

Selectmen Present: Gary Vanderweil, Chairman
Edwin Carr
Frederick Koed
Ralph Dormitzer
Paul Carlson

Others Present: William R. Griffin, Town Manager
Jennifer Oram, Recording Secretary

Chairman Gary Vanderweil called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Town Manager Report

Town Manager, William Griffin, asked the Board which member would like to be the liaison to the Harbor Health Committee. Selectman Paul Carlson stated he would take the assignment.

Mr. Griffin also alerted the Board and the community that there are currently openings on two committees that are appointed by the Troika. There is currently an opening on both the Advisory Committee and the Capital Budget Committee. Mr. Griffin encouraged residents that are interested in one of the position to write a letter or email to him by this coming Friday.

Selectmen Comment Period

Selectman Ralph Dormitzer stated that the Town of Marshfield has now filed suit against the FAA in regard to flight paths. He will update the Board as more information becomes available.

Mr. Griffin informed the Board that he had written the 40B letter to Senator Robert Hedlund and Representative Garrett Bradley. **Selectman Dormitzer moved the Board sign this letter. Selectman Carlson seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

Bond Signing – Selectmen Carlson moved to approve and sign \$850,000 in Bond Anticipation Notes and \$1,395,743 in State Aid Anticipation Notes. Selectman Koed seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Cohasset Triathlon Traffic Safety & Management Plan – Triathlon Coordinator, Bill Burnett, as well as Police Chief James Hussey, Safety Officer, Sergeant William Quigley, Firefighter/EMT John Dockray, and Fire Chief Robert Silvia addressed the Board. Mr. Burnett has worked with all departments for the last six months to organize the safety aspects of the race. Sergeant Quigley reviewed the points where detail officers would be located throughout the route. He stated there would be 15 detail officers, an incident commander as well as an extra dispatcher. Chief Hussey stated that they are working with the merchants downtown in regard to parking for their businesses during the race. Fire Chief Silvia and Firefighter Dockray reviewed the detailed plan in place with the EMT service and the South Shore Hospital. Chief Silvia felt the plan that is in place is excellent. Mr. Burnett added that participants in the race would park at the Cohasset Music Circus and then be bussed to the Sandy Beach parking lot. He said that Sandy Beach and Atlantic Ave. will be closed during race time from 7:45AM – 11:45AM. There will be 720 participants from all over, including England and Germany and that the triathlon has raised over \$50,000 for Juvenile diabetes. The Board thanked everyone for the presentation, and for their time and effort.

Street Light Acquisition Consultant Presentation – Mr. George Woodbury of LightSmart Energy Consulting Services presented his report to the Board. Mr. Woodbury has been hired by the Town to provide an economic analysis of what the costs and long-term savings would be if the Town purchased the street lights from National Grid. Mr. Woodbury reviewed how the Town would purchase the lights and that the Town would then be required to maintain them. He suggested that to cut maintenance costs, the Town could look into sharing maintenance with another community. There was then a lengthy conversation reviewing the inventory that Mr. Woodbury compiled of all the street lights in Town. Mr. Woodbury was asked to investigate the ownership of several underground utility poles along Jerusalem Road. Mr. Griffin added that although the Town would see a significant savings over time if this were done, the Town has to remember that at the end of the year, the great rate the Town has for electricity will be increasing significantly. Mr. Griffin asked that the Board think about the proposal and analysis, and a discussion and decision could be made at a future date. The Board thanked Mr. Woodbury for this time and his informative report.

Treat's Pond Restoration Project – Selectman Dormitzer stated that due to accusations that it is a conflict of interest for him to participate in this discussion, and therefore he will be recusing himself from the discussion. There was a lengthy conversation about the project and how the Town should proceed. Mr. Jim Drysdale of 4 Cedars Acres Lane expressed concern as he feels the Army Corp of Engineer's (AEC) proposals do not address the issues of flooding or Stormwater. Mr. Charles Higginson, of 159 Atlantic Avenue, stated that he felt the AEC's presentation dealt too much with pollution and that Sandy Cove has not been polluted for years. Mr. Paul Whitemore of 47 Elm Court stated that he felt the marsh was in fact a fresh water marsh; not a saltwater marsh as the AEC is referring to it as. He feels that there is a lot of historical data out there to prove this. In addition, he feels that the people who live around Treats Pond should be responsible for the restoration as they make up 10% of the Town and therefore he feels it is not a municipal project. Mr. Charles Humphreys then addressed the Board on behalf of his client, Peter Roy of 49 Atlantic Avenue. Attorney Humphreys stated that Mr. Roy in fact owns the property where the harbor discharge would take place, and that his client was very upset that he has not been contacted about this project. Attorney Humphreys stated that the water in the marsh is essentially polluted and to take that and put it in the harbor did not make sense. He stated that the Board should not vote this evening and that his client will fight the project until the end. Former Congressman, Amory Houghton Jr., of 91 Atlantic Ave., then addressed the Board. Mr. Houghton first stated that he had spoken to Mr. Roy's sister about a possible project. He also stated that he has talked to many people in government that he felt the Town needs to show its intentions to the Federal and State governments so that funding can be appropriated. Chairman Vanderweil then reviewed the Town's options. He stated that he would like to hold off on making a decision until more information is gathered about flooding, stormwater and until it can be clarified if it is a salt or fresh water marsh. After further discussion, the Board decided that a letter should be sent to express interest in doing some sort of project and therefore alerting the government to earmark the funds. **Selectman Carr moved that a letter be written to the Congressman to communicate the Town's interest to participate in a project should the funds become available this year. Selectman Carlson seconded the motion and vote was unanimous (4-0, Selectman Dormitzer abstained).**

Fiscal 2009 Financial Outlook – Mr. Griffin presented a memo that he and Michael Buckley put together showing revenue and expenditure projections for Fiscal 2009. He stated that this was a challenge in that Fiscal 2007 has not been completed and Fiscal 2008 has not begun. He does feel that the analysis will help with future projections. If all happens as he has projected, the Town will fall \$400,000 short. Chairman Vanderweil stated that by using these projections, the Town could, albeit conservatively, be

looking at an override in 2009. The Board thanked Mr. Griffin and Mr. Buckley for putting together the report.

Long Term Debt Service – Mr. Griffin reviewed the report for the Board. As background, Mr. Griffin reminded the Board and the community that when he started as Town Manager, he suggested that the Board adopt and implement fiscal policies, which they did. These policies establish two key debt ratios: Non-Excluded debt service payments should not exceed 3% and Total Debt Service payments should not exceed 10%. These are things that Standards and Poors look at. Mr. Griffin stated that he compiled this not only to show where the Town stands today, but to also show that the Town is making progress. Mr. Griffin said that at the next meeting he will be adding a fixed asset plan that Michael Buckley is putting together. Chairman Vanderweil thanked Mr. Griffin and Mr. Buckley for this very helpful analysis. Chairman Vanderweil said that it is one of the best analysis' he has ever seen.

Annual Committee Appointments – Selectman Dormitzer moved to approve the 2008 re-appointments. Selectman Koed seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (Selectman Paulson abstained from voting to reappoint himself to the Cable Advisory Committee).

Minutes – Selectman Dormitzer moved to approve the minutes of March 7, 2007. Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Selectman Carr moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Koed seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 9:20PM

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Vanderweil
Chairman