

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES

May 23, 2007

Board met in Regular Session in their meeting room in Abbot Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Present (constituting a quorum):

Harry C. Christensen, Jr., Chairman
Jackie Belf-Becker
Judith R. Jacobi
James E. Nye

MINUTES. Motion made and seconded to approve the Minutes of May 16, 2007. All in favor.

VETERANS' AGENT. David Rodger, Veterans' Agent, appeared before the Board to announce the Memorial Day Weekend schedule which is as follows: Saturday, May 26th, 9 a.m. – Grave flagging at Waterside Cemetery. Sunday, May 27th, 9 a.m. – Veterans' Mass at the Star of the Sea Church. 1 p.m. – Veterans' service at the Star of the Sea Cemetery. Monday, May 28, 8 a.m. Memorial Day, 8 a.m. – Clark Landing Service and 9 am. Main parade begins. The public is invited to attend all ceremonies.

LICENSE. Common Victualer. Kulwant Jhikka, Manager of Zaika Restaurant at 161 Pleasant Street, appeared before the Board seeking the addition of outdoor seating of 4 small tables and 8 chairs on his current Common Victualer License. Food and nonalcoholic drinks will be served ... no alcoholic beverages. Motion made and seconded to approve this request. All in favor.

LOBSTER CONSERVANCY. Mitch Wondolowski of the Lobster Conservancy appeared before the Board to inform the Selectmen of their work which consists of monitoring the many lobster nursery habitats along the New England Coast. Such a nursery exists off Gerry Island in Marblehead.

CABLE TV OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE. Paul Rabin, Chairman of the Cable TV Oversight Committee appeared before the Board. A discussion was held as it relates to the possibility of Verizon entering the video business in Marblehead. The current bill before the Legislature is seeking to strip local authorities of issuing cable TV and video licenses, and instead having it go to the State level. Jason Whittet of Comcast accompanied Mr. Rabin during this discussion. There is a hearing on June 5th at the State

House on this bill. Motion made and seconded that we oppose the submitted legislation because it would strip us of our local licensing authority. All in favor.

The Town's current license with Comcast is due to expire in three years. As the negotiations for a new contract are a three-year process, work on this will start in the very near future.

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE: Nick Freeman, Walt Haug, Richard Harrison and Diane St. Laurent of the Open Space Committee appeared before the Board. The Committee presented their guidelines for recommending the purchase of open space to the Town. They are also currently working on an Open Space Plan.

SIGN CULLER. John Read, the current Sign Culler for the Town, appeared before the Board requesting to be paid for his volunteer position. No action was taken.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT. Parking Restrictions. Dana Snow, DPW Director, appeared before the Board seeking temporary parking restrictions on the following roads to facilitate milling and paving operations: Atlantic Avenue between Bubier Road and Gallison Avenue; Ocean Avenue between Pleasant Street and Atlantic Avenue; Devereux Street; Treat Road; Phillips Street from Atlantic to Devereux; Pierce Street; Beach Street from Atlantic Avenue to Devereux, Smith Street from Atlantic Avenue to Pleasant Street; Humphrey Street from the Community Center to the Swampscott line; Brookhouse Drive. Work will start on May 24th and be completed before July 1st. Motion made and seconded to approve this request. All in favor. Mr. Snow said he expects to be through on Harbor Avenue in about three weeks.

PERMISSION. Motion made and seconded to grant permission to Linda Meiggs, property manager of Marblehead Atlantic LLC to use staging from May 30, 2007 for a period of three weeks in front of 40-48 Atlantic Avenue. The staging must be constructed to provide access to the sidewalk and be in accordance with all applicable laws. Permission is subject to the required insurance. All in favor.

SANDWICH BOARDS AND BANNERS. Motion made and seconded to approve the changes in the Rules and Regulations for Sandwich Board Signs and Street Banners as presented by the Task Force. All in favor. Motion to have the Town Administrator or his designee complete and approve requests for sandwich boards and street banners. All in favor.

PERMISSION. Block Party. Motion made and seconded to approve the request of Judd Bergeron to block Puritan Road on July 7, 2007 from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. for a block party subject to Police and Fire Departments approvals. All in favor.

Block Party. Motion made and seconded to approve the request of Andrew Tripode to block Glendale Road on Saturday, June 30 from 12 noon to 6 p.m. with a rain date of July 1, 12 noon to 6 p.m. for a block party subject to Police and Fire Departments approvals. All in favor.

The Selectmen would like Town Administrator Sasso to look into the request of Mitch Diamond of Medford, MA as it relates to his request for the American Traveling Morris to appear at the Landing.

PERMISSION. Spirit of '76. Town Administrator Sasso reported to the Board that the Weider History Group that had requested a color transparency of the Spirit of '76 for use in their American History Magazine is a for-profit company. Motion made and seconded to deny this request. The Board voted three in favor with Mrs. Jacobi opposed to the motion.

COMMITTEE OPENINGS. The Board announced there are openings on the following committees:

Cable TV Oversight Committee
Conservation Commission
Council on Aging
Disabilities Commission
Fair Housing Committee
Finance Committee
Historical Commission
Marblehead Forever Committee
Old and Historic Districts Commission
Taxation Aid Committee
Cemetery Commission – Elected Position
Planning Board – Elected Position

The deadline for applications to all committees is June 6th. Interested citizens should send their resume to the Office of the Board of Selectmen in Abbot Hall. Interviews will be held on June 13th.

APPOINTMENTS. The following actions were taken as it relates to appointments put on hold at the meeting of May 16th.

Assistant Town Counsel. Motion made and seconded to remove the hold put on Mary Ellen Walsh-Rogalski as Assistant Town Counsel. All in favor. Motion made and seconded to appoint Mary Ellen Wash-Rogalski as Assistant Town Counsel. All in favor.

Licensing Authority, Duly Designated Agents. Motion made and seconded to remove the hold put on Licensing Authority, Duly Designated Agents. All in favor. Motion made and seconded to appoint as follows:

LICENSING AUTHORITY, DULY DESIGNATED AGENTS

Police Chief Robert O. Picariello	2008
Captain - Vacant	2008
Lieutenants:	
Matthew Freeman	

Jonathan E. Lunt	2008
David J. Millett	2008
Mark D. Mills	2008
Sergeants:	
Sean Sweeney	2008
Donald Decker	2008
Detective Sergeants:	
Marion Keating	2008

Chairman Christensen requested that Mark Mills be put on hold.

All in favor.

Motion made and seconded to appoint Lt Mark D. Mills as a Licensing Authority, Duly Designated Agent. Three selectmen voted in favor, with Mr. Christensen voting present.

NORTHEAST GATEWAY PROJECT. A letter was read informing the Town of a construction advisory for the Northeast Gateway Project which will begin on or about May 24, 2007.

MARBLEHEAD ARTS ASSOCIATION. Motion made and seconded to send a letter of congratulations to the Marblehead Arts Association on their 85th birthday. All in favor.

VILLAGE SCHOOL. Motion made and seconded to send a letter of congratulations to Daniel Rosenberg of the Village School for qualifying for the National Spelling Bee. All in favor.

DEATHS. The Board acknowledged the passing of the following citizens: Jeanie MacRae Patrick, a resident of Marblehead for over 80 of her 106 years; Jack Hinch, former firefighter; David Hatch, custodian of Mary Alley Municipal Building; Carolyn Knight, worked in the Assessors Office for over twenty years; Al Letourneau, an employee of the Town for over 30 years. Motion made and seconded to send letters of condolence to the families. All in favor.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn at 9:25 p.m. All in favor.

Patricia D. Charbonnier
Administrative Aide Pro Tem