

## **Minutes – the Board of Selectmen**

**April 2, 2007**

Selectmen Present: Ralph Dormitzer, Chairman  
Fred Koed  
Gary Vanderweil  
Ted Carr

The meeting was called to order By Chairman Ralph Dormitzer in the Selectmen's Office, Town Hall at 6:00 PM.

### **Forest Avenue Reconstruction Project**

Chairman Dormitzer explained to the large audience in attendance that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the proposed design of the Forest Avenue road/sidewalk construction project, and to review possible design features that could make the roadway safer for all who will use it, including children, adults, cyclists, etc.

Mark Brennan first summarized the key design features for the project, the timetable for phased construction, and the availability of funds for all construction activities. Attendees were invited to ask questions about the technical design of the project.

Chairman Dormitzer then invited Richard Avery to summarize his ideas about and concerns with the proposed engineering design for the project. Mr. Avery stated that he was very happy with the large turnout for the meeting, and that he was confident that the Forest Avenue neighbors and the town as a whole all agreed that it was important to make Forest Avenue as safe as possible for as many people as possible.

Chairman Dormitzer then asked those in attendance to express their views about the proposed design of the project. In summary, most in the audience expressed support for the construction of the sidewalk and the use of granite curbing. They generally stated that the installation of the sidewalk would make the roadway safer for pedestrians and children while acknowledging that the limited space between the travel lane and the curbing would give limited refuge for cyclists. Many of those who spoke expressed interest in the following:

- The need to slow traffic down on Forest Avenue by implementing traffic calming strategies, installing stop signs on some intersecting roadways, and traffic enforcement.
- Finding ways to maximize the distance between the fog line and the curbing to provide more room for cyclists.
- Finding ways to allow cyclists to move off the road as necessary.

At the conclusion of the public comment, Chairman Dormitzer asked Board members to comment on the proposed project design and the comments made by those in attendance. Selectman Vanderweil, Selectman Koed and Selectman Carr all expressed support for the proposed design, while at the same time expressing interest in exploring the traffic calming and other strategies suggested to make the road safer for cyclists. Selectman Koed also suggested that in those areas where widening the distance between the fog line and the curbing was difficult, the town should find out if the abutting property owners at those locations would be willing to donate some land to assist the situation. Chairman Dormitzer stated that he was not at all happy with the proposed project design. He stated that he believes the project design will create an unsafe situation for cyclists and will increase the speed of traffic on what is essentially a country road. He stated however, that the majority of the Board supports the proposed design, and as a result the project will move forward as proposed. Chairman Dormitzer then expressed a concern with the project schedule, and advised those in attendance that the project might not be completed as soon as the schedule indicates.

Chairman Dormitzer thanked everyone for attending the meeting and suggested that for future projects such as the Beechwood Street sidewalk, such a meeting should be held much earlier in the project design phase of the project.

**Approval of Bond Anticipation Bonds**

Town Manager Bill Griffin requested that the Board vote to approval the issuance of bond anticipation bonds for water-related projects totaling \$3,400,000. Selectman Carr moved and Selectman Koed seconded that the Board vote to approve the sale of the \$3,400,000 Bond Anticipation Notes dated April 10, 2007, and payable August 10, 2007; at par and accrued interest plus the premiums indicated as follows:

<u>Number</u>	<u>Denomination</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Premium</u>	<u>Purchaser</u>
1	\$3,000,000	4.10%	\$4,560	Sovereign Securities Corporation, LLC
2	\$400,000	4.15%	\$604	Alta Capital Group

And further that the consent to the financial advisor bidding for the notes, as executed prior to the bidding for the notes, is hereby confirmed. The motion was approved by a vote of four in favor and none opposed.

**Approval of MBTA Settlement Agreement**

Town Manager Griffin reported that the settlement agreement with the MBTA to resolve the village parking dispute had been reviewed by town counsel, and that one provision had been inserted as suggested by counsel. Selectman Vanderweil moved and Selectman Carr seconded a motion to approve and sign the final agreement. The motion was approved by a vote of four in favor and none opposed.

**Adjournment**

Selectmen Koed moved and Selectman Vanderweil seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 PM. The motion was approved by a vote of four in favor and none opposed

Respectfully submitted,

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William R. Griffin  
Town Manager