

TOWN OF HOPKINTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Date: January 18, 2005
MINUTES

Members Present: F. Eric Sonnett, Chairman; Paul J. Nelson, Vice-Chairman; Ronald M. Clark; Leonard A. Holden; Mary C. Pratt.

Others Present: HCAM Station Director: Michael Torosian; MetroWest News: Kathy Flynn; Hopkinton Independent: Sarah Duckett; Department of Public Works: John T. Gaucher, Director, and Michael Mansir, Highway Manager; Town Treasurer/Collector: Maureen L. Dwinell; Town Clerk: Ann Click; Housing Committee: Mary Harrington, Chairman; Revenue Enhancement Committee: Finley Perry, Chairman, and Vascen Bogigian; John Burke; Youth Commission: Michele Lenk, Chairman; Youth Commission Candidate: John Barclay; Framingham Selectman: Ginger Esty; Robert Foster; Timothy Kilduff; Kim Hesse; Craig Campbell; Alfreda White; Fred White; Eva Beede; Barbara Corbett Dobson; Cobi Wallace; Richard deMont; Michael Shepard; Ronald Eldridge; Karl Mighton; Jacqueline Duffy; Jeff Furber; Gail Clifford; Joe Hall; Joe Pratt; Tom Pratt; Selectmen's Office: Theodore D. Kozak, Executive Secretary, and Geri Holland, Executive Assistant

Public Meeting Opened/Pledge of Allegiance:

7:00 p.m. Mr. Sonnett opened the public meeting and invited everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Town warrants and bills were approved for payment.

Selectmen's minutes: 1/4/05

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve the January 4, 2005 minutes. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mrs. Pratt. Unanimously voted.**

Chapter 90 Notes (CWMP): Maureen Dwinell, Town Treasurer/Collector (see attachments)

Mrs. Dwinell, Town Treasurer Collector, explained the Water Pollution Abatement Bond for \$45,461 for the Town's Comprehensive Wastewater Management Program Project.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve for signature the Water Pollution Abatement Bond for \$45,461. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mr. Nelson. Unanimously voted.**

Snow & Ice account (excess of appropriation): J.T. Gaucher, DPW Director

Mr. Gaucher explained that the Snow & Ice Control Account would be depleted after paying expenses incurred from the January 12th storm. Mr. Gaucher requests the Board to approve the DPW to incur liabilities in excess of the appropriation, for the purpose of snow and ice removal, an additional \$200,000 for the remainder of the winter. Mr. Sonnett asked if this amount (\$200,000) is enough. Mr. Gaucher responded that he hopes this will last through this winter. Mr. Sonnett asked what the cost is when all vendors and equipment are utilized during a storm. Mr. Mansir, Highway Manager, estimates the cost is approximately \$30,000-\$35,000, but that it would depend upon several factors, such as how long the storm lasts, the material used etc. He added that the cost is more expensive this year due to financial increases for materials and fuel.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to authorize Mr. Gaucher to incur liabilities in excess of appropriation, for the purpose of snow and ice removal an additional \$200,000, for the balance of FY'05, as provided in M.G.L. Chapter 44, Sec. 31D. **So moved Mr. Holden. Second Mr. Nelson. Unanimously voted.**

"Blind Driveway" Sign Request: 56 Elm Street

Mr. Sonnett explained a request from Mr. Gaucher, DPW Director, for a "Blind Driveway" sign at 56 Elm Street. The request was originally initiated by a resident who requested that the sign be posted at this location, as she has had several instances of "close calls" as she pulls out of her driveway. Mr. Sonnett noted that the Police Chief has no objection to the placement of the "Blind Driveway" sign as requested.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve the placement of a "Blind Driveway" sign at 56 Elm Street. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mrs. Pratt. Unanimously voted.**

Amend JBCD Service Station, Inc. License (91 Grove St.) (name change only): John Burke, owner

Mr. Sonnett discussed the request for a name change due to new ownership of the Kenney's Gas Station located at 91 Grove Street. Mr. John Burke, the new owner of JBCD Service Station, introduced himself, and said that he bought the gas station on December 3, 2004. He stated that he hopes to keep the level of service that the previous owner, Bobby Kenney, has provided over the years. The Board welcomed Mr. Burke to Town.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to amend the license of the business located at 91 Grove Street to reflect the new name, JBCD Service Station, Inc., effective immediately. **So moved Mr. Holden. Second Mrs. Pratt. Unanimously voted.**

