

MINUTES BOARD OF SELECTMEN MARCH 5, 2009
Human Services Building, Quaker Meetinghouse Road, 7:00 p.m.

Present: Linell Grundman, John Kennan, Frank Pannorfi, Randal Hunt, Dana Barrette
George Dunham, Sandwich Enterprise, SACAT, Patricia Hughes, Carl Johnsen, Hank
Tuohy,

The Meeting was called to order immediately following a scheduled 6:00 p.m. Executive Session at the Human Services Building, Quaker Meetinghouse Road.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No minutes were presented for approval.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

1. The UCCRVTS meeting to give an overview of the school and budget with the participating towns has been re-scheduled to Tuesday, March 10, 5:30 p.m. The school's budget hearing is Thursday, March 12 at 6:30 p.m.
2. Town Planner Greg Smith and Mr. Dunham met with representatives from the MMR to review their long range economic development ideas which dovetails with the Town's Local Comprehensive Plan.
3. The County Commissioners are visiting each of the 15 Cape towns. They will in to the Board's meeting next week.

CORRESPONDENCE/STATEMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Ms. Grundman attended the UCCRVTS strategic planning session this past Saturday. Hank Tuohy will give a more thorough report later on the agenda.
2. Ms. Grundman read the following statement:

***PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT ON PROPOSED SALE
OF TOWN OWNED COMMERCIAL LAND***

After careful and prolonged consideration, the Board of Selectmen recently voted to abandon the active proposal to sell approximately 50 acres of Town-owned commercial land located off Quaker Meetinghouse Road near the intersection with Cotuit Road to Meetinghouse Village Development, LLC, the successful proposer when the Town publicly bid the property in

September 2005. In light of the existing regional and national economy, extensive planning efforts for this and other areas of Sandwich, and the uncertainty surrounding the current market for any type of development, the Board decided it was in the best interests of the Town to abandon the proposed sale at this time.

With the Local Comprehensive Plan being presented to Town Meeting in May, to be followed by extensive zoning amendments and/or development agreements at subsequent Town Meetings, too much remains in flux to proceed with the land sale. Issues such as likely traffic and wastewater mitigation for the proposed project impact the entire South Sandwich Business District and Industrial Park areas and cannot be addressed successfully without viewing those portions of Sandwich as a whole, not piecemeal. By abandoning the sale effort, more time will be able to be devoted to the zoning, development agreement, and mitigation efforts, which will likely increase the value of the Town property in the future.

We would like to thank Meetinghouse Village Development, LLC for the development proposal they submitted, their efforts in furthering the project, and the ideas they proposed which clearly have helped shape the Local Comprehensive Plan and our thoughts on what future development we would like to see in this part of Sandwich. MVD was, by far, the proposer who presented the most comprehensive, diverse development for the property at, by far, the largest sales price. In our detailed review of all four proposals submitted in September 2005, MVD's submission was the unanimous best choice of the review group and Selectmen. Many of the development concepts they identified for a mixed-use, village center are directly in line with the Board's goals and those of the LCP for this area. We hope the partners of MVD remain interested in coming to Sandwich at a later date and hope they decide to submit a proposal when the Selectmen issue a subsequent RFP for the property.

Thank you.

PUBLIC FORUM

None

STAFF MEETING

Pat Hughes – Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies. Ms. Hughes outlined the Cape Cod Bay Monitoring Program. The purpose of the program is to monitor and investigate

the health of Cape Cod Bay. For the previous two years the program was funded through the State legislature, however, the program was cut from the Governor's budget. The Center is requesting funding from the communities to continue the program. Ms. Hughes said it has taken \$150,000 for the collection of samples from 40 stations which pays for vessel time, the senior scientist Amy Costa, analysis of samples and other staff as needed. Mr. Hunt asked if the testing already being done to get our shellfish beds open can be shared with the Center. He also suggested that they contact the County for available funding. The County currently has said they have \$150,000 available for regional projects. Ms. Hughes, because of the current economic climate, does not see the funding being restored soon through the state. Mr. Dunham will speak with Health Agent Dave Mason and Conservation Agent Mark Galkowski to see if there can be shared resources through any of the current projects that they are undertaking.

HANK TUOHY – UCCRVTS STRATEGIC PLANNING EFFORTS

Hank Tuohy discussed the UCCRVTS Strategic Planning Efforts. Mr. Tuohy attended the sessions as a member of the Finance Committee. The strategic planning group looked at many issues including how to improve public relations, as well as trying to be proactive and current to what's happening today. Ms. Grundman said she was very impressed with the Facilitator Dave Tobin. There was a consistent message about communication, about operations needs, and input from teachers. Mr. Pannorfi said this plan started two years ago over budget increases the communities were being charged. A financial plan was not part of the planning efforts, but Mr. Tuohy believes Mr. Farr will discuss at next Tuesday's budget meeting. Mr. Pannorfi commented on the great value and asset the Tech School is.

OLD BUSINESS

- Mr. Dunham presented the budget which reflects the Board's vote last week. Mr. Dunham also said Mrs. Bucker and Mrs. Guild did a detailed study on the cost of laying off personnel. The average per employee for insurance would be \$12,000, with 80% of employees now receiving health benefits and 2/3 of those with the family plan; and unemployment, which is based on salary, averaging \$10,650 - the first year is a "wash". However in years following, the Town will see the health insurance savings. Mr. Dunham also said the Veterans Services recommended increasing their line item by 45%.
- There is proposed legislation that would allow Towns, for one-year only, to use Chapter 90 funds towards snow and ice. The Board was not in favor of this bill since it will take money away from road repairs.
- The Board discussed the Strategic Planning Workshop, how it should be conducted and the goals. The Board also discussed the Strategic Planning subgroup which Ms. Grundman stated could be comprised of two members of the Selectmen, Finance Committee and School Committee. Ms. Grundman discussed if the "group" should be a task force which has a different mission. The Board did not see the subgroup as a task force. A task force would work on different issues such as facility management, fleet management, exploring private

ambulance, purchasing, efficiencies, and comprehensive look at fees. The task force would not have to include members of the finance committee or school committee depending on the task. The Board brought up the idea of a recreation authority again. The Board will first have to define the tasks of the task force.

- Mr. Dunham presented a letter to be signed by the four towns, Mashpee, Falmouth, Sandwich and Bourne, requesting that municipalities be given first priority for the Textron funding.
- Next week the County Commissioners will be in and will discuss the Energy Collaborative. They have requested to have an article on the Town Meeting Warrant to join; however, the Selectmen and the Energy Committee have many questions.
- **Mr. Hunt moved to solicit volunteers for a Beach Committee as a standing committee with charge to be determined by the Chair and Town Manager. Mr. Pannorfi seconded. Unanimous.** Mr. Dunham said a group of the staff involved in beach issues have met, will be meeting for a forth time, and will be into the Board's March 26 meeting to give an overview on how to do things different within the confines of the funds we have. Mr. Dunham will discuss the new committee with this group.

PUBLIC FORUM

- Mr. Johansen discussed the 100th Year Celebration of the Scout Organization.

CLOSING REMARKS

- Mr. Kennan said the EDC met last night and is discussing the possibility of exploring sign districts.
- Mr. Pannorfi has been accepted for the Sandwich Police Academy beginning March 11. Finance Committee member John Vibberts is also attending.

ADJOURNMENT

9:05 p.m. **Mr. Pannorfi moved to adjourn. Mr. Kennan seconded. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Coggeshall