

**Memorial Town Hall, 1 Library Street, Georgetown, MA 01833  
Ph. (978) 352-5755 □ Fax (978) 352-5727**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES**

**Memorial Town Hall**

**9/26/16**

**6:30PM-Executive Session~2nd Floor Meeting Room**

**7:00PM-General Meeting~3rd floor meeting room, Town Hall**

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Selectmen Present: C. David Surface Chairman; Gary C. Fowler, Clerk; Douglas W. Dawes, Steven Sadler; Joseph Bonavita

Others Present: Janet Pantano, Administrative Assistant

Absent: Michael Farrell, Town Administrator;

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**6:30PM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property, if such discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position.

**7:00PM Call to order**

Invocation-Douglas W. Dawes

Pledge of Allegiance

*Park & Recreation Regulations update-Park & Recreation to be present*

Mr. Surface invited the board forward to have a discussion on regulations for American Legion Park and all other parks. He stated that this would not be for fall town meeting but for the annual town meeting in May. He stated that he would like to see them have something posted and a bylaw.

Mr. DiMento stated that he met with Chief Cudmore and they have a committee formed to work on the regulations. He stated that the regulations will cover the dog park, West St fields, Littles Hill field, Harry Murch Park, and the new park at East Main Street. He stated that they have talked to another town that has a beach and park and has stickers for residents and non-residents. He stated that they will look at that. He stated that East Main St is still under construction and will be over the winter.

Dave Schauer stated that the dog park is done and residents want to use it and that taxpayers funds were used to construct the park. Mr. Surface stated that we need rules and regulations on the use before the public starts using the dog park. He stated the park is not ready without the use regulations.

Mr. Dawes asked if they can post a sign that the park is not open. Mr. Surface stated there should be a sign with opening information. Mr. Surface asked when the committee would meet. DiMento stated he will reserve room and let people know when the next meeting is. He stated that the Dog Officer would be a part of the committee. He stated that by November they should

have the committee set up. He stated that they should have a draft by the beginning of December. Mr. Fowler asked if the regulations would be reviewed by town counsel. Mr. Surface stated that the regulations should go through Mike Farrell to counsel.

Mr. Bonavita stated that the Chief of Police should be involved. Mr. DiMento stated that he would be.

Mr. Sadler asked what is left to be done at East Main Street. Mr. DiMento stated that there is still work to be done on the skate park, basketball/pickle ball court, beautification, etc. He stated that they have \$200K for this and can do some of the work over the winter. He stated that they can put up a sign that they plan to open the park next summer.

*Park & Rec appointments*

Mr. Surface asked if they have vetted the candidates. Mr. DiMento stated that they recommend John Dunlevy and Chris Rust for appointment.

**Mr. Dawes moved to approve the appointment of *John Dunlevy and Chris Ruest* to the Park & Recreation Commission term to expire June 30, 2017. Mr. Sadler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

*Highway Department Update Pond Street-Peter Durkee to be present*

Mr. Durkee stated that he just wanted to make the intersection of Pond Street and North Street safer as there have been accidents at the intersection and the T is a safer option.

He stated that he also made a T intersection recently on Jewett St and North Street. Mr. Fowler stated that he is happy with the Jewett St change. He stated at Pond St. there was an island and the town would post a town meeting sign. He stated that he had heard from residents that thought the opening was too narrow. Mr. Durkee stated that there is still an area for an island and the road is standard width.

*Communication Committee*

Mr. Surface welcomed Kip Durney and Mike Hinchliffe. He stated that we had a Cable Advisory TV committee and maybe can join the Communication Committee to that committee.

Mr. Sadler stated that the committee will work on internal and social media and for the committee to put things in place for the public. He stated that they still need to put protocols and procedures together.

Mr. Durney stated he wants to see what exists and see what the town wants to put out and how to get it out.

Mr. Surface stated that as part of our contract with cable providers is to have the CATV committee. He stated that they have to work with social media and see how we can communicate. He stated that for older generation have to work with change. He stated that the committee should write a SoP and work with Mr. Sadler for the board. Mr. Hinchliffe stated that in his conversation with Carol Jacobs the town is looking for archiving Facebook. Mr. Surface stated that Mr. Farrell is looking into this. He stated that the group could work with a selectmen.

Mr. Bonavita stated that communication is frustrating from this board and FinCom. He stated that the ATM and Elections information is good to get out. He stated should legal be involved. He stated that have to be sure town does not get in a bind. He stated he would also like to be involved.

Mr. Surface stated Mr. Bonavita and Mr. Sadler will work with the committee and work with Mr. Farrell and have legal involved. Mr. Bonavita asked if we have any information on CATV Committee. Mr. Fowler stated that we are not appointing anyone. He asked if we can have two BoS working together is that an issue. Mr. Surface stated that it is not a quorum.

*Water Department Update-Water Commissioners to be present*

Lou Mammolette, water department manager is present

Mr. Surface stated that they asked the water commissioners to come in as the Selectmen get calls with issues on water and they need to know how to respond. He asked if someone has a problem what should they do.

Mr. Mammolette stated that he has staff to handle calls and if someone has an issue they should call the water department. He stated that he has heard there are complaints on social media. He stated that he is not connected to social media a lot but if someone has an issue they should stop in see him or call the contact information is on the website. He stated that if someone calls staff is there in 10-minutes.