Youth Commission: four (4) vacancies; term: one (1) 2005; two (2) 2006; one (1) 2007): 1.) John Barclay

Applicant, John Barclay, introduced himself and talked about his interest to serve on the Youth Commission. He said that he is the Director of the MetroWest YMCA, and has worked with youth and teens as a YMCA Director, over the last 25 years in different parts of the country. He believes that he would bring an objective and new perspective to various issues facing Hopkinton's youth. Ms. Lenk, Chairman of the Youth Commission, commented that the Youth Commission supports Mr. Barclay's appointment, and believes that he would be an asset to the Commission.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to appoint John Barclay to the Youth Commission for a term to 2007. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mrs. Pratt. Unanimously voted.**

Ms. Lenk said that there are three vacancies on the Youth Commission, and wished to encourage those that might be interested to please apply for one of the openings.

Peppercorn Village (Ch. 40B Housing Project): Regulatory Agreement

Mr. Sonnett discussed the Regulatory Agreement as a Ch. 40B Housing Project between the Town and Peppercorn Village Realty Trust and that has been approved by the Town's various Boards including the Board of Appeals, Planning Board and Town Counsel. Mr. Kozak explained that this project consists of 56 condominium units where at least one owner of each unit is at least 55 years of age, and where 25% or 14 units of the total condos will be designated as affordable units. He said that the Town will monitor the affordable units, and that the Citizens' Housing and Planning Association, Inc. (CHAPA) will perform the administration and monitoring of services in compliance of the project's guidelines and comprehensive permitting. There was discussion regarding the Agreement. Mr. Clark commented that this is a step forward for the community in working towards improving the affordable housing process.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve the Peppercorn Village Regulatory Agreement and authorize the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to sign the Agreement. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mrs. Pratt. Unanimously voted.**

Revenue Enhancement Committee Final Report PowerPoint: Finley Perry, Chairman (SEE ATTACHMENTS)

Mr. Sonnett gave a brief history of the Revenue Enhancement Committee (REC), which was established to find ways to increase the Town's revenue without increasing taxes. He said that as the Committee has completed their mission, Mr. Perry, Chairman of the REC, and member, Vascen Bogigian, would present the REC's final report.

Mr. Perry gave a recap of the REC's mission to identify new ways of generating revenue for the Town. He said that after the REC's first "brainstorming" session a year ago, four areas became their focus as follows: 1.) Capitalize better on the Marathon License; 2.) Develop new revenue streams through more aggressive grant-writing; 3.) Create a list of surplus Town properties that could be sold; 4.) Encourage and facilitate the development of greater "value" in the Town's commercial and industrial zones.

Mr. Perry talked about the opportunities that are available to increase revenue from the Marathon event. He said that the REC recommends that the Board of Selectmen and Hopkinton Athletic Association (HAA) could discuss how to work together to increase fund-raising results.

Mr. Perry talked about the importance of grant-writing "income" and how to compensate a grant-writer. He said that the REC concludes that grant writing appears to be a significant way to generate revenue, and recommends that the Board might wish to commission a separate study about grant writing.

In regards to generating revenue through the sale of surplus property, Mr. Perry said that the REC realizes that it is in the Town's best interest to be "strategic" in this approach, such as getting the most value for the sale and making sure that the Town would never want the property for anything in the future. Mr. Perry talked about economic development and pointed out that Hopkinton's location near Interstate 495 makes this area attractive for commercial and industrial development. He talked about industrial zoning issues and how the REC explored adding to the Town's industrial zone by re-zoning acreage between Elmwood Park and Wood Street.

Mr. Perry summarized the REC's recommendations by beginning immediately to "exploit" the Town's Marathon tie, maximize the Town's grant writing capability, develop a "thoughtful" program for selling the Town's surplus property, consider the establishment of a professional economic development department, take funding from the Selectmen's budget for hiring contract economic development services, look at the connection from 495 to the Downtown area, and disband the Revenue Enhancement Committee.

