

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
FEBRUARY 7, 1995



The Board of Selectmen held its regular meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 1995 at 7:30 P.M. Present were Norman Lake, William Mullin, Nancy Tavernier, F. Dore' Hunter, Wayne Friedrichs (until 9:30), Town Manager Johnson, and Assistant Town Manager John Murray.

{Representatives from cable were present}

CITIZENS' CONCERNS

None were stated.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND APPOINTMENTS

BOSTON EDISON
POPE ROAD - CONDUIT INSTALLATION

WILLIAM MULLIN - Moved to approve - DORE' HUNTER - Second.
UNANIMOUS VOTE.

BOSTON EDISON NEW ENGLAND TELEPHONE
STOW STREET - FIVE POLES

NANCY TAVERNIER - Moved to approve - WILLIAM MULLIN -
Second. UNANIMOUS VOTE.

COMMITTEE INTERVIEW - HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
THOMAS PETERMAN

Mr. Peterman has served with the Commission since its formation as an associate for 3 1/2 years. He is a graduate of Harvard and works in Boston with an architectural firm. He feels the Commission has tried to establish guidelines and policies to keep rules straight. It has been difficult since some homeowners side step the process. Mrs. Tavernier asked of his experience with design review committees, and did he think the Town should have one? Mr. Mullin asked about his opinion of the South Acton Bridge Replacement project and if he would have liked any other outcome. He felt that he was happy that the project was addressed. He did feel that at the same time timely documentation from the State with regard to design would have been helpful, but by in large, it was successful. He was asked his opinion on the wire vs. mast arm for the proposed traffic light. He preferred the wire to the fixed arm as it was in

concert with what was already in the town.

DORE' HUNTER - Moved to appoint Mr. Peterman to fill the unexpired term of Christopher Dallumus. NANCY TAVERNIER - Second. UNANIMOUS VOTE.

PLANNING BOARD ARTICLE PRESENTATION

Trey Shupert representing the Planning Board outlined each proposed article with the Board and answered questions and concerns expressed by the Board of Selectmen. The Board asked that any changes that were developed out of the Public Hearing be forwarded to them for review. The Board voted to recommend the following articles in the warrant: Article AE, C, E, F, G and J. The Board asked for follow up with Planning and Building staff on the Neon Sign article. The Board will make recommendations on the balance of the articles at upcoming Board meetings.

CONSENT CALENDAR

DORE' HUNTER - Moved to accept the Consent Calendar as printed. WILLIAM MULLIN - Second. UNANIMOUS VOTE.

SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS

BUDGET DISCUSSIONS - The Board discussed Nancy's memo of 2/2/95. Bill said this goes back to his feeling that he is disinclined to go for an override while we still have Free Cash. Bill proposes that Free Cash be used before we go for an override.

Dore' is uncomfortable with Free Cash being too low, and felt any policy that advocates taking Free Cash first would set us up for not living within our means.

Nancy felt that legislation need to be filed to put the three school systems together in a bottom line under Ed Reform Spending allocation requirements. Much discussion was held both pro and con on this issue.

Bill felt that these guidelines could put both sides at risk. DORE' HUNTER - Moved to have Norm take these guidelines as written to the meeting next week. NANCY TAVERNIER- Second. 3-1 WILLIAM MULLIN - No.

Wayne Friedrichs departed prior to the Budget discussion.

The Board reviewed the 2/3/95 memo prepared by staff and suggested they be added to the bottom of the Priority List.

SETRA SYSTEMS - The Board acknowledged receipt of the informational letter from Setra regarding their problem with regard to expansion. Mr. Mullin felt this next phase would not have a dramatic impact. Mr. Hunter felt this was an unfortunate result of what happens when reality comes off paper. Mr. Hunter doesn't see why the Board of Selectmen could not register their feelings that the Board of Selectmen

would like to see them stay and that they support this reasonable plan for expansion.

Mr. Pansire said he wanted to stay in Acton and would not add any additional parking spaces to the proposed expansion. Mr. Hunter noted that the situation in that area had changed since the commercial development planned for Acorn Park will not happen. Mr. Hunter felt that they had a good case before the ZBA and felt the Board of Selectmen should back them. Mr. Mullin noted that while the Board of Selectmen cannot tell other Boards how to decide, they can however, suggest that they reexamine the situation and show some flexibility. The consensus of the Board was that they should support the development of a taxable commercial base and existing businesses.

DORE' HUNTER - Moved to have the Board of Selectmen indicate that the Board would prefer that Setra Systems be able to expand as proposed in the overall proposed plan to remain in Town, and that they would hope good things would happen for them. WILLIAM MULLIN - Second. UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Representative Resor spoke in favor of this action and further thought it may be helpful to look into long term zoning changes for Industrial Parks which would not impact the rest of the community. The Town Manager was asked to send this message on to the Planning Board for review.

INFORMATION REQUEST CPAC - The Board reviewed a request from CPAC regarding being informed of all meetings with the representatives from Rosen Associates. The Board didn't think it was appropriate to have notification when a private person was to speak with town staff privately. Mrs. Tavernier thought a poor precedent would be set. The Board asked staff to advise them in writing that the Town would notify them to the best of our ability of public meetings and hearings, but that private meetings do not answer to the public meeting laws.

