

**MINUTES BOARD OF SELECTMEN JULY 8, 2010**  
**270 Quaker Meetinghouse Road, East Sandwich, MA 02537**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Dana Barrette, Linell Grundman, Jim Pierce, John Kennan

George Dunham, Douglas Lapp, SCT, Sandwich Enterprise, Chief Russell, Marie Buckner, Doreen Guild, Jan Timmons, Guy Boucher, Craig Mayen, Bill Burbank, Sue James

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**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

No minutes were presented for approval.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

1. Upcoming meetings: SEIC, Monday, July 12, 4:00 at RHCI; CIPC, July 12, 4:30 at Oak Crest Cove; Finance Committee, July 20 to discuss any Reserve Fund transfer requests. The requests right now look to be less than \$20,000.
2. Mr. Dunham thanked Acting Chief Gourley, Rec. Director Guy Boucher and DNR Director Mark Galkowski for a successful 4<sup>th</sup> of July. There was one incident with the piping plovers but it was on private property.
3. The Beach Committee has created its own website [www.sandwichtownbeaches.org](http://www.sandwichtownbeaches.org).
4. All the materials presented this evening and future meetings regarding the override discussions are posted on the Town's website.
5. Health Agent Dave Mason reported that Mill Creek has been closed due to high bacteria levels. The bay side of the beach is still open.
6. The Final Restoration Plan for the Textron settlement was received. Sandwich will get \$400,000 for a comprehensive wastewater management plan. Approximately 2/3 of the project will be covered by the settlement. The RFQ has already been issued so that when the funding is received the project can begin immediately.

**CORRESPONDENCE/STATEMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Mr. Pierce reiterated his opinion on the role of the Selectmen. 1) To enact decisions made at the last several Town Meetings; and 2) ask relevant questions so the voters can make an educated decision. He feels his job is to ask voters, not second guess or make decision for voters.

2. Ms. Grundman reported on the Steering Committee for the Barnstable County Wastewater Collaborative. She noted that the wastewater issues are dealt with not by town but by watershed.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

None

## **STAFF MEETING**

### **Town Manager's Office and Department Head – Override Presentation #1 – Overview**

Department heads present: Marie Buckner, Guy Boucher, Doreen Guild, Chief Russell, Jan Timmons, Craig Mayen. Mr. Dunham and a group of department heads have been working for several weeks on a presentation to the Board for consideration of an override request for next May. The presentations will be: July 8: Overview; July 22: Revenue; August 5: Expenses; August 19: Conclusions and Recommendations;

Mr. Dunham also presented a packet which included 60 pages of Detailed Financial and Demographic History, Projections and Analysis. As he explained, the Town's finances are at a "point of no return" where there can only be an override or significant reductions in services provided to the public. The projections show in FY12 a deficit of \$2.2 million with an increase of \$1 million every year thereafter. This discussion only pertains to General Government; he cannot speak for the School Department. The last override was promised to last three years and ended up lasting six years. The concessions of 0% increases from the unions and non-union personnel over 3 fiscal years helped. But there are also many things beyond control, including dwindling new growth, \$1.3 million less in state aid since FY09 and the amount of the deficit is increasing by \$1 million. Despite the financial difficulties, Sandwich strives to provide high quality services to the Town residents with significant less staff than other communities. Mr. Dunham gave an analysis of town staff in the DPW, Fire and Police vs. other towns. Mr. Barrette also noted the decrease in Chapter 70 funds. Mr. Pierce said that many residents claim they feel they pay the highest taxes on Cape Cod; however, per capita, they pay the lowest. Mr. Dunham also noted that the school enrollment is substantially higher than other communities. Mr. Barrette commented that without an override there will be a loss of 14 positions. Ms. Grundman said it is all related to rapid growth. Mr. Barrette thanked Mr. Dunham and the department heads.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. The Assembly of Delegates has designated the first Cape-wide District of Critical Planning Concern. They are seeking a member from each community to participate on the Policy Committee that will oversee the DCPC planning process. Mr. Pierce volunteered. **Ms.**

**Grundman moved to appoint Jim Pierce as the Selectmen representative to the new Cape Cod Commission Ocean Management Plan effective immediately through further notice. Mr. Kennan seconded. Unanimous.**

### **FORESTDALE VILLAGE**

Forestdale Village has requested a new letter from the Town to DHCD as part of their Regulatory Agreement. Since the Board originally signed off, DHCD has revised its formulas which changes the home prices and DHCD wants reassurance this is okay with the Town. **Ms. Grundman moved that the Board vote to authorize Chair Dana Barrette to sign a letter in support of Forestdale Village to go to DHCD. Mr. Kennan seconded. Unanimous.**

Senator Murray's office is trying to get into this session the two acts pertaining to Sandwich Hollows. The first will expand the recreation uses on the property and the second would allow lease agreements for public recreation facility for groups other the town or non-profit. Mr. Dunham is working to get the paperwork to Senator Murray's office by Monday.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

None

### **CLOSING REMARKS**

1. Ms. Grundman thanked the people who have donated funds to the Town Hall Rededication Task Force. The funds will be used for the Celebration event on October 2.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Ms. Grundman moved to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Collective Bargaining and Contract Negotiations and coming out for the purpose of adjournment only. Mr. Kennan seconded. Mr. Kennan, Mr. Pierce, Ms. Grundman, Mr. Barrette so moved. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Coggeshall