

MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JANUARY 31, 2008

At 6:32 p.m., Chairman Kathleen W. Weld called the meeting to order with members Carol Lisbon and David W. Heinlein present. Also present were David W. Ramsay, Town Administrator, and Greer Pugatch, Administrative Assistant.

ATTENDANCE: Joseph Melican, Warrant Committee

PRESS: Sean McGee, D-S Press

Review Draft Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Mrs. Weld announced that the Annual Town Meeting warrant closed on January 25, 2008. The Board of Selectmen began its review of the articles to be considered by citizens in May 2008. In addition to the recurring articles, there are several special articles this year, including acceptance of two public ways; a revised open space zoning bylaw proposal by the Planning Board; a reconfiguration study of the Protective Agencies dispatch area with energy improvements; funding to reduce the cost and increase the discount rate attached to affordable housing units at County Court; monies to revise the Open Space & Recreation Plan as required by law every five years; funding for environmental monitoring at the Powissett Street landfill; monies for possible options which are outgrowths of the community center project research and development; a citizens' petition for an engine braking prohibition bylaw; a Personnel Board placeholder pending results of the salary survey being conducted; trench permitting authority designation; GASB 45 funding; management and oversight of Town-owned land and buildings; and funding for Caryl School structural repairs.

Mr. Ramsay explained that GASB 45 is a new accounting standard which requires municipalities to begin actuarially valuing and reporting on post-retirement benefits for retirees beginning in FY09. This warrant article is for authorization to file special legislation which would allow the Town the option to start gradually funding these unfunded liabilities in a special account. Mr. Ramsay predicted that general legislation related to this funding would not be enacted for several years, adding that several communities have already filed this special legislation. He has seen the draft actuarial report for Dover, and the final report with forecasting on the Town's retirees should be available for the Selectmen's review within the next

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month. He told Mr. Heinlein that it isn't clear when the state will require funding of these liabilities, but it is speculated that this will become an important factor in municipalities' bond ratings. Mr. Ramsay told Mrs. Lisbon that all eligible retirees will be required to sign up for Medicare.

Mrs. Weld said Article 23 would allow for necessary masonry work at the Caryl School in the spring of 2009. The scope of roofing work at that site was expanded after closer inspection by the architect and engineers, and it was determined that masonry repairs could not also be covered by existing funds this spring. Mrs. Lisbon told Mr. Heinlein that the Capital Budget Committee has approved the Selectmen's request for replenishment of the Caryl School building maintenance funds being expended on the roof repairs.

Mrs. Lisbon gave a reminder that the Annual Town Meeting will start one-half hour earlier, at 7:00 p.m., on May 5, 2008.

Dover Community Center Building Committee Update

Mrs. Weld reported that members of the Dover Community Center Building Committee and its subcommittees are planning site visits on February 8th to the community centers in Chatham and Harwich, towns which share facility and demographic similarities to Dover. She urged committee members and citizens to view those towns' websites for information on their community centers. On February 15th, site visits will be made to Lincoln and Harvard to learn about those towns' public-private partnerships and multi-function Town buildings.

Other Business:

Prior Notice – Town Garage

Mrs. Weld said that Superintendent of Streets Craig Hughes is requesting approval of a Prior Notice for monies to clean out clogged waste water floor drains at the Town Garage. Mr. Ramsay added that this is the first time that debris has accumulated in the pipes to the tight tank since the garage was built in 1998. The company doing this work would also provide free periodic inspections of the lines.

Mrs. Lisbon moved to approve \$4,449.85 for the Town Garage Prior Notice for the Hazardous Waste Program, seconded by Mr. Heinlein; it was unanimously voted.

Approve January 17, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Lisbon moved to approve the January 17, 2008 minutes as amended, seconded by Mr. Heinlein; it was unanimously voted.

Citizens' Comments

Mr. Melican told the Board that the Warrant Committee is starting to put together some projected numbers for Article 4 (salaries and expenditures), and is also looking at the revenue side of the Town budget using the governor's preliminary budget. These figures will be refined over the next few months.

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Mrs. Weld officially announced that she will not be seeking a third term on the Board of Selectmen in May 2008. While she has very much enjoyed serving the Town, she feels that it is Dover's tradition for Selectmen to step down after two terms. She encouraged those who might consider running for her vacated seat, saying she has enjoyed working with her exceptional colleagues and the office team, and that Dover is a wonderful town to serve.

Mrs. Lisbon and Mr. Heinlein told Mrs. Weld that she will be missed, although they are sure she will remain active in other capacities in Town.

Executive Session

At 7:04 p.m., Mrs. Weld asked for a motion to adjourn the open session and convene in executive session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining, to reconvene in open session at the conclusion of the executive session. It was so moved by Mrs. Lisbon, seconded by Mr. Heinlein. Mrs. Weld polled the Board and by unanimous roll call vote convened in executive session.

Adjournment

At 7:37 p.m., the Board of Selectmen returned to open session. With no further business to be taken up, Mrs. Lisbon moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Heinlein; it was unanimously voted.

DOVER BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Carol Lisbon, Clerk