

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
DONALDSON ROOM
Monday May 23, 2016 7:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Peter Braun (Chair), Renel Fredriksen, James Craig

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

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Mr. Braun started on a somber note re: the murder of an Auburn MA police officer. He asked Mr. Higgins to communicate to Chief Kennedy the Board's appreciation for the risks that the Public Safety Department takes every day on our community's behalf. Mr. Craig added that it was a great thought. Ms. Fredriksen agreed.
- Ms. Fredriksen reminded people that this weekend the Town was holding a Memorial Day celebration.
- Mr. Braun spoke about the HATS meeting that is being held this Thursday, May 26, 2016 at 7:30PM in the Donaldson Room, featuring MassPort CEO Tom Glynn.

APPOINTMENTS:

- Planning and Land Use Update – Jennifer Burney (Director of Planning and Land Use), Chris Bibbo (Superintendent of Public Works), and John Vancour [**Tim: Is this the correct spelling of John's name??**] (Town Engineer) joined the meeting. Mr. Higgins gave a brief introduction. Ms. Burney noted the Planning and Land Use Update document that she regularly circulates to town officials, and the Board praised that effort. Ms. Burney then reviewed several current matters:
 - Carroll School – The Carroll School plans to redevelop for certain school functions the former MacDowell property in Wayland on the Lincoln/Wayland town line where Old Sudbury Road becomes Waltham Street. Mr. Craig asked about issues that abutters would be concerned with at the new location, including increased traffic, parking, screening and lighting implications.
 - MBTA Proposed Monopoles – Ms. Burney reported that the MBTA plan to install three monopoles along the right-of-way in Lincoln has been postponed due to federal regulatory issues, and that the MBTA has assured Lincoln that the plans will be vetted publicly in Lincoln after they receive federal approvals.

- Hospice – Ms. Burney reported that the Hospice facility was on the agenda for the Planning Board meeting tomorrow night. She added that there was a preconstruction meeting this Friday with them, that they are planning on holding an opening event on June 23rd, and that they would be reaching out to the Board to participate. Mr. Higgins added that the Hospice has executed the Town's first PILOT agreement.
- McLean Hospital – Ms. Burney reported that the proposed new facility on Bypass Road is on the agenda for the Planning Board meeting tomorrow night and that abutters and other neighborhood residents had been notified.
- Affordable Accessory By-Law – Ms. Burney reported that work continues on drafting and vetting the proposed Accessory By-Law. She has invited Lincoln Woods Project Manager Noah Sawyer to the next Affordable Housing Committee meeting. Mr. Higgins added that Ms. Burney has been working as ombudsman when residents of Lincoln Woods have raised questions and concerns.
- Stormwater Program – Ms. Burney reported that she and Tom Gumbart have attended meetings regarding the new State storm water permit program. They are attending a meeting tomorrow. Mr. Higgins added that this program was introduced 10 years ago and has been identified as presenting unique compliance issues for smaller towns. This could eventually lead to a warrant article going forward.
- Lincoln Station – Ms. Burney reported that she is working with the Conway School to look at ways to make Lincoln Station more vibrant. She said there are many grant resources available and that this is just the beginning of the process of considering ideas for reshaping that area. She would like to develop an Economic Development Committee.
- Complete Streets - Ms. Burney explained that Towns can apply for up to \$400,000 to improve certain transportation infrastructure. Prior to getting funding, a Town needs to come up with a priority plan. The Town can apply for up to a \$50,000 technical assistance grant to pay for the creation of this plan. The Town has to submit a letter of intent before applying. Mr. Craig moved to endorse the grant application. Ms. Fredriksen seconded. It was unanimously approved.
- Community Preservation Committee Candidates – Mr. Braun asked Eric Zimmerman and Doug Harding to join the meeting, as candidates for appointment to the open position on the Community Preservation Committee. Both gentlemen gave a brief introduction expressing their interest in volunteering on the Committee and describing their relevant skills and experience for serving on the Committee. In accordance with Board policy, the Board deferred a vote on an appointment until its next meeting.

OPEN FORUM:

- None

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

- Liquor Licenses – Mr. Higgins reported that AKA Bistro ceased operations on Mother's Day, that the RLF is considering new tenants that would like to have a liquor license, and that AKA has been informed of the status of its license. Mr. Higgins also reported on the status of the legislation to authorize a liquor license for Blazes, which has been delayed. In response to an inquiry from the legislative delegation, the Board's consensus was to request the Legislature to approve the legislation as submitted as soon as possible, which would authorize an election vote as contemplated by the Town Meeting approval, and to reject the delegation's offer to expedite the matter by authorizing the Board to issue the license without the need for an election vote.
- Bemis Basement – Mr. Higgins reported that the basement renovation is complete. The Council on Aging has invited the Board to attend the dedication ceremony. The dedication of the newly completed space is scheduled for June 10th at 10:00AM.
- Traffic Management – Mr. Higgins reported that he plans to begin drafting a Selectmen's Newsletter on the subject and hoped to have a draft ready for the next Board meeting.
- Landfill Solar Working Group – A contract document is being finalized with the vendor who will develop a solar energy strategic plan for the Town to consider.
- IT Director Search Process – Mr. Higgins reported that he and Ms. Fredriksen were both on the committee and that the process was moving along well. He added that there were 30 applicants initially. The field was narrowed to three candidates who were interviewed last week and are being reference-checked. One candidate has emerged as the likely choice.

