

Present: John Kennan, Dana Barrette, Randal Hunt, Linell Grundman, Jim Pierce

George Dunham, Douglas Lapp, Dave Merrell, Chief George Russell, J. J. Burke and family, Tom Corriveau, Ed Childs, Tom Keyes

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**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Mr. Barrette moved the minutes of November 19, 2009 as presented. Ms. Grundman seconded. Mr. Hunt abstained. Motion passes 4 ayes to 1 abstention.**

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Sunday evening is the Employee and Volunteer Recognition Night at Heritage Museum and Gardens. The CPC meets Monday, December 7 at 5:00 to discuss the high school track project and financial projections. The next Finance Committee is also Monday, December 7, 7:00 at 16 Jan Sebastian Drive.
- Mark Galkowski received word from DMF that the water samples passed so the anticipated shellfish bed opening day is December 13. The Town Clerk's office is now selling shellfish licenses for \$25.00.
- H1N1 Flu update: Health Agent Dave Mason has been in contact with the local pediatric offices and thanked Joanne Geake, Kathy Gwenn and Marilyn Bassett in the Nursing Department.
- The Cape Cod Commission's new publication "Contextual Design on Cape Cod: Design Guidelines for Large-scale Development" is on file in the Selectmen's office.

**CORRESPONDENCE/STATEMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Ms. Grundman asked about H1N1 vaccine for the general public. This is still no additional information.
2. Mr. Hunt received an e-mail from a resident regarding Town Neck Beach and the canal dredging. Mr. Dunham stated that three years ago the Town sent an application letter documenting the damage the canal end jetty has caused to Town Neck Beach. Also the Old Harbor inlet project application has been held up due to plover concerns. Mr. Dunham explained the upcoming canal dredging spoils are

- slated to cap underground landfills in Boston Harbor. Due to the impact on shellfish outside of the bay, the dredging company will make a \$15,000.00 donation towards shellfish propagation and \$30,000.00 donation towards the Old Harbor project. It is anticipated a bigger dredging project will happen within five years; however, even if the spoils become available to the Town, the Old Harbor project will cost a few million dollars.
3. Ms. Grundman reported on the School Committee meeting. The Superintendent is looking at the cost for the School Department to run their own transportation operation. They also discussed the annual audit, which is done in addition to the Town audit, as well the cuts being made in the 2010 budget.
  4. The wreath auction and jazz concert is Friday, December 11 to benefit the Sandwich Band Boosters at St. John's Church.
  5. Mr. Pierce asked about the home rule petitions to be approved by the Legislature. All except the SEIC act have been voted on.
  6. Ms. Grundman announced local merchants are holding a raffle and the tickets can be purchased throughout the Town during the Christmas in Sandwich festivities.

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

None

### **STAFF MEETING**

Mr. Dave Merrell was present and expressed his interest in serving on the Visitor Services Board. As an ad-hoc member he has been actively working to update the VSB website. Mr. Merrell is also instrumental in producing the town's walking map. **Mr. Barrette moved to appoint Dave Merrell as a member-at-large to the VSB term to expire June 30, 2010. Mr. Hunt seconded. Unanimous.**

### **8:00 p.m. CLASSIFICATION HEARING**

Mr. Kennan read the Classification Hearing Notice. **Mr. Barrette moved to open the hearing. Mr. Hunt seconded. Unanimous.**

Principal Assessor Ed Childs gave his annual Classification Hearing presentation. The Board of Assessors at the December 1 meeting voted to "Adopt a Factor of 1 with No Residential Exemption, No Small Commercial Exemption and No Open Space Exemption for Fiscal Year 2010."

No public comment.

**Mr. Barrette moved to close the public hearing. Mr. Hunt seconded. Unanimous.**

**Mr. Barrette moved to "Adopt a Factor of 1 with No Residential Exemption, No Small Commercial Exemption and No Open Space Exemption for Fiscal Year 2010. Excess Levy Capacity \$35,796.70." Mr. Hunt seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Childs gave a brief update on his department's activities. He noted that the Assessing Department, along with the other departments in the Annex, are open the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month until 8:00 p.m. Mr. Childs advised the public that the Assessing Department is required to visit homes for a re-valuation every 9 years and for permit inspections, sales, etc. in order to get the most accurate information on file. He complimented his staff.

### **EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Kennan introduced J. J. Burke and Fire Chief George Russell. Mr. Kennan announced that John J. Burke has been chosen as the Town of Sandwich 2009 Employee of the Year. Mr. Kennan read a statement into the record and Mr. Burke was presented his recognition certificate by his family.

### **TOM KEYES- ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES AND TOWN HALL PIANO RESTORATION UPDATE**

Tom Keyes was in to give an update on Assembly activities. The Assembly voted to support Chapter H and the Commission is interested in bringing an amendment forth to change the threshold vote requirement from  $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Mr. Keyes supported the overall vote and will push to change the threshold vote requirement and recommends the Board send a letter recommending the same.

Mr. Keyes also gave an update on the Town Hall piano. The group has raised their goal and hopes to continue the fundraising to set up a "Friends of Town Hall" account for the upkeep of the Town Hall. The committee includes Dave Merrell who is going to help re-finish the piano, Ruth Weaver, John Shaw, Dave Leary, Frank Pannorfi and Carl Johanson. The group has received generous donations of sheet music dating back to 1915. Mr. Dunham also gave a brief update on the Conservation Commission meeting regarding the Town Hall renovations. The Conservation Commission had several issues and will continue the discussion in January.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Mr. Barrette moved that the Board of Selectmen approved the 2010 Town of Sandwich Liquor license list as presented. Mr. Hunt seconded. Unanimous.**
2. The Board will not be meeting Christmas Eve or New Years Eve.
3. Mass. Municipal has asked the Town to host a meeting in February/March at Sandwich Hollows. Senator Murray and Representative Perry will be invited.
4. AmeriCorps and the OpenCape Initiative will be on next week's agenda, as well as a presentation from the Police and Fire Departments on overtime.
5. Mr. Hunt asked when the Long Range Plan would be publicized. Several more sections need to be complete and will be on the December 17 agenda.
6. Mr. Dunham discussed the budget and the need for further discussion on the use of the stabilization fund which could drastically change the budget directions. Mr. Hunt also said further discussion needs to be held on whether the percentage reduction will remain the same for the municipal side and the school. Ms.

Grundman said the School Committee will be holding an Executive Session with the Finance Committee to discuss Collective Bargaining/labor issues. Mr. Kennan noted that there should be representation from the School Department at future Finance Committee meetings so that Finance Committee questions can be answered. The Board also discussed whether to post all Finance Committee meetings as joint with the Selectmen. The Board said to post next Monday's meeting as joint.

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

Mr. Keyes said when he was on the Board, the Finance Committee meetings were posted as joint to make sure discussions weren't restricted. Even if three members are present, it can be a violation so have to be very careful when a quorum is present.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

9:00 p.m. **Mr. Barrette moved to adjourn. Mr. Hunt seconded. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Coggeshall