

Selectmen Present: Ralph Dormitzer, Chairman
Gary Vanderweil
Edwin Carr

Selectmen Absent: Frederick Koed
Robert Spofford

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

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

Town Manager’s Report

Mr. Griffin updated the Board and the community on the status of the town’s acquisition of an emergency notification system. At the 2006 annual town meeting, \$30,000 was appropriated to purchase the necessary hardware and software. After a team was assembled, and research was done, the town ended up sending out an RFP to vendors who offered a “hosted service provider” type of system. After receiving four proposals, the team unanimously recommended that he award the contract to The NTI Group of Sherman Oaks, CA for its Connect-CTY service. The all-inclusive annual fee for service is \$6,112 and is set at that rate for 3 years.

Mr. Griffin then announced that the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation has awarded the Town three seawall repair grants totaling \$466,750. The Town is required to match these grants in the same amount. Mr. Griffin explained that they would be asking the November 13, 2006 special town meeting to amend the previous bond issue authorizing that the bond serve as the town’s match for the grant. Mr. Griffin also extended thanks to Christine Player of Vine Associates, Tom Gruber and Mark Brennan, as well as Representative Garrett Bradley and Senator Robert Hedlund, for all of their hard work and support on the grant applications.

Selectmen Comment Period

Chairman Dormitzer expressed the Board’s sympathy to Selectman Robert Spofford for the loss of his father.

Chairman Dormitzer also discussed the meeting that he and Mr. Griffin had with Verizon. Verizon will be laying fiber in the Town of Cohasset very soon and this will offer competitive services for both phone and cable television, etc. Verizon is going to be very aggressive with the deploying of the fiber with tree trimming beginning in December and January, and with the goal of having fiber underground to homes by 2008. Chairman Dormitzer and Mr. Griffin also asked Verizon to put all of the fiber either underground or fed from Elm Street or Parking Way in the village area to avoid additional wires going through the village.

Transfer of License

Attorney Christopher Mingis addressed the Board on behalf of his clients, Mr. and Mrs. George Metri. The Metri's have entered in to a purchase and sales agreement with the current owner of Majestic Cars, Mr. Luigi P. Masciarelli. Mr. and Mrs. Metri plan on running the dealership in the same manner as the current owner, and will also keep the current employees on staff. Attorney Mingis stated that the dealership is not allowed to have more than 50 cars on the lot, and his clients plan on keeping the inventory the same. After a brief discussion with the Board, **Selectman Vanderweil moved that the license transfer be approved with the condition that no more than 50 cars are allowed on the lot. Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

Special Town Meeting Article Review

Article 4 – CPC Funds

Stuart Ivimey of the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) addressed the Board and reviewed the CPC's financials. Mr. Ivimey explained that the committee's revenues had greatly exceeded what they had projected by \$30,000. In addition to this, the state match was \$29,400 larger than expected. Mr. Ivimey went on to explain that at the end of the year, the CPC would have over \$200,000 in the bank. With this in mind, the CPC would like to recommend the following at the special town meeting: First, \$25,000 to allow the Town Clerk to preserve old records, some dating back to 1700, by having them scanned and archived. Secondly, Merle Brown of the Beechwood Ball Park Committee joined Mr. Ivimey in front of the Board. Mr. Brown explained that they have \$300,000 from the CPC already for the rebuilding of the Ball Park, but the bids that came in were much higher. The Ball Park Committee has made great efforts to raise additional funds, but has not had much success. Mr. Ivimey then stated that the CPC would like to go before town meeting to ask for an additional \$300,000 to go toward rebuilding the Ball Park for the Committee. The third item the CPC recommended was funds to go toward a Village Planner in the amount of \$15,000. **Selectman Vanderweil moved to support all three CPC recommendations, Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

Articles 22-27 – Zoning – Village Business District

Attorney Henderson addressed the Board and reviewed the statistics he compiled for the Board. He stated that he had reviewed all of the lots in the Village district and that of the 50 lots in the village, only three (3) of the lots comply with the 40,000 square foot Bylaw that currently exists. That means that 94% of the existing lots do not comply. Attorney Henderson went on to say that he feels the current Bylaws do not protect the Town, and that if the Board supported these, it would provide a safety valve for the Town. He then stated that he also referred to Liz Harrington's proposal (the Town's prior planner), and in it she thought that the village could support 40 additional apartments and that it would be helpful in terms of low income / elderly housing. Selectman Vanderweil stated that he

felt it would be best to wait on recommending these until after the village planner does the study. Chairman Dormitzer then suggested that the Board recommend the other three articles, which are basically setting up the district, and hold off on the two that address dimensional requirement changes until after the study is done. **Selectman Carr voted to recommend Articles 23, 24 and 26, Selectman Vanderweil seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous. Selectman Vanderweil then made a motion to not recommend Articles 25 and 27. Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

Article 15 – Second Hand Articles Bylaw

Mr. Griffin explained that Chief Hussey had worked with local merchants, and after reviewing the language of the article, the merchants asked that two parts of the proposed article be removed. The Chief was more than happy to comply as the language had come from another Town, and it really did not change the article. **Selectman Vanderweil moved to rescind the Board's endorsement of the previous article as written, Selectman Carr seconded, and the vote was unanimous. Selectman Vanderweil then moved to support Article 15 as amended, Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

Article 18 – Village Planner

Selectman Vanderweil moved to recommend that \$15,000 be appropriated to hire a Village Planner. Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Article 21 – Zoning SMROD (revised version)

The Board reviewed the language change to this existing Bylaw that would allow the owner's of the property to have guests under the age of 55 for extended periods of time. **Selectman Vanderweil moved to support the amendments to the existing SMROD Bylaw, Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

Article 3 – Capital Budget (School Computers)

The Board held a brief discussion about the issue of the schools and their request for \$100,000 to upgrade and replace their computers. Chairman Dormitzer explained that there had been a lot of correspondence about this matter and that they now had a request from the schools for 35 new computers with software, for an amount of \$34,563. Selectman Vanderweil stated that he thought this was a very reasonable request. Chairman Dormitzer stated that the schools had asked if the Town would pick up half of the cost. Chairman Dormitzer stated that he had sent an email to Steve Fusco of the School Committee to see if they would be willing to put half of the funds towards the computers with the Town funding the other half and he has yet to receive a response. He stated that at this point, they were at an impasse. He did state that he hoped that the schools would hold off on purchasing the new computers until the first of the year as the new software program, "Vista", would be coming out.

Selectman Vanderweil then moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph S. Dormitzer
Chairman