DISCUSSION

- FY17 State Budget/Hanscom – Mr. Braun spoke about the State budget lobbying campaign that he has undertaken for the past eight months or so, along with Mr. Higgins, Schools Superintendent Becky McFall, and School Committee Chair Jennifer Glass. The purpose of the campaign has been to begin to educate the Legislature and Governor and request financial assistance regarding the potentially significant unfunded financial obligation that the Town faces for the education of the children of Hanscom residents who have retired from military service. Approximately 4-5% of Hanscom tenants consist of those who choose to remain at Hanscom after retirement from military service or those who decide to move to Hanscom after such retirement. This population became eligible to reside at Hanscom several years ago, after the housing was renovated by the private entity that was granted a long-term lease by the Air Force pursuant to the national base-housing privatization act passed by Congress a number of years ago. Although military and Defense Department personnel have priority for the housing, there are nevertheless unavoidably a small number of unoccupied units, and the Base and housing owner are obligated to fill these units. It has become apparent that approximately half of the retiree-tenants have school-age children and, after numerous inquiries with State and federal officials, that there is no federal funding for educating these children. Also after numerous inquiries, it is clear that the State's position is that these children are no different than any other child in Massachusetts in having a right to attend a public school, that they are technically residents of Lincoln, and that Lincoln has

the obligation to provide access to its schools at its expense. The landlord is exempt from local real estate taxation under the federal statute, and the Schools' longstanding contract with the Defense Department to operate the on-Base K-8 schools does not include funding for the children of retirees. As a result of the lobbying campaign, the State has agreed to provide Chapter 70 funding to Lincoln for the K-8 retiree-family students, but it is relatively insignificant. Meanwhile, Bedford, which educates the high school-age children of Base-resident military families under its own arrangement with the Defense Department, has decided that it will not accept the children of the retiree tenants. During the current and immediately preceding school years, Bedford agreed to accept such students if Lincoln paid for them, but Bedford has declined to continue this understanding for future years, which will necessitate that such students attend Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School. To date, there have been only a small handful of high school-age retiree-family students going to Bedford High. There are several retiree-family students in each K-8 grade, but it is unclear how many of them will choose to attend L-S. There have been numerous discussions between Town and School leadership with the Base senior staff to attempt to manage these issues in a mutually beneficial manner, including improved communications with current and prospective tenants regarding the high school situation. Although the financial impact for Lincoln is uncertain until enrollments for the coming and subsequent years are known, the potential financial obligation could become significant if enrollment trends continue. Therefore, it was decided to embark on the lobbying campaign, following in the tracks of Bedford, which has sought State assistance for its military-student high school expenses with some success in recent years. Written and in-person presentations were made to representatives of the Governor's office, Representative Tom Stanley, the senior budget-writing staff of the House Ways and Means Committee (arranged by Rep. Stanley), and Senator Mike Barrett. Although neither the Governor's office nor Senator Barrett supported our request, we were very pleased with the active support we received from Rep. Stanley. Our request is included in the House budget, resulting from Rep. Stanley's advocacy with the Ways and Means Committee and House leadership. We will continue to follow the budget process and anticipate continuing support from Rep. Stanley during the budget conference committee and Governor-approval processes. Mr. Braun concluded by noting that even if no assistance is provided for FY'17, the process of familiarizing the relevant Beacon Hill and Base officials with the dilemma will benefit the Town in future efforts.

- Route 2 Update – Mr. Braun reported that many of the negotiated fences and plantings have been installed. Mr. Higgins added that MADOT has been good about doing what they agreed to. The Town has hired a landscape architect to make sure that it is done according to plans. Mr. Braun encouraged everyone to take a drive and check out the changes happening on the highway and the new Town roads. Mr. Braun said that there is discussion of a ribbon-cutting ceremony in the Fall.
- Annual Re-appointments – Mr. Braun said the BOS would be acting on the ZBA appointment, the Conservation Commission appointments, and the Pierce House Committee appointment. That would leave the Community Preservation Committee appointment. It was also noted that volunteers were still needed for the Disabilities Commission and the Green Energy Committee.

- Liaison Reports:
 - Ms. Fredriksen reported on the Housing Commission's Accessory Apartment Forum. She added that it is on PEGCentral if anyone was interested in watching. A proposed Accessory Apartment by-law change is being drawn up and will be brought to Town Meeting in the Spring.
 - Mr. Craig reported on a neighborhood meeting he attended along with Mr. Higgins regarding the McLean Bypass Road proposal reported earlier by Ms. Burney. The meeting was arranged by representatives of McLean and was held at one of the Bypass Road properties. He reported that McLean has entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement to purchase two properties on Bypass Road and that McLean is claiming eligibility for the so-called Dover Amendment. He noted that many concerns were raised by residents and that the Planning Board meeting tomorrow evening would provide an additional opportunity for public comment.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Conservation Commission Appointments – Ms. Fredriksen moved to appoint Ron Chester (3 year term) and Christine Dugan (1 year term) to the Conservation Commission. Mr. Craig seconded. It was unanimously approved.
- ZBA Re-appointment – Mr. Craig moved to re-appoint Joel Freedman to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Ms. Fredriksen seconded. It was unanimously approved.
- Pierce House Committee – Ms. Fredriksen moved to appoint Terry Green to the Pierce House Committee. Mr. Craig seconded. It was unanimously approved.
- Town Offices Summer Hours – Ms. Fredriksen made a motion to approve summer hours for Town staff for July and August, as proposed by Mr. Higgins. Mr. Craig seconded. It was unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- None

MEETING MINUTES:

- Mr. Craig moved to approve the minutes of the 4/4/16 meeting. Ms. Fredriksen seconded. It was unanimously approved.
- Mr. Craig moved to approve the minutes of the 4/25/16 meeting. Ms. Fredriksen seconded. It was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mr. Braun to adjourn. Mr. Craig seconded. It was unanimously approved. The Meeting adjourned at 9:39 P.M.

Submitted by Peggy Elder
Approved 07/25/16