

Selectmen's Meeting
January 11, 2010
4:00 pm

A meeting of the Board was held on the above date in the Fred B Morgan Jr. Meeting Room, Town Hall. Members present were Michael Donaroma, Chairman; Margaret Serpa; & Arthur Smadbeck. Also present was Town Administrator, Pamela Dolby.

At 4:00 pm Mr. Donaroma opened the floor to Ms. Lisa Dickinson, Senior VP of Fiscal Advisory Services Manager at Unibank, and Ms. Sharon Willoughby, Town Treasurer. They were in to report on the refinancing of certain bonds of the Wastewater and Water Departments.

Ms. Serpa stated that she was very happy with the interest rates on the bonds.

Ms. Dickinson stated that the Town has strong management levels and policies and that she is happy with the new financial policies put into place.

Mr. Smadbeck moved to approve the bonds. Ms. Serpa seconded. Unanimous.

At 4:05pm Mr. Donaroma opened the annual merit evaluation for Ms. Gail Avakian, part time secretary for the Selectmen's Office.

Ms. Serpa stated that Ms. Avakian was a great asset to the Town with her years of experience.

Ms. Dolby stated that Ms. Avakian helps in every department and handled the recent tax lot sales.

Ms. Serpa moved to give a favorable review to Ms. Avakian. Mr. Smadbeck seconded. Unanimous.

At 4:10pm Mr. Donaroma opened the floor to Mr. Dudley Levick and Mr. William Bassett, both from the Byways Committee.

Mr. Levick gave a brief history of Henry's Path and Old Meschacket Rd. Abutters have impeded both of these ancient byways and the Byway's Committee would like permission to obtain a legal opinion of the Town's interest in them.

Ms. Serpa was concerned about the balance in the Legal Fund.

Ms. Dolby suggested that Mr. Levick get together all of his historic documentation so that the Town Counsel would not have to redo that work.

Mr. Levick stated that he had a lot of documentation including a map from 1690 and would be happy to share if that meant they could obtain a legal opinion.

Ms. Serpa moved to approve the Byways Committee to seek a legal opinion from Town Counsel. Mr. Smadbeck seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Levick then brought up the issue of maintenance of the ancient byways. The Martha's Vineyard Land Bank will maintain them for free. They just need an agreement from the town.

Mr. Bill Veno from the Martha's Vineyard Commission was present and passed out a sample agreement from other towns.

It was agreed that Ms. Dolby would contact Ms. Hill at the MV Land Bank about writing up an agreement.

At 4:20pm Mr. Donaroma read aloud a letter of retirement from Police Chief Paul Condlin. It stated that he would be retiring in August and he anticipated Lt. Bettencourt to take over as Chief. Chief Condlin was present and joined by his wife. Also present was Lieutenant Tony Bettencourt.

Mr. Condlin thanked his wife for her understanding and support through the years and the Selectmen for their support. He also stated that he would be available through the transition time and into the future for any assistance he could render.

Mr. Smadbeck stated that he was present when Mr. Condlin was appointed and it had been an honor and pleasure to work with him. He was looking forward to working with Lt. Bettencourt when he became Chief.

Mr. Donaroma accepted the offer of assistance in the transition.

Ms. Serpa stated that Mr. Condlin had earned his retirement.

The Board then approved the following items:

The minutes of December 14, 2009.

Travel vouchers for the Fire Department, Wastewater Department, and the Police Department.

Sign the Harbormaster Warrants.

To appoint Mark Hess to the Edgartown Affordable Housing Committee.

To approve money transfers for the Dredge Department.

The Board accepted a petition for an article to raise money for the Library for the April Town Meeting Warrant.

The Board rejected a petition for an article to make the Shellfish Warden an elected position because it was handed in late and was also illegal article.

Ms. Serpa moved to adjourn at 4:30 pm. Mr. Smadbeck seconded. Unanimous.

Approved:

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Rose
Assistant

Michael J. Donaroma, Chairman

Margaret E. Serpa

Arthur Smadbeck
Board of Selectmen

January 11, 2010