There was discussion about obtaining grant monies. Mr. Bogigian talked about the possibility of hiring a consultant on a short-term basis who could work with Mr. Kozak, Executive Secretary, and train volunteers within the community to pursue grants. Mr. Sonnett pointed out that Hopkinton is not an economic target area, which means we are not qualified for some funding money. Mr. Perry said that it might make more sense for an Economic Development Officer to work on this project.

Mr. Sonnett asked if there is anything that needs to be presented at this year's town meeting. Mr. Bogigian responded that he has no answer right now.

Mr. Clark commented that the Economic Commission & Development Financing Authority could take a leadership role in the area of economic development. He noted that the Town of Ashland had a part-time Economic Development person, and it might make sense to utilize this person on a contract basis. Mr. Sonnett pointed out that there are currently two vacancies on the EC DFA, and that the Board could expand the Commission.

Mr. Perry commented that the Town could reach out to businesses such as EMC Corporation and Weston Nurseries, who might have an interest in the economic development of the Town.

Mr. Nelson pointed out that other communities have gone through this process, and are very aggressive on the market. He added that this is a highly competitive situation.

Mr. Holden commented that the Hopkinton Athletic Association is working hard toward fundraising, and is amenable to and would greatly appreciate any concrete suggestions. Mr. Sonnett commented that the quality of the REC's report is outstanding.

Vote: Mr. Clark motioned to disband the Revenue Enhancement Committee effective immediately. **Second Mr. Nelson. Unanimously voted.**

Comments:

Mr. Michael Shepard, 11 Hill Street, thanked Mr. Perry and Mr. Bogigian for their presentation. He believes that, although the Town is a great place to live, he believes that educating the public about any changes that might affect neighborhoods is important. He recommended including those residents in any rezoning discussions regarding Wood Street to Elm Street. Mr. Sonnett agreed with Mr. Shepard's observation and thanked him for his comments.

Marathon Greece Update:

Mr. Kilduff, Hopkinton Athletic Association, said that Robert Foster, resident and member of the Board of Appeals, recently visited Marathon, Greece and presented to the Deputy Mayor of Marathon the letter from the Board of Selectmen that endorses the sister city relationship between Hopkinton and Marathon. Mr. Foster said that he received a warm welcome and that they are "eager" to follow through with this relationship. The Board thanked Mr. Kilduff and Mr. Foster for their update.

Permitting Process Update: Theodore D. Kozak, Executive Secretary

Mr. Kozak presented a draft copy of the Guide for Business Owners and Developers, which gives an overview of the permitting process for various license and permit requirements. He gave a brief history of the Guide, which was done about five years ago, and has recently been revised by the Economic Commission & Development Financing Authority. Mr. Kozak has since been meeting with the Town Planner, Municipal Building Inspector, Conservation Administrator, and Public Health Administrator to discuss and review the Guide. He believes the Guide is near completion, and would be available to developers and residents. He said that his goal is to continue to hold monthly meetings to discuss the various projects that come before them. Mr. Sonnett commented that he would also like to meet with the Chairman of those Boards that issue permits to keep the process going. The Board agreed that the Guide is a good step in the permitting process, and thanked Mr. Kozak for managing this project.

Regulatory Guidelines for Comprehensive Permitting

Mr. Sonnett referred to a letter from Robert Foster, Board of Appeals, and asked Mr. Foster to explain the request. Mr. Foster explained that in an effort to draft regulatory guidelines for processing appeals for special permits for affordable housing, the Board of Appeals is establishing a committee of those Town Boards that are involved in the process. He said that the Board of Appeals requests a member of the Selectmen to participate in this effort. Mr. Sonnett said that he is the Board of Appeals' liaison, he would assume the responsibility.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to appoint the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to be the representative on the committee established by the Board of Appeals for the purpose of drafting regulatory guidelines for processing comprehensive permits for affordable housing. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mr. Holden. Unanimously voted.**