Mr. Surface stated that this is good information and in a couple months if the commission could come in with a strategic plan so the residents know what is happening. Mr. Mammolette stated that they send out a report every year to all residents and it is posted online and they have monthly meetings that are open to the public. He stated in the last three years no one has attended. He stated that they submit a budget to FinCom every year and also put goals and objectives together for the report. Mr. Surface stated they want to help get the word out at the BoS meeting. Mr. Mammolette stated that the commission wants to know what the board is looking for and how long a presentation. Mr. Surface stated that they are just looking for an outline of what the future plan is.

Mr. Mammolette stated that he has been looking at where in town there are water issues and where there are not. He stated that they have not raised the rates in 4 ½ years and have a very qualified board. He stated that the water system needs to be flushed desperately.

Mr. Bonavita stated rates are reasonable and we have to put a plan together. He stated that he has been frustrated with the quality of the water. He stated if rates increased could that make a difference.

Mr. Mammolette stated that if we had the money could we fix the issues. He stated that they have done a good job with rates and have made some improvements and will be making more improvements. He stated that they are working on some larger changes. He stated that when they have a final plan increasing capacity of the treatment plant that will help. He stated that they want to spend funds properly and DEP will not let them do some things.

Mr. Bonavita stated that his water has gotten better but his neighbors has not. He stated residents want to know what has to happen to improve the water.

Mr. Fowler stated that Mr. Mammolette is very detailed and when the FinCom gets the water budget BoS needs to get the budget also. He stated that he has seen improvements.

Mr. Sadler stated that a plan is what residents are looking for.

Mr. Mammolette stated he is governed by a 3 member board and they want him to have a plan to move forward. He stated that the article for fall is to replace a water tank that we have been talking about for years.

Mr. Sadler asked about where the funding for the tank will come from. Mr. Mammolette stated that they are an Enterprise Fund and come from water department funds. Mr. Fowler asked about changes to Enterprise Funds and how the Municipal Light Dept. operates. Mr. Mammolette stated that the Light Dept. is different than the Water Dept. as we fall under the town budget and explained the article and bonding of funds. He stated that the new board is more set on doing things. He stated that they have done the small things and are now moving forward on larger items.

Mr. Bonavita asked when their next meeting is. Mr. Mammolette stated that they will meet on October 12th at 7PM at the Water Dept. 1Moulton Street.

## **WARRANT & MINUTES**

*Minutes May 16, 2016*

**Mr. Dawes moved to approve the minutes of May 16, 2016. Mr. Bonavita seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.**

## **BOARD BUSINESS**

*Special Town Meeting-Set date, open warrant, and review draft warrant*

**Mr. Dawes moved to set the date of the *Special Town Meeting to November 14, 2016* and to open the warrant. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

*Community Sign Policy*

Hold for next meeting

*Debt Exclusion Policy*

Mr. Surface stated that the board can set regulations but legally a future board would not be bound by the regulations. He asked to hold off until Mr. Farrell is back.

*Legal Access Policy*

Mr. Dawes stated that his concern on access to town council is that they have to go through the Town Administrator and the Town Administrator is an employee who reports to the BoS. Mr. Surface stated he thought that we voted on a SoP. Mr. Fowler stated that when elected they received a letter from town counsel to call if they need assistance. Mr. Surface stated that he did call when he started regarding an issue with conflict with credit union. He stated if personal is one issue but any other question should go through the Town Administrator. He stated that they need a SoP. Mr. Dawes stated as an elected official they should not have to go through an employee. Mr. Surface stated if a sensitive issue then they could go to legal counsel.

## **APPOINTMENTS and APPROVALS**

*Approval of Disclosure by a Municipal Employee-Michael Anderson*

Mr. Dawes read a memo from Mr. Farrell on the requested disclosure.

**Mr. Fowler moved to allow the Chair to sign the 20b disclosure of Michael Anderson, Assessor. Mr. Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

*Request by Michele R. Velleman for appointment to Traffic Committee*

Mr. Fowler stated that Sharon Freeman cannot make meetings and now have 3 active members and when Sharon resigns the committee would like to go back to a 3-member board. Mr. Dawes stated that where traffic is a sensitive issue they should have a resident on the committee. Mr. Surface stated that they will hold the request.

*Historical Committee Agreement CPC for approval*

**Mr. Dawes moved to accept as presented the Historic Properties Survey Consultant Services Agreement for the Historical Commission with Kathryn Grover/Larson Fisher Associates. Mr. Bonavita seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote. Mr. Fowler abstain**

*Request from the Town Clerk to approve Poll Workers for November 8, 2016*

**Mr. Dawes moved to approve the Poll Workers as listed for the State Election on Tuesday, November 8, 2016. Mr. Sadler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

## **NEXT MEETINGS**

October 3rd and October 17, 2016, 7:00PM, 3rd floor meeting room, Town Hall

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Dawes moved to adjourn. Mr. Bonavita seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:50PM.

Minutes transcribed by J. Pantano.

Minutes approved February 13, 2017.

Documents used in this meeting:

- Minutes May 15, 2016
- Special Town Meeting draft warrant
- Community Sign Policy
- Legal Access Policy
- Approval of Disclosure by a Municipal Employee
- Request by Michele R. Velleman for appointment to Traffic Committee
- Request from the Town Clerk to approve Poll Workers for November 8, 2016
- Park & Rec appointments
- Historical Committee Agreement CPC