could be mitigated with a change to the sewer bylaw.

Steve Lewis – noted that this is an equity issue. This Board should be equity driven.

Trey wanted to thank Steve Probst for his work on this issue. The SAC has been very passionate and they want to get it approved, but not at any cost. Steve's presentation will be a significant item to present at town meeting. Steve noted he would propose an amendment on the floor of Town Meeting.

Herman said first he is concerned about the political ramifications. He said people will vote their pocket book and felt that if more were added to the General tax base, those not in the district would vote no.

The zero hour will be Nov 15 at 4:00 for SRF funding and at that time it will be known if we will be receiving the funding. If we are not comfortable that we get the initial 14 million it will be too expensive. Herman reminded the Board that we promised that we would step back if the SRF funding did not happen.

Herman said he would only accept written confirmation that the 14 million is ours; he would not accept it verbally.

CONSENT AGENDA

WAYNE FRIEDRICHES - Moved to approve – TREY SHUPERT - Second– UNANIMOUS VOTE.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Don spoke about Sherbrook Associates. Staff still has not received the paperwork. Garry was asking if the Board wanted to see this as an amendment to the site plan. Wayne asked about the original placement of the driveway. WAYNE FRIEDRICHES – Moved to have a public hearing on this project- PETER SECOND. UNANIMOUS VOTE.

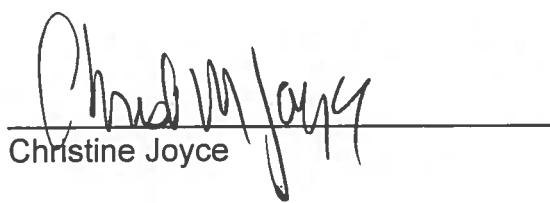
POLICE CHIEF SEARCH – Don reported on the time spent with the selected consultant. They met and then he gave them a tour of the community.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

PETER ASHTON – Moved to go into Executive Session to discuss Public Safety deployment. The Board was polled – All Ayes. WAYNE FRIEDRICHES – Second.


Peter Klinth
Clerk

12/21/99
Date


Christine Joyce

November 5, 1999

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Herman Kabakoff, Chairman
SUBJECT: Selectmen's Report

AGENDA
NOVEMBER 9, 1999
7:30 P.M. - Room 204

I. CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS & APPOINTMENTS

1. **SKATE PARK PROPOSAL** –Joe Lawton will be in to present their proposal to construct a Skate Park. Staff comment is also enclosed

III. SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS

2. **CONTINUED DISCUSSION REGARDING SIDE WALK REQUESTS**

3. **PETITION FOR TRAFFIC SIGN INSTALLATION** – Enclosed please find the petition submitted by Mr. LaBaron on behalf of the neighborhood residents requesting installation of traffic signs in the area of Nashoba Road, Mohawk and Wachusett Drives as well as Engineering Departments comments for Board review. **(Don, Engineering is in shall we include if Police gets theirs in today?)**

4. **OTHER BUSINESS**

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

V. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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.

Nov. 15 special Town Meeting pre-mtg. 5:00 in High School Teacher's Lounge

Nov. 23- Classification Hearing

Dec. 7

Dec. 21

FY 2000 GOALS

1. Resolve the Audubon Hill problem/issues (Shupert)
2. Establish or reconstitute a Computer Advisory Committee for Municipal issues (Hunter)
3. Review the structure and organization of the ALG and establish a definite, periodic meeting schedule (Kabakoff)
4. Develop a comprehensive Beaver Nuisance policy (Friedrichs)
5. Improve communication among the various boards, particularly Fincom, SC and BOS. This seems to have been lacking to some extent during the last year (especially ALG process) (Kabakoff)
6. Continue to search all alternatives for a viable sewer solution that is timely and fiscally workable (Hunter/Shupert)
7. Form a task force to investigate ways of achieving greater coordination, efficiency and utilization of resources between the schools and the town (Ashton)
8. Continue the work of the Senior Tax Relief task force and also investigate ways of assisting others who may need tax relief (Ashton/Hunter)
9. Develop early on an ALG plan and budget; i.e. have general agreement on budgetary parameters by October/November before formal budgets are developed. Continue to update, refine and modify as needed the five year budgetary plans which we initiated this year (Kabakoff)
10. Work with the Planning Board to implement the goals, objectives and strategies of the Master Plan update (Ashton/Shupert)
11. Conclude the work of the Kelley's Corner working group and bring to the Planning Board a final set of recommendations (Ashton)