Consideration of Rescission of appointment of MAPC Representative

Mr. Sonnett commented that this upcoming discussion regarding the Board's consideration of rescission of Mrs. Pratt's appointment, as the Town's MAPC representative is not a public hearing. He said that the Board would not accept any comments or questions from those that are in attendance, but are welcome to be at this meeting. Mr. Sonnett gave a brief account of the Selectmen's January 4th meeting about a letter written by the Massachusetts Area Planning Council (MAPC) that criticized the Town's Environmental Impact Report (SEIR). He said that it was obvious to Board members that MAPC did not share the opinion of the Town's experts, but had a different agenda that is shared by Mrs. Pratt and others. Mr. Sonnett said that at that meeting, the Board questioned Mrs. Pratt if she used her role as liaison to the MAPC to influence them, causing them to send the letter. Mr. Sonnett said, that at that time, Mrs. Pratt said that she had no involvement with MAPC's comments. Mr. Sonnett added that based on this last meeting, the Board asked Mrs. Pratt to explain to them why they should not consider rescinding her appointment as the Board's representative to the MAPC.

Mrs. Pratt's Statement (see attachments)

Mrs. Pratt stated that MAPC is a regional planning agency that represents 101 cities and towns in the Metropolitan Boston Area, and is a member of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). She said that MAPC, a national association, provides oversight to federal and state-funded transportation, transit and enhancement programs such as bike parks and trails. She explained that MAPC works through subregional organizations of which she is a participating member on the South West Advisory Planning (SWAP) group for this local region. She listed the towns that are SWAP members including Hopkinton, Holliston, Franklin, Medway, Milford, Millis, Dover, Sherborn, Bellingham, Norfolk and Wrentham. She explained some of SWAP's target areas of concern including regional transportation and planning infrastructure, affordable housing, hazardous waste management, open space planning, Executive Order 418 - community development planning, and smart growth initiatives. Mrs. Pratt said she has been a participating member of MAPC for over 13 years. Mrs. Pratt said that she attends monthly SWAP meetings, quarterly MAPC meetings, as well as monthly legislative and executive committee meetings and bi-monthly Economic Commission & Development Financing Authority meetings. She said that she has missed only one SWAP meeting, one legislative meeting, and one quarterly meeting. Mrs. Pratt explained the various missions and roles of these agencies. She then gave an overview of her accomplishments as a volunteer for the town for the following projects: Interstate 495 Corridor, MPO Transit and Transportation, Community Preservation Act (CPA), Executive Order 418 etc.

Mrs. Pratt said that all her efforts have been to benefit Hopkinton and never herself. She commented that she speaks for the interest of the town and stands up for what she knows is right. She pointed out that those Towns that belong to the MAPC elected her to serve on the Executive Board, and by all the cities and towns to serve on the MPO. She believes that she was elected as she is a "credible member and participates without self-interest". Mrs. Pratt stated that she has acted with "honesty, trustworthiness, truthfulness, integrity and responsibility". She said that she supported the purchase of Fruit Street for the protection of the Town's water, and has never worked against the best interest of Hopkinton or its residents.

Mrs. Pratt commented that she did not send unsolicited comments from any Town Board to MAPC. She added that after a MEPA reviewer at MAPC called her to request comments, she then asked the Boards to send them. She said that she did not review them first, but rather asked them to forward them, as requested. She stated that she did not influence MAPC, as they do their own review and make their own comments.

Mrs. Pratt concluded by saying that, although the Board of Selectmen appoints her and others to various committees and commissions, everyone has a "moral obligation to serve the public first". Mrs. Pratt emphasized that she would never jeopardize the Town of Hopkinton. Mrs. Pratt added that Mr. Clark thanked her for supporting the Fruit Street property purchase at the town meeting.

Mr. Sonnett reiterated that there would be no comments from the audience.

Mr. Sonnett thanked Mrs. Pratt for her organized thoughts. He told her that clearly she has been a tireless worker for the Town with an impressive resume. He added that perhaps that is the reason why over the years Mrs. Pratt has been appointed to these committees, as the expectation is that she will work on their behalf. Mr. Sonnett said that the issue is not about her participation in all the organizations. He said that rather the issue is when she is appointed to a Board and that Board solicits her opinion on any project, there is an expectation that her opinion would be that of the Town, and not her own personal agenda. Mrs. Pratt responded that she did not give them (MAPC) her opinion, and that she only sent them copies of the comment letters from the Board of Health, Conservation Commission and Planning Board.

