

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
November 27, 2012

Members Present: James DeVellis, Chairman
Mark Sullivan, Vice Chairman
Lorraine Brue, Clerk
Lynda Walsh
Ginny Coppola

Others Present: Town Manager Kevin Paicos
Kate Adair, Tina Belanger and Bruce Gardner of the School
Committee School Superintendant Debra Spinelli
Assistant School Superintendent Amy Berdos
School Business Administrator Bill Yukna
Finance Director Randy Scollins

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 p.m. by James DeVellis, Chairman. Chairman DeVellis reviewed the agenda.

Chairman's Update

Mr. DeVellis noted that many people volunteer their time for different causes this time of year and it is greatly appreciated.

The Foxboro High School Football team had an exciting win at their Thanksgiving Day game against Mansfield.

Mr. DeVellis noted that another trip was made to New York and New Jersey with supplies for those hard hit by Hurricane Sandy. Ms. Walsh noted that they are conducting a gift card drive for Christmas.

The Planning Board and the Town Planner have received approval for the Housing Production Plan that was recently produced. This will help the town with any proposed future 40B projects.

Through Town Counsel, the Kraft Organization's Counsel has been asked if there is any interest in further negotiations with the town. They indicated that they are so a meeting with Town Counsel, the Town Manager and the Chairman of the Board will be set up in the near future. Mr. DeVellis will bring information back to the Board at a future meeting. One part of the discussion pertains to the legal bills that were incurred during the last round of meetings.

Action Items

The minutes of October 30, 2012 were reviewed.

A motion to approve the minutes of October 30, 2012 was made by Ms. Walsh and seconded by Ms. Brue. **The motion carried 5-0-0.**

The minutes of November 5, 2012 were reviewed.

A motion to approve the minutes of November 5, 2012 as amended was made by Ms. Walsh and seconded by Mr. Sullivan. **The motion carried 5-0-0.**

A request has been received from the Foxboro Jaycees to hold their annual Caroling on the Common on December 20th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

A motion to approve the request for Caroling on the Common on December 20, 2012 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. by the Foxboro Jaycees was made by Ms. Walsh and seconded by Mr. Sullivan. **The motion carried 5-0-0.**

A request for a New Common Victuallers License for Capriotti's Sub Shop at 282 Patriot Place has been received.

A motion to approve the Common Victuallers License for Capriotti's Sub Shop at 282 Patriot Place through December 31, 2012 was made by Mr. Sullivan and seconded by Ms. Brue. **The motion carried 5-0-0.**

A request has been received for a new Taxicab License for Maurice Barkachi dba Maurice Cab of Foxborough.

A motion to approve a Taxicab License through December 31, 2012 for Maurice Cab of Foxborough was made by Mr. Sullivan and seconded by Ms. Brue. **The motion carried 5-0-0.**

Public Hearing – Taylor Swift Concerts at Gillette Stadium

Ms. Brue read the Public Hearing Notice.

A request has been received via email from Dan Murphy to continue this Public Hearing to December 18th.

A motion to continue the Public Hearing to December 18, 2012 as requested was made by Ms. Walsh and seconded by Mr. Sullivan. **The motion carried 5-0-0.**

Special Town Meeting Warrant Review

Mr. Paicos informed the Board that the Advisory Committee has recommended No Action on Article 5 due to new information about the town's revenue picture. However, the Post Office building was toured recently and looks promising for use as a Town Hall. Article 5 was for the design of a new Town Hall. The Moderator has stated that a proposal to convert the Post Office to a Town Hall does not meet the requirements of Article 5 as it is for site work, demolition and reconstruction of the building at 40 South

Street. An article for possible Post Office conversion could be placed on a future Town Meeting warrant.

Dick Heydecker has offered his services as an architect as Citizen's Work to draw up some plans for the Town. A formal study of the Post Office building could cost up to \$50,000 and this money would need to be appropriated at Town Meeting.

A motion to recommend No Action on Article 5 of the Special Town Meeting Warrant was made by Ms. Walsh and seconded by Ms. Coppola. **The motion carried 5-0-0.**

The recent vote on Article 6 was 2-2-0 which is equal to no vote due to a lack of a majority. There will be no recommendation on Article 6 from the Board.

The Board discussed whether or not votes are the basis for motions at Town Meeting. Mr. DeVellis will discuss this with the Town Moderator.

Joint Meeting with the School Committee for FY14 Budget Goals

The Board met with Kate Adair, Tina Belanger and Bruce Gardner of the School Committee as well as Superintendent Debra Spinelli, Business Administrator Bill Yukna and Assistant Superintendent Amy Berdos and Finance Director Randy Scollins to discuss the FY14 Revenue and Expenses Forecast.

Members of the School Committee opened their meeting.

Mr. Scollins had a Powerpoint presentation on the preliminary revenue estimates for 2014. Included was an Executive Summary of the General Fund Operating Revenue and Expenses. It was also noted that it was recently reported that tax collection at the state level is off and may result in mid year state aid budget cuts. Foxboro could lose \$100,000 in state aid if this happens.

Mr Scollins also noted that the FY14 revenue is preliminarily estimated to increase \$1.76 million over FY 13. There will be less fixed costs due to health insurance changes.

In regards to the funding for the Town Hall and the Turf Field, the estimated growth and expenditures were not as big as forecast so the Town Hall funding is not as much as initially thought.

OPEB and salaries remain big concerns.

Ms. Adair noted that this information is helpful and that the School Committee will use it as a guide to be fiscally conservative.

The CIP Committee will need to meet to discuss the Turf Field before Town Meeting.

Ms. Scollins explained that the average tax increase for resident's next year will be approximately 6%. The gross tax levy increases by 2 ½% every year, this amount plus debt exclusions and new growth taxes make up the tax rate.

Mr. Devellis noted that the town is rated very highly by the Rating Agencies. Mr. Scollins stated that town funding is managed very well and is good at balancing priorities versus needed resulting in an AA+ rating.

Mr. Paicos stated that there are a few assumptions in the presentation and some policy questions need to be answered. There have been no increases in operating budgets for the past two or three years and no increase in town services either. The budgets are being written for next year and it needs to be decided if the operating budget should be grown or the town should save for capital items. A bigger discussion or public meeting is needed to discuss these items.

The School Committee members stated that they create student driven budgets.

The School Committee adjourned their meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Future Agenda Items

The Board would like to meet with the Advisory Committee

The Strong Town Manager Act needs to be reviewed.

There will be a meeting tomorrow with the Public Utilities Commission and National Grid.

The Executive Session scheduled is not needed at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diana Gray

Lorraine Brue, Clerk