

**TOWN OF WEBSTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
DON BOURQUE, CHAIRMAN
DEBORAH KEEFE, VICE CHAIRMAN
JEFFREY DUGGAN
MARK DOWGIEWICZ
ROBERT MILLER**

A Board of Selectmen's meeting was held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at the Town Hall on Monday, September 24, 2012. Chairman Bourque called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Attendance: Robert Miller, Mark Dowgiewicz, Jeffrey Duggan, Don Bourque

Absent: Selectman Keefe (arrived later in the meeting)

Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Bourque led the Selectmen in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: made by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Dowgiewicz to approve the meeting minutes of September 10, 2012.

Vote: Mr. Miller – yes, Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Mr. Duggan – yes, Chairman Bourque – yes.

Motion: made by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Dowgiewicz to approve the Executive Session meeting minutes of September 10, 2012.

Vote: Mr. Miller – yes, Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Mr. Duggan – abstain, Chairman Bourque – yes.

David D'Alessandro & Mike Grendell – Discussion of 3rd Annual Thunder on Webster Lake

Mike Grendell and David D'Alessandro came forward. Mr. Grendell thanked the Board of Selectmen for letting them hold the 2nd Annual Thunder on Webster Lake. He stated they had a bigger crowd than last year. Selectman Dowgiewicz asked how many people attended the event this year. Mr. Grendell stated they had around 5,000 people attend. Selectman Dowgiewicz asked if the beer tent was profitable. Mr. Grendell stated it went very well. Selectman Miller stated he did hear a couple of complaints. He stated residents complained about paying a fee to get into the beach and the dogs that were running around. Chairman Bourque stated he also received complaints regarding animals at the beach. He said this would need to be addressed before the event. Selectman Dowgiewicz stated he would like to keep the cost down and make it affordable for families to attend. Chairman Bourque stated he would like to look at not charging a fee if they have a beach sticker for next year's event. Selectman Dowgiewicz asked what date they were looking to hold the event next year. Mr. Grendell stated he would like to hold the event the weekend before Labor Day weekend. Mr. McAuliffe stated the week before Labor Day weekend does not cause a conflict since the last three years in a row the beach has closed the third week of August due to the lifeguards going back to school. Kenny Pizzetti stated he usually doesn't plan anything this far in advance. He can't determine whether there will be a conflict or not this far away from the date. He suggested the Board wait to approve a date until the event gets closer. Mr. Grendell stated the tentative schedule comes out in November. Chairman Bourque asked if the Board could pencil the event in to the schedule. Selectman Miller stated the Board can vote to give them a tentative date.

Motion: made by Selectman Dowgiewicz, seconded by Selectman Miller to tentatively approve the 3rd Annual "Thunder on Webster Lake" for August 31, 2012 and September 1, 2013.

Vote: Mr. Miller – yes, Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Mr. Duggan – abstain, Chairman Bourque – yes.

Selectman Keefe arrived to the meeting.

Harrington Hospital – Webster Site Update

Ed Moore stated Harrington Hospital is in campaign mode. He stated they have raised over seven thousand dollars for the proposed new emergency room. He stated the new emergency room for the Webster site will cost an estimated eight million dollars. He stated the new emergency room

will be on the opposite side of the building from where it is currently located. He stated he is making a passionate plea for donations. He stated on October 14, 2012, Indian Ranch will be holding a Wine, Beer and Chocolate event in which the proceeds will go towards the new emergency room. He stated this is a great opportunity for the Town of Webster and he doesn't want the project to stall. Selectman Miller stated the emergency room has not been updated since it had been built. He stated the emergency room needs to get updated. Mr. Moore stated people can donate through the website at Harringtonhospital.com. Selectman Dowgiewicz asked how many patients use the emergency room each year. Mr. Moore stated around one thousand people. He stated Webster's emergency room has a very fast turn around. Chairman Bourque thanked Mr. Moore for coming.

