

Selectmen's Minutes

October 23, 2001

7:00 P.M.

Present: Peter Ashton, Trey Shupert, Pam Harting-Barrat, Walter Foster, Town Manager and Assistant Town Manager. Meeting was televised.

CITIZEN'S CONCERN

Cory Atkins was present to explain the process which determined what districts we are in now. This is due to the population shifts that have taken place. It has grown in Lawrence, Boxboro, the 495 belt. She tried to get Acton whole in any direction, and tried to piece by piece with other towns. What they came up with was a plan that split communities, over 70 exist. Chelmsford was in four pieces. She noted that Chris Whelan said that you get twice the representation. Acton has the opportunity because of A/B School it is a strong political base with an open seat to run who you like. She felt it will offer much more representation but she did try her best.

Peter noted that the Governor can veto this. But she felt it would sustain a veto. He asked what efforts were made to delay the vote and if she voted for it, she did.

Trey expressed his displeasure with the plan. This effectively tears this community in half. We have nothing in common with those towns. She said that some communities were sacrificed.

Pam felt that we were not protected and had hoped that some one should have stood up and spoken against this. She felt too many legislators are looking out for themselves and we have very separate and distinct differences with regard to transportation and schools, she noted their issues are not our issues. To have this come out Thursday and go to a vote on Monday was the wrong thing to do and is not in the best interests of Acton, Boxboro and the other towns. Pam was very displeased.

Cory explained that she could not have stood up and railed against it because it would have been disingenuous because other communities were given worse splits.

Walter asked about the process and that he has received many calls upset about this. He felt the trust of government and people doing public work has been lost. He asked to not give up the fight, it needs to be fixed. We need someone to stand up and say that this will not be tolerated. He asked about the Committee and who the plan was presented to. She honestly believes that the town will not be hurt by this plan. Peter is dismayed and discouraged. He doesn't see that this benefits the Town. The process is not right it is terrible and we need someone to step up and speak out to the Speaker.

Ann Chang finds this is splitting communities and the entire State is split and it makes people less interested in voting. She asked where she got the numbers. The numbers came for the Secretary of State office.

Greg Jarboe – Spoke about the redistricting 20 years ago when Acton was coupled with Concord. He felt that someone we elected will have to be effective and if you cannot,

you need to fight the fight even if we lose. He spoke about the cost of running for office. You will need to have money to run and will limit the candidates.

Pam asked if she made the proposal to split off some of Concord's precincts and she said no.

Mike Scanlon – He encouraged the Selectmen to look at the avenues for class action suit, make it public. The leadership of the house should take this to the Governor and let her know we want it vetoed. He felt that Cory should have voted no.

Trey spoke about the money issues for elections, and she said they did not solve that problem and made it worse.

Bob Ferra – He agreed with Mike Scanlon and was upset that it was voted so quickly.

PUBLIC HEARINGS & APPOINTMENTS

PLANNING BOARD OVERSIGHT MEETING – Chairman Halm spoke about their work on the Kelly's corner articles that where chosen not to go forward. Roland wants to recodify the bylaw. They are looking at rules and regulations that would reduce water needs in landscaping, and will speak to the Water District. They have been approached about lighting and noise issues. Looking at reducing lots with wetlands first. Non conforming uses and the Board of Appeals issue with them, and how to minimize those issues. He feels that they will be looking at these issues in the coming year.

Peter noted the goals and said they were admirable. Peter wanted to be sure that they were present at the next 2020 meeting.

Pam noted that they have a busy schedules. She asked about the impact of the Sept. tragedies and what they are seeing for growth. Pat said it has been very quite since the summer. They are down from a year ago. He suspects it is driven by the economy. He noted that they need to address traffic and transportation now that it is slower.

Ken Siga-Hughes – Wanted to make sure it is clear from their point of view that they are waiting for the direction from the Board of Selectmen to move on the Kelly's corner rezoning. Walter recommend that the Planning Board move forward on these articles.

TOWN CLERK INTERVIEW – MS. LOBEL – The Board interviewed Ms. Lobel for the position of Town Clerk. They indicated that they had additional interviews to conduct but would get back to her in the near future.

SITE PLAN 366 – ASSISTED LIVING CONTINUATION OF SITE PLAN MODIFICATION – TREY SHUPERT - To approve the withdrawal of Site plan modification – PAM HARTING-BARRAT. Second. UNANIMOUS

SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS

ALG DISCUSSION FY03 – Peter spoke about the ALG Plan and noted we have to discuss where we stand. Baring unforeseen circumstances we ask staff that at all costs that we would like the budget pared back and live within the Prop 2 ½.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING NIGHTS

Peter spoke about moving from Tuesdays to Monday in order to view the Fin Com meetings. It will also free up some members for work travel.

Pam felt that preparing for the meeting would put us at a slight disadvantage. Walter had no objection to move to Monday. Trey would like to go to Monday meetings. Don felt that Monday will be fine except for possible preparation. Trey asked the Town Manager go over the calendar and look at it next meeting.