Mr. Nelson asked Mrs. Pratt if she just said that she sent the comment letters from the various Town Boards to MAPC. Mrs. Pratt responded that she never said that. Mr. Nelson said that he just wants to clarify this as earlier she said she sent them. Mrs. Pratt said that when MAPC called her and asked her to send them, she asked Elaine (Lazarus) the Town Planner, Don (McAdam) the Conservation Administrator, and Tom (Ryder) the Public Health Administrator to send them. She said she never looked at them (comment letters).

Mr. Sonnett said that the issue is that MAPC is a powerful agency whose opinion is respected by State agencies. Mr. Sonnett referred to a letter dated January 3rd that the Board of Selectmen sent to Richard Dimino, President of the

MAPC, to ask them for their comments. Mr. Sonnett said that the Board received a letter dated January 14th from Marc Draisen, Executive Director of the MAPC, which responds to the Board's letter. Mr. Sonnett read an excerpt of the letter as follows: "In regard to the process for reviewing MEPA projects, MAPC's standard operating procedure is to contact the council representative for the municipality in which the project is located. We ask them to provide not only their own perspective, but also a general sense of issues regarding the proposal in the community, and any locally available information that might help inform our review of the project. As you know, in this case we received communications not only from the Hopkinton council representative, Mary Pratt, stating her concerns about the project, but also from the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, and Board of Health, each raising significant issues that we felt should be addressed in the MEPA review. We also reviewed the letters that the Board of Selectmen and other town boards had submitted during the review of the project's Environmental Notification Form. All of these were taken into account as we developed our comments on the SEIR."

Mr. Sonnett addressed Mrs. Pratt and commented that she, as the Town's representative, stated concerns to MAPC. Mrs. Pratt responded that she had sent a letter stating her own concerns as an abutter and that was all she sent. She added that Mark Racicot, MAPC, asked her to send the three comment letters (Planning Board, Conservation Commission and Board of Health), so that MAPC could review them. Mrs. Pratt reiterated that she did ask those boards to send them, which they did. Mrs. Pratt said that she has publicly expressed her concerns before the Board of Selectmen, and when she was asked to endorse the letter to MAPC, she said that the plan was environmentally unsound. She pointed out that she still believes that. She commented that this is a very important aquifer, and the State is very concerned and so are the people who have anything to do with the Sudbury River.

Mrs. Pratt said that the Board is asking her to make a statement that would be false, and asked what does the Board want her to say? She said that the Board endorsed the SEIR, and she objected, as there was a danger of pollution. She said that she had no idea what MAPC would write and thought that they were lenient in some areas.

Mr. Sonnett responded to Mrs. Pratt's question of what the Board would want her to say, and said that as a representative to the Town, he would expect her to say that the town has spent up to \$800,000 studying these environmental issues between the CWMP and the money spent for the SEIR, and that the uses for the property passed two town meetings unanimously. He added that the town's position is well founded scientifically, as opposed to what was written and an opinion that was very similar to Mrs. Pratt's known position. He said that in this regard, he asked Mrs. Pratt if she represented the Town's position or her own?

Mrs. Pratt responded that she personally represents the Town's position because the people at Town meeting took a promise from the Fruit Street Development Committee that they would bring back any other projects, and no other projects were brought back to Town meeting. She said that when she stood up and asked the town to vote for the purchase of the Fruit Street property, it was for water preservation, a new school and fields. She added that anything else should be brought back to Town meeting. She said that if she could ask the town to vote for this again given the present circumstance, she would not have asked them to vote to purchase the property. She added that it is her belief that the money has been wasted.

Mr. Sonnett responded that what he just heard Mrs. Pratt say is that she feels that it is within her area of responsibility to these boards that she is appointed to represent her interpretation of Town meeting, even though it is in direct opposition of the Town's vote. Mr. Sonnett said that this is his comment and opened up the discussion between other Board members.