WLA Update from Golf Tournament

Karen McDonald and Antoinette Debosz came forward. Ms. Debosz thanked everyone who attended the event. She stated they had over 50 volunteers that helped out. She stated they raised over \$23,000 of which they intend to use for weed treatment. She stated the Webster Lake Association spent over \$156,000 on weed treatment this year.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. McAuliffe stated the Annual Town Meeting Warrant was ready for the Board's approval. He handed out a spreadsheet with each article as a line item. He stated they took the Bay Path funding article off. He stated that if the Bay Path project does pass, the Town will need to vote a prop 2 ½ to fund the project. He stated declaring the old animal shelter as surplus was also added to the Warrant. Selectman Dowgiewicz asked Mr. McAuliffe how the Town would sell that property. Mr. McAuliffe stated the sale would go through a bid process. He stated the Board will go over the full Warrant later on in the meeting.

He stated he had a meeting with Nancy Lorenczykoba regarding the creation of the 2013 Fireworks Committee. He stated the committee is seeking interested members. He stated they are also looking for fundraising ideas.

He stated he attended the Police Building Committee Meeting.

He stated the Police Fire Building Committee is presenting the site plans to the Conservation Commission that night. He stated with an approval from the commission they will be able to move forward.

He stated he attended a meeting to discuss the repairs and maintenance to the Civil War Monument.

He stated he had a meeting with Jean Travis and a representative from the Salvation Army. He stated through the efforts of Mrs. Travis, the Salvation Army will be providing Fuel Assistance in the Town of Webster and the neighboring communities.

He stated he has been working on a proposed Nuisance Property By-Law. He stated it is still being worked on and would like to hold off until the May Town Meeting to put in on the warrant.

He stated he had a need for Executive Session.

Motion: made by Selectman Dowgiewicz, seconded by Selectman Miller to approve the Town Administrator's Report

Vote: Mr. Miller – yes, Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Mr. Duggan – yes, Ms. Keefe – yes, Chairman Bourque – yes.

Old Business

Chairman Bourque stated the Board was looking to reschedule the Beach/Compost Sticker Workshop. Selectman Keefe stated she would like to get some specific dates from Ruby of when she is available because she is the main person the Board would like to attend.

Chairman Bourque stated the Board has not received any letters of interest for the CMRPC Delegate position. Selectman Keefe stated the Board needs to start soliciting for candidates.

Chairman Bourque stated the meetings are held at 4:00 p.m. and might be hard to attend for people at that time.

Joseph Laplante came forward. He stated the Civil War Monument is in need of repairs. He stated he has been working closely with the Town Administrator on getting these repairs done. He stated he received an estimate from Bruce Lane who will do the work for twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000.00). He stated the Town would have to provide the staging and a crane. Selectman Miller asked if this was the same gentleman that did the restoration years ago. Mr. LaPlante stated Yes. Mr. McAuliffe stated is as a priority. He stated this repair is a specialty repair and they are looking at obtaining three quotes. Chairman Bourque asked if they can have this fixed before the winter weather comes. Mr. McAuliffe stated Yes. Selectman Keefe asked if the Board can declare this an emergency because it sounds as though there is a safety issue. Mr. McAuliffe stated he would like to continue going down this path and not declare it as an emergency issue. He stated they could start work right after the Town Meeting.

Mr. McAuliffe stated the Town is developing internal guidelines for the Senior Work-Off Program. He passed out a draft policy for the Board's review. Selectman Keefe asked to have this on the next agenda so that the Board could review the policy.

New Business

Selectman Duggan recused himself.

J.T. Gaucher and Kenny Pizzetti came forward. Mr. Gaucher stated he received a request from one of the Selectman asking about digging on the newly completed construction on RT 16. He stated the five year contract only covers State maintained roads/highways. He stated they follow Webster's Open Road Policy. He stated these businesses have all gotten approval from the Planning Board. Mr. Pizzetti stated Galaxy (new Price Chopper site) is not digging in that intersection. He stated they are doing the sidewalks and pushed the fence out into the road. He stated he will ask Galaxy to push them back. Selectman Keefe asked Mr. Gaucher if he knew why there was a large pile of road grindings in the parking lot next to Talk of the Town. Mr. Gaucher stated he would look into it. Selectman Miller asked for an update on the parking lot next to Dunkin Donuts on School Street. Mr. Gaucher stated this was an Office of Community Development Project but will get an update for the Board.

