

TOWN OF HOPKINTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Date: April 25, 2006
MINUTES

Public Meeting Opened/Move into Executive Session (Room 211)

Members Present: F. Eric Sonnett, Chairman; Leonard A. Holden, Vice Chairman; Ronald M. Clark; Mary C. Pratt; Muriel E. Kramer

Others Present: Theodore D. Kozak, Executive Secretary.

6:00 p.m. Mr. Sonnett, Chairman, opened the public session.

Vote: Mr. Clark made a motion to move into executive session for the purpose to discuss contract negotiations and litigation. **Second Mrs. Pratt.** The roll call votes follow: **Mr. Sonnett: yes; Mr. Clark: yes; Mr. Holden: yes; Mrs. Pratt: yes. Unanimously voted**

6:30 p.m. The Board of Selectmen continued the public session in Room 215

Public Hearing: Main Street Specialties Cafe

Others Present: Shawn O'Leary, Jack Speranza and Paul Nathan

Mr. Sonnett opened the hearing and read the notice. Mr. Speranza gave an overview of Mr. O'Leary's background qualifications to run the restaurant business. Mr. O'Leary explained to the Board that he would keep the business similar to the current operations. He has fifteen (15) years of experience in this type of business and he understands the handling of alcohol beverages. Mr. Clark asked him about the outside patio and Mr. O'Leary mentioned that he would be limiting the use and that he is aware that the employees must monitor alcohol beverages and he will oversee its operation. Mr. Kozak indicated that the Police Chief has no problems with the transfer of license.

Motion: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to move out of the public hearing. **So moved Mrs. Kramer. Second Mrs. Pratt. Unanimously voted.**

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve the transfer of license for Main Street Specialties Café. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mr. Holden. Unanimously voted.**

Legal Assistance: Hopkinton Historical Commission

Mr. Sonnett reviewed the request for legal assistance from the Historical Commission and the Board of Selectmen discussed the same.

Vote: Mrs. Kramer moved a motion to allow up to five (5) hours of Town Counsel's time. **Second Mr. Holden. Unanimously voted.**

Discussion of Article 12 in the Annual Town Meeting

Mrs. Pratt stepped off the Board for this discussion as she is an abutter to the Fruit Street property.

Mr. Sonnett discussed Article 12 of the Annual Town Meeting with the Board. They now have a final estimated cost from Earth Tech to build a treatment plant with disposal beds and a force main on the Fruit Street property to complete Phase VI. The additional funds that would be required to borrow in Article 12 is \$2,927,000. This would bring the total cost to complete Phase VI to \$8,527,000. This project would be paid through the betterments issued to the Phase VI users.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion for the Board to support the allocation of funds in Article 12 of the Annual Town Meeting. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mr. Holden. Unanimously voted (4:0).**

Mrs. Pratt returned to the Board at this time.

Police Chief and Fire Chief's Contracts

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve the contracts of the Police Chief and Fire Chief as discussed. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mr. Holden. Unanimously voted.**

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to approve the performance evaluation of both, the Police Chief and the Fire Chief, as presented. **So moved Mrs. Pratt. Second Mrs. Kramer. Unanimously voted.**

QUARTERLY MEETING

7:00 p.m. Mr. Sonnett, Chairman reopened the public session and invited everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sanctuary Lane Estates/Lottery drawing: Maureen O'Hagan, MCO Housing Services

Ms. Hagan explained the process for the lottery drawing and ten (10) names would be pulled out at this time from which seven (7) local residents would be chosen for the affordable housing. Later, in Room 211 additional twenty (20) units would be chosen for the lottery.

Charter Commission Overview: Marie Eldridge

Ms. Eldridge gave a presentation on the Charter Commission report and ballot question, which will be for an elected DPW on the Town Warrant for the May 2006 Town elections. Mr. Nealon had a question about the petition article at the Town Meeting. Ms. Eldridge said that Town Counsel advised that if the petition is adopted by the State legislature, it would be in effect to supersede the Charter's language.

Mr. Eldridge asked about the selection process for Town Manager, which was explained by Ms. Eldridge.

Mr. Holden asked how the Town Manager would oversee the school budget and Ms. Eldridge said that the Town Manager is more involved with the Town budget, with some guidelines for all other budgets. Mr. Holden also asked who appoints the Finance Director and Ms. Eldridge said that Town Manager makes that appointment.

Mrs. Kramer said that she hoped that all residents reviewed the Charter and prepared themselves for ballot questions.

Hopkinton Trail Guide: John Coolidge

Mr. Coolidge spoke about the trails in Hopkinton. He had a guide for trails and gave a presentation regarding that. There were also three (3) girl scouts and their troop leader present to receive the Girls Scout Silver Star Awards for helping out with the trails.

Quarterly Meeting Business

Each Department gave a presentation on how the override would affect their budget. Questions and answers followed each presentation. Afterwards a general update was given by various Department Heads regarding Town Meeting Articles and general activities.

Other Town business was conducted.

Proclamation: Youth Appreciation Month

Mr. Sonnett read out the proclamation announcing the month of May 2006 as the Youth Appreciation month.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to accept May 2006 as the Youth Appreciation month. **So moved Mrs. Kramer. Second Mrs. Pratt. Unanimously voted.**

Mr. Sonnett read out a letter sent by James Connolly, Detective Lieutenant, Massachusetts State Police commending Hopkinton Police Chief Thomas Irvin and the Police Department for their outstanding assistance in the investigation of the Entwistle case.

There was a five minute recess at this time.

Joseph P. Keefe South Middlesex Vocational School Committee Interview (3 yr. term): *Fayyaz Hussain*

Mrs. Knowles joined the Board for the interview with Mr. Hussain. Mr. Hussain expressed his desire to join the Joseph P. Keefe South Middlesex Vocational School Committee and informed the Board of his involvement in education at a Sunday school. Mr. Clark asked Mr. Hussain what his interest was in serving on this Committee and Mr. Hussain replied that he had an interest in education and working with the youth.

Mr. Clark informed him that Keefe Technical School is a vocational school and asked him how his background might relate to this appointment, and Mr. Hussain mentioned that his background in electrical engineering would help him with the technical training for the students of Keefe Technical School. Mrs. Pratt noted that he also had a good background. Mr. Holden mentioned that it was important to work with the school and he noted that Mr. Hussain would be good for the position. Mrs. Kramer said that the service provided by Keefe Technical School is important for the youth and they also complement the school system in the Town of Hopkinton. Mrs. Knowles did not have any questions.

Vote: Mr. Sonnett entertained a motion to appoint Mr. Hussain as a member on the Regional Vocational Technical School Committee for a three (3) year term. **So moved Mr. Clark. Second Mrs. Pratt. Unanimously voted.**

Public Meeting Adjourned:

9:05 p.m. Vote: Mr. Clark motioned to adjourn the public meeting. **Second Mrs. Pratt. Unanimously voted.**

During the discussion, Mrs. Kramer wanted to congratulate the Marathon Committee and Town volunteers who worked at this year's Marathon, to make it a success.

Respectfully submitted,

Theodore D. Kozak
Executive Secretary

TDK/mkp

Date Approved: 5/9/06