

**Selectmen Present:** Ralph Dormitzer  
Robert Spofford  
Frederick Koed  
Gary Vanderweil  
Edwin Carr

**Others Present:** William R. Griffin, Town Manager  
Paul DeRensis, Town Counsel  
Jennifer Oram, Recording Secretary

### **Town Manager's Report**

Town Manager, William Griffin, asked the Chief of Police, James Hussey, to introduce the newest member of the force. Chief Hussey introduced Office Regan Steverman, a Scituate native, who is very excited to become a full-time police officer with the Town. The Board welcomed Officer Steverman to the force and to the Town of Cohasset.

Mr. Griffin asked the Board if they would consider moving the date of the Special Town Meeting to Monday, November 13, 2006 at 7PM. After a brief discussion, **Selectman Carr moved to approve the date of November 13, 2006. Selectman Koed seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

Mr. Griffin then asked the Board to review the recommended terms of use for the Town's web site. The Board reviewed the policy and made a few slight changes to it. **Selectman Koed moved to approve the policy as amended, Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

### **Selectmen Comment Period**

Selectman Spofford asked Mr. Griffin and Town Counsel, Paul DeRensis, to look into a Bylaw change. Selectman Spofford would like the date of the General Election to coincide with the override election should there be one. He also asked that the time of the Annual Town Meeting be changed to 9AM. Selectman Spofford also asked what the Town would be doing in memoriam for September 11<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Griffin said he would look into this and alert the Board of any events scheduled.

Selectman Koed asked about the Town Planner situation, and whether Cohasset was going to be sharing a Planner with the Town of Hull. Mr. Griffin explained that the candidate that Hull had recently wanted to hire, pulled out of the running and was hired by Norwell. Mr. Griffin stated that if they re-advertise the position with the added hours for Cohasset, chances are they will receive a higher caliber of applicants.

Chairman Dormitzer alerted the Board and the community that he, Mr. Griffin and the Greenbush Team would be meeting with the MBTA on Wednesday, September 6, 2006. He also informed everyone that the Cohasset Golf Club would be landscaping the rail crossing on North Main Street. Chairman Dormitzer suggested the Town look into providing signs on all of the islands stating who is taking care of that particular island. He also informed the Board of an invitation he and the other members of the Board had been extended by Selectman Melissa Tulley of Hingham. The Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government would be giving a seminar in Hingham on labor relations and members of the Board are encouraged to attend.

### **Town Counsel Paul DeRensis – Modification to Second Amended Final Judgment**

Attorney DeRensis reviewed the twenty-seven year history of this litigation. He explained that many people had worked very hard on the final amendment, and that he felt it was fair judgment, and that neither side, the Town nor the Commonwealth, got 100% of what they wanted. **Selectman Vanderweil moved that Town Counsel be authorized to execute and file with Suffolk Superior Court in Civil Action No. 38652 in the matter entitled Commonwealth of Massachusetts plaintiff v. Town of Cohasset Defendant, a Joint Motion to further Modify the Second Amended Final Judgment in the form negotiated by and between the Town of Cohasset and the Commonwealth. Selectman Carr seconded the motion for discussion.** Selectman Vanderweil stated that he felt this was a very good agreement for the Town. Selectman Spofford expressed concern in regard to language on page four (4) and the word “additional”. There was then a lengthy conversation where at the end, Attorney DeRensis stated he would see about removing the word, but that he did feel that the use of it would hurt the Town. Mr. Griffin also explained that the Board not signing the judgment did not give the Town any additional leverage with the Commonwealth. Attorney DeRensis explained that if the Town should run into any issues with meeting the deadlines outlined in the judgment, the Town would need only to alert the State and they would work with the Town. **Chairman Dormitzer reminded the Board that Selectman Carr had seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

### **Brian Adams – Facilities Maintenance Status Report**

Brian Adams, Facilities Manager for the Town of Cohasset, reviewed his department’s responsibilities and needs. Mr. Adams reviewed what his staff has to take care of and where they are lacking in maintenance and help. He also broke down the needs of each Town facility building by building. Of everything his department needs, Mr. Adams explained that what would really help his department is the addition of two employees. Chairman Dormitzer asked if they could outsource some of the work. Mr. Adams said he would look into this as an option.