TRANSFER STATION STICKER COMPLAINT - The Board reviewed a letter from Mrs. Cash regarding the policy for replacement stickers at the Transfer Station. WILLIAM MULLIN - Moved to deny the request as the administration cost is involved and further that the \$5.00 is a nominal fee. NANCY TAVERNIER - Second. UNANIMOUS VOTE. Staff to draft a letter to Mrs. Cash regarding this vote.

REPRESENTATIVE PAM RESOR - Rep. Resor was in to update the Board on legislation that has passed. She also updated the Board about the South Acton Bridge and bidding process.

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL SIGN REQUEST - The Board discussed the request for the posting of diversity signs in Acton. The Board agreed that they would take the Town Manager's recommendation on this subject, and asked him to draft a response after staff recommendations were reviewed. Mr. Mullin felt that the Board would be opening up a problem for a very noble cause, and that the Board would then have to decide whose cause is good and whose is evil. Mrs. Tavernier reminded the Board

that this issue had to be addressed and feels we should explore a large sign board, and when it is full, it is full. The Manager was asked to have staff look into the matter of a coordinated sign and what streets and areas would be appropriate after Town Meeting.

MAGIC UPDATE - Mr. Mullin updated the Board on the Magic Meeting on Economic Development. They will work harder to increase and develop business environment, we need to make the changes quicker and easier.

TOWN MANAGER'S CONCERNS

DEPARTMENTAL REORGANIZATION - The Town Manager reviewed his memo regarding the re-organization of the Cemetery, Conservation and Municipal Properties Department in to the Natural Resources and Cemeteries. DORE' HUNTER - Moved to endorse the Town Manager's Recommendation for Reorganization. NANCY TAVERNIER - Second. UNANIMOUS VOTE.

MMA CONFERENCE - The Town Manager reported on his attendance at the Conference and the award Acton was given with regard to MIAA Insurance excellence.

W.A. BAPTIST CHURCH SIGNS - The Board reviewed the correspondence regarding the signs. The Town Manager was asked to review the issue after Town Meeting when time permitted. He was asked to write the Church and ask they put the signs in storage for a while until this can be resolved. Mr. Mullin felt it could present a war of the signs and suggested someone contact ABIL representatives for inclusion.

The Board adjourned 11:20 P.M.

Nancy E. Tavernier
Clerk
3/21/95
Date

Christine M. Joyce
Christine M. Joyce
Recording Secty.
cmjW11-(592)

FEBRUARY 3, 1995

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: NORMAN D. LAKE, Chairman
SUBJECT: SELECTMEN'S REPORT

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AGENDA
ROOM 204
FEBRUARY 7, 1995

I. CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS & APPOINTMENTS

1. 7:31 BOSTON EDISON - POPE ROAD - Enclosed please find a request and staff comment regarding Conduit location on Pope Road for Board action.
2. 7:33 BOSTON EDISON/NEW ENGLAND TELEPHONE - STOW STREET - Enclosed please find a request for installation of 5 poles with staff comments for Board action. (This has previously been approved for Emergency Hook-up, this Public Hearing completes the process).
3. 7:45 THOMAS PETERMAN - APPOINTMENT INTERVIEW - Historic District Commission Associate Member Mr. Peterman will be in to interview for an appointment as a regular member to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Dallmus's resignation.
4. 8:00 PLANNING BOARD PRESENTATION OF ARTICLES - Enclosed please find a copy of the articles submitted by the Planning Board for inclusion on the ATM Warrant. In addition to those you currently have, an additional Article AE is included for discussion. Any changes to evolve from the required Public Hearing scheduled by the Planning Board for next week will be forwarded as they are made.

III. SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS

5. CONTINUED BUDGET and WARRANT DISCUSSION - Board Members please bring your Blue Budget notebook that contains the budget as transmitted by the Town Manager in December and also bring the Draft Warrant Articles that were forwarded to you in January (if you need another copy please let staff know).
6. SETRA SYSTEMS - Please find enclosed a letter from Setra Systems which Selectman Mullin has asked to discuss.
7. INFORMATION REQUEST - Enclosed please find a request from CPAC for Board review and discussion.
8. TRANSFER STATION STICKERS - Enclosed please find a letter from Mary E. Cash regarding policy for issuing replacement stickers for Board review.
9. HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL - Enclosed please find a request from the Human Rights Council regarding signs, along with comments from the Town Manager.
- 9A. CONTRACT WITH BUSINESS COMMUNITY - Selectman Mullin will discuss the status of this proposal with the Board.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

10. GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE - Enclosed please find a request to use the Town Common and staff comment regarding the Annual Plant sale for Board action.
11. ACCEPT MINUTES - Enclosed please find Selectmen's Minutes of December 20, 1994 and January 10, 1995.
12. ACCEPT GIFT - Enclosed please find a request to accept gifts of money to the West Acton Citizens' Library Gift Account.

V. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

13. DEPARTMENTAL REORGANIZATION - Enclosed please find a final report from the Town Manager recommending a reorganization of Municipal Properties/Cemeteries.
14. MMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE - The Town Manager will report on events/information from the MMA Conference.
15. W.A. Baptist Church Signs - Enclosed please find a letter from the Petitioner and comments from the Town Manager.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

MEETINGS

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Enclosed please find additional correspondence which 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.

Feb 21 Mill Corner Gift Presentation
Makaha Corporate Transfer/Stock Transfer
Stow Street Parking AMENDMENTS TO TRAFFIC RULES
Anderson Sales - Continued
March 7 Street Acceptance Hearing
March 21

868 acs