

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

Others Present: William Griffin, Town Manager
Jennifer Oram, Recording Secretary
Robert Silvia, Acting Fire Chief

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

Town Manager’s Report

Town Manager, William Griffin, addressed the Board and the Community and announced that he had appointed Robert Silvia of Cohasset to the position of Fire Chief. Mr. Griffin stated that Mr. Silvia did an excellent job during the interview process. A selection team was used to interview the final 4 candidates. After two rounds of interviews, the selection team’s decision to appoint Mr. Silvia was unanimous. Chairman Dormitzer stated that he was delighted that Mr. Silvia was the chosen candidate. Selectman Robert Spofford said that he felt it was a great day for Cohasset and that Mr. Silvia was a terrific choice. **Selectman Spofford moved to waive the fifteen-day waiting period. Selectman Koed seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

Chief Silvia then addressed the Board and thanked them for the opportunity. He stated that he was very thankful to have had Chief Roger Lincoln as his training officer, and that filling Chief Lincoln’s shoes would be a difficult task. He thanked the Board and Mr. Griffin for the appointment, to which the audience responded with a large round of applause.

Mr. Griffin then announced that the Town was one of eight communities in Massachusetts to be awarded a Smart Growth grant in the amount of \$225,000. The funds will be used to construct a sidewalk from the MBTA station on Route 3A, and then to Laugelle Lane on King Street. Mr. Griffin stated that Mr. Tom Gruber and Mr. Mark Brennan of the Cohasset Greenbush Team, deserve the credit for writing and receiving this grant award.

Finally, Mr. Griffin stated that bids were due on the Border Street seawall reconstruction project by January 5, 2007, with construction hopefully beginning by February 5, 2007.

Selectmen Comment Period

Selectman Spofford announced that he would not be seeking reelection to the Board in the spring. He stated that serving the Town had been an honor, as well as exhilarating and challenging.

Chairman Dormitzer gave each of the Board members, as well as Mr. Griffin, a copy of the book Savor of Salt. The book is a collection of historic stories about the Town.

Chairman Dormitzer stated that School Committee member, Adrienne McCarthy, had asked him to have two members of the Selectmen join two members of the School Committee to act as a focus committee for the purposes of the school budget. Chairman Dormitzer said that he was concerned about dividing the views of the Board as he feels there should be a commonality in their view. Selectman Spofford stated that he talked with Rick Flynn of the School Committee, and that Selectman Spofford felt that the purpose of the meeting was to open up a dialogue between the Board and the School Committee, but on a smaller level. Selectman Vanderweil stated that he felt a meeting like this would not allow for creative input, and therefore he did not see the point of it. He went on to say that he would like to see the schools present the Board and the community a base budget that is balanced. After further discussion, it was decided that Selectman Spofford and Chairman Dormitzer would be attending the meeting, as they are the liaisons to the schools. The meeting will be posted as an open meeting; so more than two Selectmen can attend. Selectman Koed stated that he felt that this meeting could be good for brainstorming and that he thought it was good that two Selectmen would be in attendance.

Chairman Dormitzer informed the Board and the community that the MBTA had sent a letter asking for input from the Town about the idea of late train service. Selectman Spofford suggested the Greenbush Team come in and update the Board on this and other progress in regard to the Greenbush line.

Chairman Dormitzer also asked the Board for any input they may have on the charge he wrote about reinstating the Technology Committee. Selectman Vanderweil stated that he thought the charge was good and that it should be adopted as written. All of the Board agreed and the piece was adopted as the charge.

Bond Signing

Selectman Spofford moved that the Board vote to authorize the sale of a Ban (Bond Anticipation Note). Selectman Vanderweil seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Fire Department Fees

Fire Chief Robert Silvia and Captain Trask, the Fire Safety Officer, came before the Board to review the current fees the Fire Department charges. Captain Silvia explained that state law allows the fire chief to raise any fee to as high as \$50.00. The Board reviewed some of the seventy fees that the department charges and their current rates. Chairman Dormitzer suggested they look at each of the items and make a decision as to what the fees should be. Selectman Vanderweil suggested that all of the fees be \$50.00. Chief Silvia and Captain Trask agreed to review each fee and to come back before the Board with their recommendations. At the end of this presentation, Captain Trask thanked the Board and Mr. Griffin for the opportunity to interview for the position of Fire Chief. He said that although he was personally disappointed, he is very happy that they appointed Captain Silvia to the position.

Hydrant Parking Violation Fine

Police Chief James Hussey addressed the Board about the new parking tickets that would be going to print. The Chief suggested that the fine for blocking a hydrant go from the current \$25.00 to \$50.00. **Selectman Carr moved the fine for blocking a hydrant be increased to \$50.00. Selectman Koed seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

John Small – Proposed Display at Town Landing

Cohasset Police Officer, John Small, came before the Board to propose a new display that would be located at the Town Landing. Officer Small explained what the display would look like and its location. Selectman Vanderweil stated that he would like to take a look at the location before he agreed to a proposal. Members of the Board asked what the display would represent, and Officer Small explained that currently, his idea was to make the area look better. He stated that he would try to come up with some historic tie and come back before the Board with a more detailed proposal. The Board thanked Officer Small for coming in.

Licenses & Permits

Mr. Griffin informed the Board that both the Red Lion Inn and the George H. Mealy Post had satisfied the requirements of the Fire Department, and could now have their liquor licenses renewal voted on by the Board. **Selectman Koed moved to approve the licenses. Selectman Koed seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

Selectman Carr moved to approve Common Victualler's Licenses for Cohasset Donuts LLC., H& I Donuts, Cohasset News, French Memories, Par-Tee, Henry's Root beer and Starbucks Coffee. Selectman Koed seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Selectman Carr moved to approve Entertainment licenses for Papa Gino’s and Par-Tee. Selectman Vanderweil seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

The Board then reviewed the updated version of the “Rules Governing Issuance of Special Liquor Licenses”. **Selectman Vanderweil moved to approve the rules as updated. Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

Minutes Approval

Selectman Vanderweil moved to approve the minutes of November 20, 2006. Selectman Spofford seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Town Manager, William Griffin, asked the Board to make a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:30 PM for the purposes of strategizing collective bargaining.

Selectman Vanderweil made a motion to go into Executive Session. Selectman Robert Spofford seconded the motion.

Vote 5 – 0 in favor, none opposed.

**Selectman Carr – Aye
Selectman Spofford – Aye
Selectman Vanderweil - Aye
Selectman Koed – Aye
Chairman Dormitzer - Aye**

Meeting adjourned at 9PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph R. Dormitzer
Chairman