

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES – FINAL
DONALDSON ROOM
Monday March 7, 2016 8:00 A.M.**

PRESENT: Noah Eckhouse (Chair), Peter Braun, Renel Fredriksen

STAFF: Timothy Higgins, Town Administrator; Peggy Elder, Administrative Assistant

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:

- Mr. Eckhouse opened the meeting and reviewed the agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- None

APPOINTMENTS:

- None

OPEN FORUM:

- None

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

- K-8 Schools Project (MSBA Application) - Mr. Higgins reported that Buck Creel (School Business Manager) is in the process of drafting the Statement Of Interest (SOI) and getting it approved by School Committee so that it could be submitted to the MSBA before the April 8 deadline, assuming endorsement by the Annual Town Meeting. The plan is to request Board of Selectmen formal approval at its April 4 meeting.
- Planning Director – Mr. Higgins began by saying that he would like to schedule some time on the Board’s agenda in April to have Ms. Burney brief the Board on her early sense of challenges, opportunities and priorities stemming from her initial immersion in Town affairs. She has made a concerted effort to meet staff, boards and various town organizations and groups. She has jumped right in and is facilitating the regular meetings of the Land Use Group. She is doing the research required and getting introduced to the key people necessary to help the Planning Board move the South Lincoln effort forward. She is using connections with various planning and landscape schools to create internship opportunities. She is currently working on a grant application with the Department of Public Works. The grant application is for MDOT’s Smart Streets program which makes grants of up to \$400,000 per year available for at least the next two years. Mr. Higgins stated that he was pleased with what he described as a new level of energy and excitement among the land use staff and boards.
- Massport/CAC – It was suggested that Ms. Burney be appointed as Lincoln’s representative to this committee to fill the vacancy resulting from Mr. Eckhouse

completing his term as Selectman. Mr. Eckhouse reported that most towns have appointed employed staff who are better able to attend daytime meetings in Boston. Mr. Braun also noted that Ms. Burney already has a personal professional connection with Lexington's appointee and that it is in the HATS towns' interest to coordinate regarding the CAC, in light of the dominance of Logan-area appointees. Mr. Braun moved to appoint Jennifer Burney to be Lincoln's representative to Massport Community Advisory Committee. Ms. Fredriksen seconded. It was unanimously approved.

- Mileage Reimbursement – Mr. Higgins asked that the Board permanently adopt the Internal Revenue Service's mileage reimbursement rate as the Town's reimbursement rate for employees, rather than having to vote on the rate each year. Ms. Fredriksen so moved, and Mr. Braun seconded. It was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION:

- Town Meeting Prep – Annual Town Report/Financial Section and Warrant/Consent Calendar is set to be mailed either Tuesday or Wednesday this week.
- Warrant Review – Mr. Higgins provided a summary of the key business to be conducted during the March 19th Annual Town Meeting:
 - There are a total of 37 Articles on this year's warrant, 13 of which will appear on the Consent Calendar.
 - Sponsors of 4 of the Articles are proposing to pass over their respective article:
 - #27 – Minuteman Building Project Debt
 - #29 – Lincoln School Building Feasibility Funding
 - #31 - Landfill Solar
 - #35 – Agricultural By-Law
 - There are 3 citizen petitions:
 - #12 – 8th Grade Civics – Hydration Station
 - #36 – Gun Safety Resolution
 - #37 – Fossil Fuel Divestiture
 - Volunteer Recognition Articles
 - #2 - Ceremonial Posts
 - #21 – Bright Light Award
 - Other Notable Articles
 - #16 & #17 – Long Term Liability Accounts
 - #30 – Campus Master Planning Committee
- Proposed Selectmen's Assignments – Mr. Higgins distributed a spreadsheet that listed all articles with suggested Board assignments based on individual liaison assignments.
- There are only 5 articles that the Selectmen are sponsoring that do not appear on the consent calendar.

- There are 7 articles that the Selectmen are sponsoring but that will appear on the consent calendar, and therefore, should not require a separate motion and discussion.
- There are 5 articles that are being sponsored by another Board/Committee that the Selectmen have either already expressed an interest in supporting (8th Graders), or that the Selectmen may want to express a Board view on (e.g., School application to MSBA, Gun Control, Fossil Fuels).
- Annual Appointment Process – Mr. Higgins reported that all Chairs have been asked to confirm whether incumbents wish to renew. Ms. Elder is coordinating with the Town Clerk and will be presenting an initial draft of a consent list of reappointments. There will be further consideration at the Board's April 4 meeting.
- Minuteman Regional High School – Mr. Braun and Mr. Higgins reported on recent efforts to clarify the effective date of the amended Regional Agreement. Mr. Braun stated that Superintendent Bouquillon announced at the last School Committee meeting, contrary to all previous statements and the legal documents and law, that the new Regional Agreement would take effect on July 1, 2017 rather than immediately upon the approval of all sixteen towns and the Commissioner of Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). Mr. Braun reported that he had had to create a written explanation to correct the Superintendent's statement and that DESE has now confirmed that the Town's interpretation was indeed correct and that the new Agreement will become effective as of DESE approval, which is expected in a matter of a few days. Mr. Higgins commended Mr. Braun for his determination to get the matter resolved before Annual Town Meeting, reminding the Board that the clarification will result in a reduced operating assessment in the amount of between \$100,000 and \$150,000 for the upcoming fiscal year as a result of the new "rolling average" formula taking effect. The Board thanked Mr. Braun and Mr. Higgins for their vigilance on behalf of the Town.
- Liason Reports – Mr. Braun reported on Lt. Governor Polito's attendance and participation at last week's HATS meeting. Mr. Braun stated that HATS was honored to host the Lieutenant Governor; that she was clearly well versed in municipal issues, having served as a Selectman herself; that she was a knowledgeable and articulate advocate for the Baker Administration's current positions; and that she engaged in an informative discussion of substantive issues. Mr. Braun also commended the Lieutenant Governor for her understanding and support of Hanscom and its importance to the local towns and to the region. Mr. Braun closed by noting that the Lieutenant Governor offered to return to HATS annually.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Road Closure – The Conservation Commission has asked for permission for the 20th annual "road closures for salamanders and frogs". Ms. Fredriksen moved to vote to close roads for the salamander crossing. Mr. Braun seconded. It was unanimously approved.
- DeCordova Liquor License – DeCordova has requested that their liquor license application be amended to be for the Café portion of the museum only. Mr. Braun voted

to amend the DeCordova liquor license to cover the Café only. Ms. Fredrickson seconded. It was unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- None

MEETING MINUTES:

- Ms. Fredriksen moved to approve the February 8, 2016 and February 23, 2016 minutes. Mr. Braun seconded. It was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mr. Braun per MGL c. 30A, S. 21, Exemption 2, Contract Negotiation Strategy to adjourn to Executive Session and not return to the open portion of the meeting. Ms. Fredriksen seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn the open session portion of the meeting and to convene the executive session was unanimously approved with a roll call vote of Frericksen – Aye, Braun – Aye, and Eckhouse - Aye. The Meeting adjourned at 8:40 A.M.

Submitted by Peggy Elder
Approved March 14, 2016