Mr. Nelson echoed Mr. Sonnett's comments about appreciating the hard work that Mrs. Pratt has done for the Town. He said that if the Board were here tonight to discuss Mrs. Pratt's level of activities with MAPC, her statement of all of her years of service would be an appropriate area for discussion. He pointed out though that this is not what the Board is here to discuss this evening. He wished to make a couple of points. The first being that as a Selectman, she has a higher responsibility as a Board member, which is to represent the activities of the Town to talk in a faithful manner when speaking to people in State organizations and that means not her interpretation of what is going on. Secondly, Mr. Nelson said that what troubles him is that when she said that she supported the purchase of the Fruit Street property for the protection of the Town's water. He said that the proposal before Town meeting was not to purchase the property for

the sole protection of the water. He continued by saying it was made very clear that it was a key consideration of concern, but that the Fruit Street Development Committee made it very clear that there were several other uses of the land for consideration. He added that there were many municipal uses that could be realized on this property. He questioned Mrs. Pratt's comment about her explanation that in some ways she was not a direct abutter to this property. Mrs. Pratt responded that there are two parcels of property there. Mr. Nelson commented that the MAPC letter's tone was defensive. He further explained that he believes MAPC possibly justifies that they could make comments like they did because they have regional authority, but he further explained that local issues are somewhat indistinguishable from regional issues, yet the letter makes no reference to regional impacts. He concluded, if anything, MAPC's letter raised more questions.

Mr. Clark gave a brief update regarding the Fruit Street property and talked about how the Town has made a lot of progress in moving forward with the permitting process. He said that the first process was to receive approval of the master plan level before the Town could come back to town meeting for the project level. He said that by saying that the town hasn't gone back to town meeting yet at the project level is disingenuous because we the Town can't do this until the master plan level is first approved.

Mr. Clark discussed that the State approved the request to do Phase I which is basically to use the existing road, which Mrs. Pratt mentioned that is near her property, and to do the athletic fields. He said that in the summer of 2003, the Town was denied any building as Mrs. Pratt, the Conservation Commission, and the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife Office all wrote letters to the State stating that they were against this. He said that the State asked the Town regarding the Master Plan's SEIR to report in thirteen areas of concern and that seven out of those thirteen areas have now been approved; and that the State requested supplemental information regarding six of those areas, and four of those six areas can easily be taken care of. He added that two of the other areas would take some work.

Mr. Clark said that he found that in Mrs. Pratt's December 18, 2004 letter to the State opposing the SEIR, it included selective use of information, such as a copy of letter dated April 2002 from the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife that turned down the prior golf course project at the Fruit Street property. He noted that the Town has since negotiated an agreement with the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, and is not sure why this information was not mentioned in Mrs. Pratt's letter. Mr. Clark pointed out that VHB who performed the Town's SEIR on Fruit Street sent the report to fifteen State Departments, and only three departments, that have jurisdiction in this area, all responded favorably. He said that the three departments are the MA Historical Commission, the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, and the Department of Environmental Protection. Mr. Clark pointed out that the supplemental information that the State requested the Town has the potential to cost the Town tens of thousands of dollars to comply.

Mr. Clark said that he believes Mrs. Pratt has admitted that she was a conduit of information to MAPC, and that she should have recused herself as an abutter. He said that it was a misjudgment on her behalf and she has worked hard for this town. He suggested that the Board moves forward and let Mrs. Pratt continue her involvement as the representative to the MAPC, but to step aside from MAPC when she can't represent the best interest of the Town because she is an abutter.

Mr. Holden applauded Mrs. Pratt for all of her service to the Town, and said that he finds it difficult to criticize someone who is willing to do so much and be a member of the Board at the same time. But, he added, that it's the Board's job when appointed to represent the Board to support the votes at Town meeting vote. He said that when a Board member is appointed to represent them on another Board, there is an expectation of that Board member to represent the Town.

Mr. Sonnett addressed Mrs. Pratt and said that members of the Board are disappointed with MAPC's actions and her involvement and to use her influence by stating her own opinion. He said that Mr. Clark makes a good point that Mrs. Pratt should continue her appointment; however, she should not use her influence with a powerful agency to state her own personal opinion or interpretation of what the Town really wants.

VOTE: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to continue Mrs. Pratt's appointment as the representative to the Massachusetts Area Planning Council (MAPC), and to censure to Mrs. Pratt for her activities in this particular regard. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mr. Nelson. So voted.**

The Town of Framingham's Selectman, Ginger Esty, and a member of the executive committee on the MAPC, said that she attended tonight's meeting to support Mrs. Pratt and her commitment to the environment. She talked about water being a key element and that Mrs. Pratt knows that protecting the Town's water source is important. Mr. Sonnett responded that as the Town's Water and Sewer Commissioners, the Board of Selectmen is well aware of the importance of water. Mr. Clark said that the Town has worked hard in protecting the Town's aquifer. He added that this is not the issue tonight, rather the issue was regarding the process.