STREET SIGN INSTALLATION - 820 Main Street- TREY SHUPERT – Approve the sign request 820 Main Street for caution hidden drive – **PAM–HARTING BARRAT** – second. Unanimous Vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

Trey spoke about Chuck Olmstead and the Private way plowing request. Trey asked the Town Manager call him. Peter noted he has spoken with Mr. Olmstead and has handled this issue.

CONSENT AGENDA

TREY SHUPERT - Moved to approve. – **PAM HARTING–BARRAT**. Second. UNANIMOUS VOTE.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

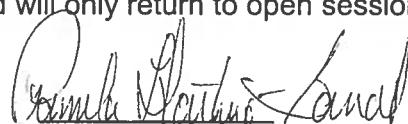
They have a signed four year highway contract

They are still working with the other unions. They finished arguments with Fire yesterday. ALG process and semi commitment we have no idea where our labor will be in the next 60-90 days. Unlike highway, the police cannot strike. We are required to support the decision affirmatively and speak affirmatively at Town Meeting. That will be an obligation on our part.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

PAM HARTING-BARRAT – Moved to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation
PETER ASHTON - SECOND. The Board will only return to open session to adjourn. Roll Call taken by the Clerk, All Ayes.

Christine Joyce
Recording Clerk


Clerk
12-4-01
Date

October 19, 2001

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Peter Ashton, Chairman
SUBJECT: Selectmen's Report

October 23, 2001
PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MEETING BEGINS AT 7:00 P.M.

I. CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS & APPOINTMENTS

1. 7:05 PLANNING BOARD OVERSIGHT MEETING
2. 7:35 TOWN CLERK INTERVIEW – Ms. Lobel will be present.
3. 9:15 SITE PLAN #366 – ASSISTED LIVING CONTINUATION OF A SITE PLAN MODIFICATION.

III. SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS

4. ALG DISCUSSION FY03 BUDGET
5. BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING NIGHTS
6. STREET SIGN INSTALLATION – Enclosed please find a memo from staff regarding a request for signage at 820 Main Street.
7. OTHER BUSINESS

IV CONSENT AGENDA

8. APPROVE MINUTES – Enclosed please find minutes of the August 14, September 11 and 25 and October 9th for your approval.
9. DONATION – Enclosed please find a request for acceptance of "Greens" from Dean Charter for Board Action.

V. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

VI EXECUTIVE SESSION

- . An Executive Session will be required

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.

Mtgs. Begin at 7:00 P.M.

Nov. 6

Nov. 20

Dec. 4

Dec 18

GOALS 2001-2002

1. Resolution of on-going Labor Negotiations (Peter/Trey)
2. Improve Communication with Town Boards (Peter)
3. Towne Building Reuse (Walter/Dore')
4. ALG process be used for purpose of Budget Planning for FY '02 (Peter/Trey)
5. Residential and Commercial Growth (Walter/Trey/Pam)
6. Open Space and Recreation Plan (Peter/Walter)
7. Health Insurance Trust Agreement (Peter)
8. HDC Bylaw Review (Dore'/Peter)
9. Decision on Pentamation Accounting System (Dore'/Pam)
10. Process Planning for "Life after NESWC" (Pam)

FY 2000 GOALS carried forward

11. Public Safety Facility (Dore'/Trey)
12. Determine future of Vallencourt House - 17 Woodbury Lane.
13. Provide looking at salary levels in the organization, include liaison with Personnel Board (Trey /Peter)

**SPECIAL
Selectmen's Minutes
October 29, 2001
6:30 P.M.**

The Meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

Present: Peter Ashton, Trey Shupert, F. Dore' Hunter, Walter Foster, Town Manager and Assistant Town Manager. Meeting was not televised. Selectman Barrat arrived late.

CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

None Noted

PUBLIC HEARINGS & APPOINTMENTS

None Scheduled

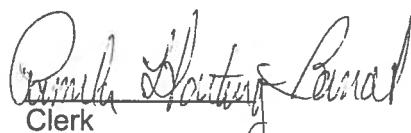
SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS

The Board had a brief discussion of the single article proposed for to nights Special Town Meeting

TREY SHUPERT – Moved to Recommend Article 1 as drafted. DORE' HUNTER – Second. UNANIMOUS VOTE.

OTHER BUSINESS

DDJ
Don Johnson
Recording Clerk


Clerk
Date

October 26, 2001

TO: Board of Selectmen

FROM: Peter Ashton, Chairman

SUBJECT: Special Pre-Town Meeting Selectmen's Report

October 29, 2001

6:15 P.M. in the Faculty Dining Room

I. CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS & APPOINTMENTS

III. SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS

- 1. SPECIAL TOWN MEETING DISCUSSION** – Enclosed please find the motion for Article one.
- 2. OTHER BUSINESS**

IV CONSENT AGENDA

V TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

VI EXECUTIVE SESSION

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