

**Board of Selectmen
Minutes
June 30, 2009
Whately Elementary School
7:00 p.m.**

Selectman, Jonathan Edwards called the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Whately to order on Tuesday, June 30, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Selectmen Paul Newlin and Joyce Palmer Fortune, Town Administrator/Town Clerk Lynn Sibley, and Municipal Secretary Barbara Hancock. Members of the Energy Committee, Lynn DiTullio, Gary Grybko and Nat Fortune were also present. Jonathan and Paul voted to approve the minutes from the June 8th meeting, as written. The vendor and payroll warrants were reviewed and signed.

Board Reorganized – Paul Newlin nominated Jonathan Edwards as Chair, Joyce Palmer Fortune seconded. Jonathan Edwards nominated Joyce Palmer Fortune as Clerk, Paul Newlin seconded.

Town Administrator, Lynn Sibley: Budget Update – The Governor has signed the FY10 state budget. As a result, Whately's town budget is balanced as written. The final version of the State's budget lowered some assessments for Whately and increased some revenues. In other financial matters, another STM will need to be scheduled before Whately sets its tax rate (usually done by Sept) to lower the amount of money previously voted to replace the school's roof. The original amount of \$240,000 for a new asphalt roof may be reduced to \$150,000 for a metal roof. And the original amount voted for the Quinn Bill for FY10 must be lowered to the amount equal to the Town's contribution plus the lowered Massachusetts contribution because the state is not funding their entire portion of the Quinn Bill for FY10. **Pension Reform** – A new set of limitations on qualifications for the state and government pension funds will go into effect July 1. There will be no pension credit for positions that don't actually qualify as a serviceable position. Positions must earn more than \$5,000 annually. The 'termination allowance' and a year's credit for one day's service were also eliminated. **Senior Center** – Apparently Deerfield voted down the Senior Center Director's salary at their annual town meeting recently. Whately votes a lump sum toward the Whately Council on Aging and they contribute toward the Senior Center out of those funds. There was a discussion as to whether Whately could establish a meeting space in town for Whately seniors to meet. Lynn is scheduled to meet with Sunderland's Town Administrator Margaret Nartowicz, Council on Aging Chair Marion Markwell and Whately Council on Aging members Barbara Banik, Chair and Virginia Allis on Tuesday, July 7th to discuss the situation. Whately has not received notification from Deerfield regarding their vote or plans for the Center's future. According to the Senior Center Director, her salary is paid in large part by grants. It appears that Deerfield has enlisted a volunteer Director who has been working in the Center on Tuesday and Thursday's, when the Center is closed. **Snowmobile Club** – The Club wrote to thank the Select Board for allowing them to hold their meetings in the community room at the Town Hall last year and requested permission to use the room again this year for their monthly meetings on the second Monday, September – April at 7pm. The Board approved.

Whately Library Donation – The Library Trustees sent a thank you note to Lynn and the Selectmen for their donation to the Library in memory of Christine Moulton. **Pasiecznik**

Complaint – An anonymous letter was sent to the Selectmen complaining about Mr. Pasiecznik selling hot dogs and such from his vegetable and ice cream stand on River Rd. The building inspector notified Mr. Pasiecznik that such food sales were not permitted and instructed him to stop selling hot dogs. Mr. Pasiecznik contacted Lynn in response to the building inspector's letter and he was instructed to appeal the building inspector's decision to the ZBA.

7:15 John Ramsey, Western Mass Regional Library System

Mr. Ramsey appeared before the Board to request permission to hold a fundraiser road race. Friends of the WMRLS would like to hold the benefit road race on Saturday, Oct 3 to raise funds for the WMRLS, which provides services to over 300 libraries in the four county area. The race route would begin at the WMRLS parking lot in the Industrial Park and continue onto Long Plain Rd to Christian Lane, turn around at the Superintendent's Office and return along the same route. The Fire Chief, Police Chief, and Highway Superintendent have been contacted regarding the race and have not reported any concerns. The Board granted permission for the event.