**Review of Fees – Harbor Related**

Mr. Griffin reviewed his memo on harbor related expenses. Harbormaster Lorren Gibbons also sat before the Board. All totaled, the full cost of running the Harbormaster Department for Fiscal 2007 would be \$127,260. Selectman Vanderweil suggested that all indirect expenses and depreciation of equipment be added to the Departmental Expenses. The Board reviewed the options and did feel that they would recommend full cost recovery to the Harbor Committee. They were not sure however, if it would be in one lump sum, or if the increases in fees etc. would be over a period of time. As Mr. Griffin suggested, the Board will ask the Harbor Committee to review the various revenue sources and fees, seek public input, and then recommend the necessary changes to the Board.

**Peter Pratt & Steve Bobo – Rails and Trails**

Mr. Pratt and Mr. Bobo reviewed the need for the Board's support of the Rails and Trails proposal along the MBTA route. They explained that the only way the Town would receive Federal funding for the proposal is if Cohasset joined other towns such as Hull, Hingham and Scituate – thus connecting the Rails and Trails. Mr. Pratt explained that to have Pedestrian Trails is a federally mandated right of the citizens of Cohasset. He explained that the reason they were before the Board this evening was to get approval of the current plan so that the project can move forward. The Town can then work on improving the existing plan, and identifying "choke points" in Town and then request help from the MBTA. Chairman Dormitzer will be working with the MBTA to try to start this project moving forward and asked if Mr. Pratt and Mr. Bobo could provide him with the important bullet points that will need to be addressed by the MBTA. **Selectman Vanderweil stated that he felt this was a good idea and moved to endorse the Rails and Trails report as a concept and stated that the Board would write a letter in support of the project. Selectman Koed seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

**Attorney Lisa Hewitt – Amendment to Conservation Restriction**

Attorney Hewitt came before the Board to ask for help with a Conservation Restriction for her clients, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Vierra. The Vierra's are in the process of selling their home on Ox Pasture Lane. The Vierra's discovered that the pool on their property had been installed in the wrong place and a significant amount of fill had been deposited. The installation of the pool was into a wetland buffer zone and a conservation restricted area. Attorney Hewitt and her clients immediately contacted the Town's Conservation Agent, Paul Shea, to work on rectifying the problem. They have also contacted and are working with the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs. Attorney Hewitt has secured approval from the builder to substitute the area of intrusion with another area in the development. The replication area is an enhancement and enlargement of a 2/1 scale of the original area violated. The Executive Office of Environmental Affairs would like to be presented with an approval in concept from both the Conservation Commission and

the Board of Selectmen. **Selectman Spofford moved to approve the solution in concept, Selectman Vanderweil seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

### **Board Response to School Budget Meeting Impasse**

This agenda item was indefinitely postponed.

### **Creation of Stormwater Management Committee**

Water Commissioner, John McNabb, and Board of Health member, Steven Bobo, addressed the Board and asked the Selectmen to appoint a temporary eight-member Stormwater Management Committee composed of representatives from the following: Selectmen, Water Commission, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, Harbor Health Committee, Water Resources Protection Committee, Department of Public Works and the Planning Board. The purpose of the Committee would be to survey the existing stormwater and nonpoint source pollution situation in Cohasset and then make recommendations to the Selectmen and Town Meeting. The Committee could go from temporary to permanent, depending on the needs of the Town. **Selectman Vanderweil moved to authorize the charge and to endorse the Committee, but without a representative of the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Griffin suggested that the Board remove the member of the DPW as well, and add an at large member, thus making it a seven member Committee. The Board agreed and Selectman Koed seconded the motion as amended, and the vote was unanimous.**

### **Fire Chief Selection Process**

Mr. Griffin explained to the Board that under the Town Manager's Act, he is the appointing authority for the position of Fire Chief. As he has done in the past, Mr. Griffin plans on having a team assist him in interviewing the candidates. He would like to have a fellow Town Manager/Administrator, a Fire Chief from another community, Finance Director, Michael Buckley, and, if a member is willing, a Selectman. Selectman Vanderweil asked Mr. Griffin to provide the Board with a copy of the 11 candidates' resumes.

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Selectman Vanderweil moved to approve the minutes of August 7, 2006, Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

**Selectman Spofford moved to adjourn the meeting, Selectman Carr seconded it, and the vote was unanimous.**

Meeting Adjourned at 9:34PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph S. Dormtizer, Chairman