Selectman Duggan returned to the meeting.

Chairman Bourque stated Almac Motor Sales sent in a letter requesting to add another person to their license.

Motion: made by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Keefe to amend the Class II License for Almac Motor Sales to add David McCann.

Vote: Mr. Miller – yes, Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Mr. Duggan – abstain, Ms. Keefe – yes, Chairman Bourque – yes.

Mr. Dowgiewicz stated he asked to have a topic put on the agenda. He stated he would like to send a letter out to landlords and homeowners about them knowing the people they are renting apartments to. He stated the Town should suggest doing background checks. He stated the Town has a lot of nuisance properties. He said most of these nuisance properties are habitual criminal offenders. He stated landlords that house habitual offenders should be brought before the Board and get fined. He stated the Board should apply to the Legislature to enact a by-law (ordinance) to assess fines. He stated property owners should be held responsible for their tenants. He stated hopefully they can find common ground. He stated he would also like to start a tip line for neighbors to report abnormal activity. He stated the Town is making strides with a good school system, infrastructure and a new police station. He stated the Town is above the national average for crime. He stated there are weapons in the community and the Town needs to step in and correct the problem. He stated McDonalds has problems everyday. He stated it is imperative that the Town hire three more police officers to do community policing on Main Street. He stated the Town is getting scary. He stated the Town will have bigger issues if the Town doesn't get more support. Selectman Miller stated Selectman Dowgiewicz is one hundred percent correct. He stated the violent crimes have escalated. He stated the Town is not what is used to be. Selectman Dowgiewicz stated absentee landlords do not care who they are renting to. Mr. McAuliffe stated the Town has a very busy Police Department that does a great job. He stated landlords are very hands off and it is too easy to slide into the Town and get lost. Selectman Dowgiewicz stated people are going to start leaving the Town. He stated we need police officers to concentrate on

this area. Selectman Keefe stated she would like to check with legal counsel to make sure the Town has a legal right to put a notice in the property tax bills regarding who landlords are renting to. Mr. McAuliffe stated the Town would need to hold a Special Election for a Prop 2 ½ override to fund three (3) police officers. He stated it would not affect the property tax rate that much. Selectman Dowgiewicz stated people would know when voting exactly what the roles of these new police officers would be. He asked Mr. McAuliffe to get the approximate cost to hire three new police officers.

Mr. McAuliffe handed out the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. He stated there are no big changes to the warrant. He stated Town Counsel did water down the Hawkers and Peddlers' License By-Law.

Motion: made by Selectman Duggan, seconded by Selectman Dowgiewicz to recommend approval of Articles 1 through 18 of the October Town Meeting Warrant.

Vote: Mr. Miller – yes, Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Mr. Duggan – yes, Ms. Keefe – yes, Chairman Bourque – yes.

Motion: made by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Dowgiewicz to recommend “Refer to Sponsor” for Article 19 through Article 23.

Vote: Mr. Miller – yes, Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Mr. Duggan – yes, Ms. Keefe – yes, Chairman Bourque – yes.

Informational Mail

Chairman Bourque stated the Library was holding a welcome party for Amanda, the new Library Director at the Library.

Other Business Unknown at the Time of Posting

Selectman Miller asked if Rich Rainey is still having trouble with the Access Channel. He stated he received a call regarding the buzzing noise that can be heard during meetings. Chairman Bourque stated he watched the meeting and did not hear any buzzing. He stated the issue is with Charter.

Adjournment

Chairman Bourque adjourned the meeting to Executive Session at 8:57 P.M. in accordance with MGL Chapter 39, Section 23b, Item 3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation, in an open meeting.

Motion: to go into Executive Session and not go back into open session made by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Dowgiewicz.

Vote: Mr. Miller – yes, Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Mr. Duggan – yes, Ms. Keefe – yes, Chairman Bourque – yes.

Respectfully Submitted,
Courtney Friedland