

MINUTES BOARD OF SELECTMEN AUGUST 5, 2010
270 Quaker Meetinghouse Road, East Sandwich
7:00 p.m.

Present: Dana Barrette, Linell Grundman, John Kennan, Jim Pierce, Ralph Vitacco

George Dunham, Douglas Lapp, SACAT, Mary Stanley-Enterprise, Jack Edmonston, Frank Pannorfi, Russell Kleecamp, Paul Tilton, Stefan Masse, Chief Russell, Craig Mayen, Jan Timmons, Marie Buckner, Julia Buckner, Doreen Guild, Guy Boucher, Sherry Marshall, Eleanor Sterling, Harold Mitchell, Zahid Rashid, Richard Augustine

7:10 p.m. The meeting was called to order immediately following a posted 6:00 p.m. Executive Session.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No minutes were presented for approval.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

1. The Finance Committee met last week and approved the Reserve Fund transfers totaling \$15,000. Thank you to the department heads for working to keep their budgets in line.
2. Mr. Lapp is working on three RFPs: 1) Library branch construction; 2) Wing School facility assessment; and 3) Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan.
3. Mr. Lapp gave an update on the School Safety Group efforts. The Group is reaching out to the staff for additional volunteers.

CORRESPONDENCE/STATEMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Town Hall Rededication Task Force meets Monday, 8:30 a.m. at 16 Jan Sebastian Drive.
2. The next Cape and Islands Selectmen's meeting is Friday, September 10, 7:30 a.m. at Brookside in Bourne.
3. Mr. Barrette said the comment period for the J-1 Range is open until September 17. The AFCEE is also holding a public comment period of the AFCEE Draft Wind Turbine

Project Environmental Assessment. The “up to” 400’ turbines are proposed for the northwest limits of the Base in Bourne; however, they may be visible from some portions of Sandwich. The Cape & Vineyard Coop is not part of this project.

PUBLIC FORUM

1. Richard Augustine stated that if the Selectmen decide to go for an override, he hopes it is done in a “cafeteria style” rather than one override that includes school and general government. He also briefly discussed the meals tax.

STAFF MEETING

1. ***Town Manager’s Office and Department Heads – Override Presentation #3: Expenses***
Mr. Dunham explained this evening’s presentation will explain the key rising expenses (which accounts for roughly 4.1% each year), then factor in the lost state aide and decreased local receipts. With all this, the anticipated size of the deficit for FY12 is \$2.2 million. The key expenses are: health insurance, retirement, unemployment, VOKE school, out of school assessments and increase maintenance and capital costs. Human Resources Director Marie Buckner explained the health insurance expenses and the steps the Town has taken to contain the costs. She explained the Town belongs to the Cape Cod Municipal Health Group which is a consortium of 14 of the 15 Cape Towns and they are able to get better rates as a joint purchase group. Currently, the Town’s share is 75%, employees 25%. The National average is 74%. Approximately 77 of eligible employees participate. Town Treasurer Craig Mayen spoke about retirement issues. He said that public employees do not participate in Social Security and that employees pay approximately 80% of the own retirement. The Town offers an optional deferred compensation plan but the Town does not contribute to it and there is no other retirement plan for municipal employees. The average retirement benefit is \$17,782 and 95% of county retirees make less than 45,000. Mr. Dunham explained the VOKE assessment is an average increase of 11.9% and is based on the Town’s enrollment and capital formula. The cost increases are out of the Town’s control. Also a major expense is the out-of-district assessment of \$800,000 which accounts for Sandwich students attending other public schools. Prior to FY06, this expense used to come out of the school’s operating budget, now it comes 100% out of the general government budget. Mr. Dunham also briefly explained the maintenance and capital budgets. Ms. Grundman asked if the list of where the cuts will come from will be included. Mr. Dunham said the discussion will be generic as he does not want to concern employees at this point. The Board discussed school choice and Ms. Marshall stated that she believes students entering Sandwich under school choice has increased. Mr. Kennan hoped the School Department would do a mirror image of this presentation for the public.

2. *Appointment to Historic Commission*

Ms. Eleanor Sterling was presented and expressed her background and interest in serving. **Ms. Grundman moved to appoint Eleanor Sterling to the Historical Commission term to expire June 30, 2011. Mr. Pierce seconded. Unanimous.**

3. *Appointment to Zoning Board of Appeals*

Mr. Harold Mitchell was present and briefly introduced himself. **Mr. Vitacco moved to appoint Harold Mitchell to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an alternate member term to expire June 30, 2011. Ms. Grundman seconded. Unanimous.**

4. *Change of Manager Sandwich Food Mart*

Mr. Zahid Rashid introduced himself as the new manager of record for the Sandwich Food Mart. The Police Department approved the application. **Ms. Grundman moved to approve Zahid Rashid as the new Manager of Record for the Sandwich Food Mart, 298 Route 130, Sandwich. Mr. Kennan seconded. Unanimous.**

5. *SWAT Presentation.*

Committee Members Jack Edmonston, Frank Pannorfi, Russell Kleecamp, and Paul Tilton gave a presentation solid waste disposal alternates and a summary of their findings. Stefan Masse, DPW General Foreman, was also present. They discussed the pros and cons of curbside pickup, curbside of recycling only, do nothing, close the transfer station or the Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) solid waste option. Mr. Pierce noted that \$700,000 of the transfer station expenses are not covered by the sticker price and the rest comes from taxes. The Committee was charged with looking further into PAYT, closing the transfer station and keeping the current system (for comparison purposes) and will report back in 6-8 weeks.

6. Mr. Pierce briefly discussed the Cape Cod Commission Ocean DCPC and presented the map outlining the district. The plan is to get all the “stakeholders” together. The plan and regulations are to consider ocean-based renewable energy development, not just wind turbines. Mr. Kennan noted he did not see the FAA or Town’s on the stakeholder list. There are no changes to the guiding principles and Mr. Pierce will vote on behalf of the Board.

7. Mr. Barrette had planned to have a Conference Committee meeting next Monday; however, with the new posting laws, it is too late to post for Monday. He will work with the School Committee on an alternate date.

Closing Remarks

Ms. Grundman spoke of the Board’s support of Orleans’ request for additional peer review of the implementation of the Massachusetts Estuaries Program. The Cape Cod Commission has agreed that the County will fund the initiative and that the Cape Cod Wastewater Collaborative is offering the services of its consultant team to cape communities.

The Re-dedication Task Force is looking for 20-25 volunteers to be trained to be monitors during the month of October and on October 2 which is the Grand Opening. The monitors oversee the scheduled event and can serve as tour guides.

ADJOURNMENT

10:10 p.m. **Mr. Kennan moved to adjourn. Mr. Pierce seconded. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Coggeshall

Documents and other exhibits used at the meeting:

1. Override presentation Timeline, GHD Draft-8/3/2010
2. Town of Sandwich School Safety Group Report
3. "Building a Better Sandwich: Expenses" dated 8/5/2010
4. E-mail from Bill Daley recommending Eleanor Sterling
5. E-mail from Eleanor Sterling listing her background
6. Harold Mitchell Talent Bank Form
7. Letter from Christopher Neeven recommending Harold Mitchell
8. Certificate of vote for M.Z. Sons Inc. for change of Manager
9. Sandwich Solid Waste Study Committee Summary of Findings
10. Powerpoint SWAT Summary of Findings
11. Cape Cod Commission Ocean DCPC overview and map