MAPC Correspondence regarding CPA Funding

At this time, Mr. Sonnett began a discussion regarding a letter sent by Marc Draisen, MAPC Executive Director, about their proposal that communities who don't pay Community Preservation taxes would be able to draw from its trust fund, and suggested that cities and towns be allowed to draw from the CPA fund if they contribute to it through hotel taxes or other means. Mr. Sonnett invited Ms. Esty to take part in this discussion.

Mr. Clark said that MAPC's letter regarding the CPA funding is arrogant and outrageous, and believes that MAPC does not represent the best interest of Hopkinton. Ms. Esty said that she would address this at MAPC's Board meeting scheduled the next day.

The Board discussed the issue of MAPC's lack of support for the Town's commitment to open space development, affordable housing and historic preservation through raising the Town's taxes. The Board agreed that MAPC is interfering with the CPA model.

The Board agreed to send a letter to express displeasure and opposition to Mr. Draisen concerning MAPC's Community Preservation Act proposal. The Board also agreed to send a copy of the letter to all those CPA towns.

Selectmen's Liaison Reports

Mrs. Pratt talked about the Charter Commission scheduled on January 19th. She also talked about the recent Massachusetts Municipal Association Trade Show recently held in Boston that she attended, and spoke favorably about the MIIA Reward System. She said that she would like to work with Mr. Kozak regarding this program.

Readout Mail

1. Mr. Sonnett referred to a letter dated January 14, 2005 from Richard Colon, Regional Director of Public Affairs from Verizon Communications announcing plans to deliver fiber optic connections in Hopkinton. The Board discussed if Verizon has the right to open roads without permits. Mr. Kozak said that Verizon claims that they have an existing right of use. Mr. Sonnett asked to check with the DPW about the road opening permit process and to obtain Town Counsel's opinion regarding this issue. He also asked to invite Verizon representatives to the February 1st meeting to have a discussion about this issue.
 2. Mr. Sonnett referred to a letter from the Department of Environmental Protection informing Hopkinton's award of a Municipal Recycling Grant. The grant allows the Town to receive 50-kitchen scrap buckets and 125 setout containers valued at \$823.
 3. Mr. Sonnett read a letter from Cathy Dietz a member of the Environmental Club of Hopkins School (H.O.P.E.), who requests to place a collection box in Town Hall to collect used ink cartridges that would be recycled through the Staples Program. Ms. Dietz explained that Staples would pay \$1 per cartridge, which the club will use to benefit Hopkins School projects.
Vote: Mr. Nelson motioned to approve the request from the Environmental Club of Hopkins School to place a collection box in Town Hall. **Second Mr. Holden. Unanimously voted.**
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Annual Town Report Bid

Mr. Kozak explained that three (3) bids were received for the 2004 Annual Town Report from Commonwealth Printing (\$4,649.80), Athol Press (\$4,771) and Select Print Solutions (\$4,568). Mr. Kozak explained that these quotes are an estimate. He said that the lowest bidder, Select Print Solutions, submitted an incomplete bid proposal, so that the bid does not have to be accepted. He also noted that Select Print Solutions does not have the experience with similar typesetting style as Hopkinton's Town reports needed to perform the job. Mr. Kozak said that Commonwealth Printing did the 2002 Annual Town report, and recommended accepting their bid proposal for the 2004 Town report.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to accept Commonwealth Printing's bid proposal for the 2004 Annual Town Report. **So moved Mr. Nelson. Second Mr. Holden. Unanimously voted.**

One-Day All Alcoholic License Request: St. John's Church's Annual Appreciation Dinner

Mr. Sonnett read a letter from Rev. James Degnan from St. John the Evangelist Church that requests a one-day all alcoholic license for the Church's annual Appreciation Dinner which will be held in the Parish Center on Friday, February 11, 2005 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Mr. Sonnett noted that the Police Chief has no problem with the issuance of the license.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve the one-day all alcoholic license to St. John the Evangelist Church for Friday, February 11, 2005 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mr. Holden. Unanimously voted.**