Town Clerk, Lynn Sibley: Elections – There was a low voter turnout for the June 9th Town Elections (approx 120 voters) but otherwise went well. Fred Orloski has accepted the Assessor's position after receiving the highest number of write-in votes. **Dog Licenses** – Nineteen dog owners, totaling 27 dogs, remain unlicensed. The late fee will increase from \$25 to \$50 July 15th.

Highway Department: Keith Bardwell, Superintendent – Haydenville Rd. – Still scheduled to go out to bid in October. **Long Plain Rd** – Notification has been sent to two residents regarding takings.

New Business

Fuel Bids – The Selectmen voted to award the FY10 fuel suppliers to the lower bidders, as follows:

Kieras Oil will supply Fuel Oil and Diesel at .145 per gallon markup, Osterman Propane will supply propane at .45 gallon over Selkirk, and FL Roberts will supply regular gasoline at .1489 per gallon markup.

CTY – Lynn has received the contract for the CTY public broadcasting system but has not had a chance to have Counsel review.

Town Hall Structural Assessment – The Town Buildings budget will not have enough left to pay for the structural assessment. There were also some issues with the contract the structural engineer submitted. Lynn DiTullio offered to provide names of other structural engineers. Without a contract in place, we will not be able to encumber the funds from this year so we will need to use FY10 funds. Lynn will contact other engineers.

CPA Coalition has proposed changes for the Community Preservation Act to the legislature including new ways of raising CPA funds to sustain 75% payout and making projects at recreational facilities not created using CPA funds eligible. The Coalition will be looking for support when the Senate takes up the bill.

Wendell Letter Regarding Biomass – Wendell sent the Board a copy of their letter to the Governor supporting biomass facilities. The Board decided not to respond or lend any support.

FrCOG Summary Report Re: Franklin County Public School Program – The summary outlined proposed projects based on the study and requests feedback from the Town as to whether Whately would like FrCOG to remain involved and to what extent. The Selectmen plan

to review the summary and discuss it at their next meeting. Complete regionalization of K-12 may cost the Town more money because elementary school teachers would be under the same contract as the Frontier teachers, which would raise their salaries. Also, the state may mandate regionalization and then raise educational standards without additional funding expecting the towns to be benefiting from savings by regionalizing.

8 pm Roland Butzke, Siemens Building Technologies

Energy Committee members present: Lynn DiTullio, Nat Fortune, Gary Grybko and Jonathan Edwards

Mr. Butzke appeared before the Board to explain inconsistencies and errors in the preliminary energy audit he performed for the Town in April. He disbursed an amended audit report. There were errors in information but the benchmarks were accurate. The inconsistency regarding benchmark findings at the elementary school may largely be based on differences in the buildings square footage readings and inflated efficiencies due to improperly functioning equipment. The discussion focused on the HVAC system at the elementary school. The system is not working properly and requires manual manipulation and is not drawing in adequate outside air. Once the system is working properly, energy costs will likely rise. The higher energy costs would be the starting point to figure energy savings through the audit. If viable, photovoltaics would be another larger project the Town may want to consider. Through a PPA program the Town would contract to buy the electricity back through Siemens for a locked in price, currently 13½¢, for 30 years after which time the system would be owned by the Town. If the Town chooses to proceed to the next step, an investment grade audit would be done. The Town would be financially responsible for economically viable and functional projects at that point.

US Census – Whately will not participate in the Partner Support Program, which has towns working with the US Census to compile their information.

Clean Energy Choice – Whately has earned \$343 in the matching funds program, ending June 30th, through individuals contributing to wind farms. The money could be used for outreach or teacher training or solar.

Comcast – Received notification of another lineup change.

Hazardous Mitigation Grant is available again. Whately will submit an application for work in the Williamsburg Rd area with the help of Northampton, same as last year's application.

Annual Appointments - The Selectmen voted appointments with the exception of positions up for contract renewal. List attached.

