

**MARION BOARD OF SELECTMEN
WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS
July 10, 2007
Agenda**

SIGNING OF WARRANTS

ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

APPOINTMENTS: 7:10 p.m. John Rockwell, grant application
 7:30 p.m. Open Space Acquisition Commission

ACTION ITEMS: 1. One-day alcohol licenses—
 a. Habitat for Humanity, 10/12/07
 b. Marion Social Club, 8/13/07
 c. VFW Post #2425, Town Party, 8/25/07
 2. Request for street closure, VFW Post #2425, Town Party

TOWN
ADMINISTRATOR: 1. Tata & Howard request for contract amendment
 2. Web page update
 3. Building Commissioner's position update

CORRESPONDENCE: a. From Priscilla B. Ditchfield re resignation from Finance
 Committee
 b. From Jane McCarthy re resignation of Joseph Berry from
 School Committee
 c. From Eiv Strand, Chairman, Marine Resources Commission, re
 repair of sea wall at Harbormaster's office
 d. From Water Department re abatement request
 e. From Peter Freeman re D'Italia LIP
 f. From David Pierce re limitations of Conservation Restrictions
 g. From David Pierce re possible name change of Wind Power
 Study Committee
 h. From Alewives Anonymous re 2007 herring counts
 i. From Division of Marine Fisheries re shellfish opening

COMMITTEE UPDATE, if necessary

REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION for the purpose of discussion of purchase of real property

ANY OTHER MATTERS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD

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July 10, 2007

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Chairman Roger F. Blanchette, Board members Andrew N. Jeffrey and Jonathan F. Henry and Town Administrator Paul F. Dawson. Also present were Kenneth J. Souza of *The Wanderer*, Andrea Smith of the *Tri-Town Observer*, Ruth Thompson of *The Sentinel*, Carol Sanz, members of the Open Space Acquisition Commission James R. Gurney, John Rockwell, Priscilla Bradley, Sue Maxwell Lewis and Randy L. Parker, Town Counsel Jon Witten and Helene Craver, secretary.

The Board considered the appointment/reappointments for 2007/8. Mr. Dawson reminded the Board that it had recently adopted a new policy regarding the appointment process, which will take some getting used to by everyone. Mr. Dawson said the process will begin earlier in 2008 and he plans to meet with committee chairmen to better organize the process. Mr. Blanchette read the list of appointments (which is attached to these minutes and made a part by reference).

Mr. Blanchette moved the appointments; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Jeffrey moved a one-day all-alcohol license for Habitat for Humanity at the Music Hall on October 12, 2007; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Henry moved one-day alcohol licenses for the Marion Social Club on August 13, 2007 and for VFW Post #2425 for a Town Party on August 25, 2007; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Jeffrey moved to close a portion of Spring Street to vehicular traffic during the Town Party on August 25, 2007; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Rockwell met with the Board and explained that there were two processes to do with the bike path—one was a grant which has been awarded for property on Point Road and the other is a second grant application to remove some debris from the property. Mr. Rockwell described the rather convoluted method by which the Town would finally own the property and described the sale as a “bargain” at \$200,000, with a grant of just over \$100,000, or 52% reimbursement. The Board had several questions about the accessibility of the bike path and the property under discussion. Mr. Dawson asked how the Town had received a grant for which it had not applied? Mr. Blanchette noted that the Buzzards Bay National Estuaries Program had applied for and received a grant in the Town’s name and none of the officials knew anything about it—he thinks this is somehow wrong. Mr. Rockwell said that the Buzzards Bay National Estuaries Program could let the Board know about future applications for grants. Mr. Henry asked if the grants were applied for through the

Open Space Acquisition Commission? Mr. Rockwell said that they were. A short discussion followed regarding the possible disposal of the wood chips and logs on the property and Mr. Rockwell said that he would coordinate this with Mr. Zora, Superintendent of Public Works.

Mr. Dawson reported that our water engineers had requested an amendment to the engineering agreement, but, after consultation with Mr. Zora and members of the Water Committee, there remain unanswered questions which warrant further review.

Mr. Dawson reported that minor updates have been accomplished on the Town's web page; he is appealing to anyone with photographic skills to assist in producing a banner-type heading for the new page.

Mr. Dawson explained that his research into whether or not the Building Commissioner's position should be part time versus full time has resulted in his recommendation that the position remain full time. Mr. Dawson explained that the position had grown to include interaction in many ways with many other departments at the Town House, as well as the part-time inspectors, contractors and the public. Mr. Dawson noted that, even if the position were brought back to 27 hours per week, the savings in benefits versus full time would not be significant and he requests the Board authorize him to advertise the opening as a full-time position. Mr. Dawson pointed out that whoever is hired would be required to become a certified building inspector within 18 months of hire, which was estimated to take approximately five hours per week for the training sessions. Mr. Jeffrey said that he felt that having the position be a part-time one would engender a great deal of turnover. Mr. Henry requested that a letter be sent to Mr. Moore (current Building Commissioner) thanking him for the excellent job that he has done.

Mr. Jeffrey moved to proceed with the Building Commissioner on a full-time basis; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Henry said that he had walked the Zimmer property on County Road being offered to the Town and he thinks there is some potential for housing on the site. Mr. Henry suggested the Housing Trust look at the property and investigate exercising the Town's option to buy.

Mr. Henry suggested researching a regional animal control officer for the tri-town area, as the cost of boarding is prohibitive for the individual towns. The other Board members agreed that Mr. Henry could pursue this investigation.

The Board received a letter of resignation from the Finance Committee from Priscilla Ditchfield. Regret was expressed.

The Board also received a letter of resignation from the Marion School Committee from Joseph Berry, who Mr. Blanchette noted had served for many years. Mr. Dawson noted that Superintendent Cooper has a letter of interest in the position from someone and suggested a joint meeting to interview the candidate early in August.

All the members agreed that the repairs to the seawall at the Harbormaster's office were wonderful and publicly thanked Victor Brier and Dale Briggs for their assistance.

The Board reviewed additional correspondence; no action was taken.

Mr. Blanchette moved to go into executive session at 8:03 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the purchase of real property with the members of the Open Space Acquisition Commission and litigation and not to return to open session following the executive session; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously, Messrs. Blanchette, Jeffrey and Henry voting aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Date approved: 8/7/07

Attachment


Jonathan F. Henry, Clerk