One-Day All Alcoholic License Request: Southborough Rod & Gun Club

Mr. Sonnett read a letter from Arthur Holmes, from the Southborough Rod & Gun Club, Inc., that requests a one-day all alcoholic license for their annual Porketta Supper scheduled on Saturday, February 5, 2005 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Mr. Sonnett noted that Chief Irvin has no problem with the issuance of this license.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve the one-day all alcoholic license to the Southborough Rod & Gun Club, Inc. on Saturday, February 5, 2005 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mr. Holden. Unanimously voted.**

Accept Ambulance gift

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to accept a gift into the Ambulance Gift Account in memory of Guy DeStefano from John Przybylowicz for \$10.00. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mr. Nelson. Unanimously voted.**

Legal Assistance Request: Parks & Recreation Department

Mr. Sonnett read a legal assistance request from the Parks & Recreation Commission for three (3) hours of Town Counsel's opinion and advice relative to a dispute regarding EMC Park. It was recommended approving up to three hours of legal assistance.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve up to three hours of legal assistance for Town Counsel's opinion and advice to the Parks & Recreation Commission. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mrs. Pratt. Unanimously voted.**

Accept Board of Appeals' resignation (term to 2006): Ross Ginsberg

Mr. Sonnett read a letter of resignation from Ross Ginsberg from the Board of Appeals due to "the demands of family and work". Mr. Ginsberg's letter also thanks the Board for the opportunity to serve the Community.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to accept with regret Ross Ginsberg's resignation from the Board of Appeals. **So moved Mrs. Pratt. Second Mr. Holden. Unanimously voted.** The Board requests to send a letter of thanks to Mr. Ginsberg for his service on the Board of Appeals.

Appointment to the Board of Appeals (term to 2006): Vascen Bogigian

Mr. Sonnett explained that Vascen Bogigian submitted his volunteer form to the Selectmen's Office for consideration of the vacancy on the Board of Appeals. Mr. Sonnett pointed out that Mr. Bogigian has served as an Associate member on the Board of Appeals for several years. Mr. Sonnett referred to a letter from Wayne Davies, Chairman of the Board of Appeals, requesting the Board of Selectmen to consider Vascen Bogigian for appointment to the Board of Appeals.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to appoint Vascen Bogigian to the Board of Appeals for a term to 2006. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mr. Nelson. Unanimously voted.**

Appointment to the Conservation Commission (term to 2007): Michael Carmody

Mr. Sonnett read a letter from Brian Morrison, Chairman of the Conservation Commission, which requests the Board to consider appointments to the Conservation Commission. Mr. Morrison explained in his letter that the Commission has been conducting its meetings with only five members which at times has resulted in the lack of a quorum causing delays of public hearings and other business. Mr. Sonnett explained applicant, Michael Carmody, has served on the Commission in the past, and recommends appointing him this evening to the Commission. He added that the Board would schedule interviews of other applicants at the next Selectmen's meeting.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to appoint Michael Carmody to the Conservation Commission for a term to 2007. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mr. Nelson. Unanimously voted.**

2005 Municipal Tax Work-Off Program Candidates

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve the following applicants for the 2005 Municipal Tax Work-Off Program: *Blanche Driscoll, Alma Rousseau, William Mackin, Ruth Kenney, Pauline Knorr, Jean Warden, Betty Branagan, Charles Bobeck, Billie Flannery, Marge Kennedy, Marjorie Peloquin, and Ralph Cass.* **So moved Mrs. Pratt. Second Mr. Nelson. Unanimously Voted.**

Proclamation: Carol Walsh Day

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve the Proclamation that recognizes Carol Walsh Day who is retiring after 20 years of service to the Hopkinton Public Library, and proclaims January 26, 2005 Carol Walsh Day. **So moved Mrs. Pratt. Second Mr. Nelson. Unanimously voted.**

Meeting Adjourned:

10:35 p.m. Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to adjourn the public meeting. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mr. Nelson. Unanimously voted.**

Respectfully submitted,

Geri Holland
Executive Assistant
Date Approved: 2/1/05