There being no further business to come before this meeting, it was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Joyce Palmer Fortune, Clerk

SELECTMEN'S APPOINTMENTS
June 30, 2009 – for FY10

Position	Term	Incumbent
Town Administrator	hold to review contract	Lynn Sibley
Municipal Secretary	one year	Barbara Hancock
Town Accountant	Hold -By contract	FRCOG – Joyce Muka
Town Treasurer/Collector	one year	Susan Warriner
Town Counsel	one year *review in 6 months	Kopelman & Paige
Superintendent of Streets/Tree warden	one year	Keith Bardwell
Keeper of the Pound	one year	Daniel Denehy, Jr.
Police Chief	hold to review 3 year contract	James Sevine, Jr. (Contract to July 2009)
Full Time Officers	hold to review 1 year contract	Donald Bates (Contract to July 2009)
Special Police Officers	one year	James Purcell Marc Bryden Randall Williams Heath Cummings James Bernier Paul Herbert Thomas Clark Jeffrey Baker, Court officer Scott Hutkoski Robert Warger Edwin Zaniewski
Fire Chief	one year *review in 6 months	John Hannum
Emergency Management Director	one year	Lynn Sibley
Asst. Emergency Management Director	one year	Alan Sanderson, Jr.
Animal Control Officer	one year	Richard Adamcek

SELECTMEN'S APPOINTMENTS

June 30, 2009 – for FY10

<u>Position</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>
Assistant Animal Control Officer	one year	Presently okay to be vacant
Hazardous Waste Coordinator	one year	William Obear
FCSWMD Representative	one year	Ronnie Williams
Municipal Right to Know Coordinator	one year	John Hannum
Franklin County Cooperative Building Inspector	one year	Jim Hawkins, Building Comm. James Cerone – Building Insp
Wiring Inspector	one year	James Slowinski, Wiring Insp. Robert Graves, Alternate
Plumbing Inspector	one year	Andrew French, Plumbing/Gas Dale Descavich, Alternate
Weights & Measurers	one year	Lyndon L. Scott Alan Sanderson, Sr. Auction - Janet Land Robert Warner Kim Reardon John Payne Samantha Warner
Fence Viewer & Field Driver	one year	Ai S. Annis, Jr. David Chamutka Richard Adamcek Vacancy
Veterans Agent	one year	Leo Parent
Veterans Graves Officer	one year	Raymond Billiel
Representative to Central FC Veterans District	one year	Donald Sluter
ADA Coordinator	one year	Lynn Sibley

SELECTMEN'S APPOINTMENTS

June 30, 2009 – for FY10

<u>Position</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>
BOARDS AND COMMITTEES		
Registrars of Voters	3 years	Nikki Ciesluk
Zoning Board of Appeals	3 year 1 year 1 year	Roger Lipton Fred Orloski Vacant
Conservation Commission	3 years	Patricia Devine
Tri-Town Beach Committee	3 years	Vacant
Recreation Commission	1 year	Nicole Ciesluk Robert Englehardt Charles DeForest Carrie Fydenkevez Fred Warren Jamie Vielmettie Todd Jarvis
Historical Commission	3 years	Howard Nenner Blaire Robey
Cultural Council	3 years	Francis Symanski Ramsay Klaff Julie Sanderson Nat Fortune Shirley Pielock
Council on Aging	3 years	Blanche Wojtkielewicz Vacancy – exp 2009 Vacancy – exp 2010
Capital Improvement Planning Comm.	1 year	Jonathan Edwards
Personnel Committee	1 year	Paul Newlin
REPC	1 year	Lynn Sibley
Franklin Regional Council of Governments Rep.	1 year	Lynn Sibley

SELECTMEN'S APPOINTMENTS

June 30, 2009 – for FY10

<u>Position</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>
Energy Committee	1 year	Jonathan Edwards Lynn DiTullio Nathanael Fortune Gary Grybko
Implementation Committee	1 year	Vacant Kay Klippel Rebecca Jones Paul Newlin Mary Shanley Koeber
Agricultural Commission	3 year	Margaret Christie
FRTA	Hold to ask	Fred Bardwell