



TOWN OF CHARLTON
Minutes of Regular Selectmen's Meeting
November 6, 2007

Submitted by _____

Date _____

Received by _____

Date _____

Present: Chairman – Peter J. Boria, Vice-Chairman – Scott D. Brown, Clerk – Kathleen W. Walker and member John R. Bacon. Also present, Town Administrator - Robin L. Craver and Student Selectperson – Katie Walsh. Absent – member Frederick C. Swensen.

NOTE: Some matters may have been taken out of agenda order but were typed up in agenda order for ease of locating information when necessary.

I. Call to Order:

Chairman Boria called the meeting to order at 6:30pm with the pledge to the flag.

II. Consent Agenda:

- Chairman Boria read the agenda.
- Minutes of Selectmen's Special Meeting – August 27, 2007. **Motion by Mr. Bacon to approve the minutes of August 27, 2007, seconded by Ms. Walker. Vote taken: Ms. Walker, Mr. Bacon and Chairman Boria -aye, Mr. Brown abstained.**
- Minutes of Special Selectmen's Meeting – September 4, 2007. **Motion by Mr. Bacon to approve the minutes of September 4, 2007, seconded by Mr. Brown, motion carries.**
- Minutes of Special Selectmen's Meeting – October 22, 2007. **Motion by Mr. Bacon to approve the minutes of October 22, 2007, seconded by Ms. Walker. Vote taken: Ms. Walker, Mr. Bacon and Mr. Brown – aye, Chairman Boria – abstained.**
- Minutes of Regular Selectmen's Meeting – October 23, 2007. **Motion by Mr. Bacon to approve the minutes of October 23, 2007, seconded by Mr. Brown. Vote taken: Mr. Bacon, Mr. Brown and Chairman Boria – aye, Ms. Walker abstained.**

III. Community Relations, Announcements and Open Forum:

- Chairman Boria read the announcements.
- Tony Polletta from 155 Burlingame Road came before the Board to address his concerns of the Board of Health's decision to allow the soil to stay at the landfill. Three weeks ago it was deemed contaminated. He feels the Board of Health is not maintaining their position in the town. They are supposed to protect the health of the citizens. Ms. Walker noted that they are an autonomous board and suggested that he go to the next Board of Health meeting. Chairman Boria suggested that our Board set up a meeting with the Board of Health and BATG so that the citizens can voice their concerns and get their questions answered. Mr. Polletta suggested that the material there should be properly covered until a decision is made and also suggested that maybe the Board of Health could put this information about the landfill on their web page. Chairman Boria reiterated that we will try to set up a meeting and advertise it and also ask the Board of Health to go down and make sure the material is covered.
- Chief Pervier gave an update on programs for the High Schools with respect to the recent deaths in Charlton. There are two dates set for these programs at Shepherd Hill. Bay Path is still working on theirs.

IV. Appointments/Resignations:

1. Appointment to Lakes & Ponds Task Force – Prindle Lake. A recommendation was received from the Prindle Lake Association recommending the appointment of Serafino DeFranco of 80 Pumpkin Lane to this committee. **Motion by Mr. Brown to appoint Serafino DeFranco to the Lakes & Ponds Task Force for Prindle Lake, seconded by Mr. Bacon, motion carries.**

V. Scheduled Appointments:

7:00pm – Tax Classification Hearing. Chairman Boria opened the hearing and read the notice as printed in the paper. The purpose of the tax classification hearing is to determine whether different or uniform rates of taxation will be applied to the various classifications of real property. Present from the Board of Assessors: Deb Ceccarini, Principal Assessor and Trish Gill, Chairman. Mrs. Ceccarini gave a brief overview of how the tax rates can be set. The Board of Assessors recommends that the Board of Selectmen keep a single tax rate and not shift the burden. **Motion by Mr. Brown to close the hearing at 7:07pm, seconded by Mr. Bacon, motion carries. Motion by Mr. Brown to set a single tax rate for fiscal year 2008, seconded by Ms. Walker, motion carries. Motion by Ms. Walker that the Board does not adopt the small commercial exemption, seconded by Mr. Bacon, motion carries. Motion by Mr. Brown to not adopt the residential exemption, seconded by Mr. Bacon, motion carries. Motion by Ms. Walker to not adopt an open space discount, seconded by Mr. Brown, motion carries.**

VI. Old Business:

1. Baker Pond Rd./Partridge Hill Rd. – Ms. Walker recused herself from the table and sat in the audience. Chairman Boria noted that he spoke with Mr. Lally regarding the issue of plowing and advised him to come back before the board as he didn't think the board made an actual vote of what to do for these situations. Mike Lally from 21 Baker Pond Road came before the Board and reiterated what has taken place to date. Mr. Brown sympathizes with these residents but feels we have come full circle. He feels that after all discussions, it has been said enough times that we should not be working on private roads. Mr. Lally feels that the residents are being penalized in this manner. **Motion by Mr. Bacon to turn this issue over to Town Planner Gordon and our attorney to come up with a policy for our taxpayers, seconded by Chairman Boria for discussion.** After discussion, vote taken: **Mr. Bacon –aye, Mr. Brown and Chairman Boria – opposed. Motion does not pass.** Ms. Walker returned to the table.
2. Update on Fire Station possible expansion – Ms. Walker noted that we have had a number of searches for a new fire department. There is another site which may be preferable but not possible. Ms. Walker would like to ask the board for an extension for another month and if nothing can be worked out then proceed as discussed.

VII. New Business:

1. Request for award of contract for GASB 45 services. Mrs. Craver noted that the Towns of Dudley and Charlton participated in procuring actuarial services in order to comply with GASB 45 which requires the town to include liability of “Post Employment Benefits Valuation” for the period ending June 30, 2008 and every other year thereafter. This is a study which provides the current and future costs of benefits provided to retirees and future retirees. The recommendation is to award the contract to USI Consulting Group of Glastonbury CT for a three year period starting with FY08 and FY2010 for an amount not to exceed \$5,000. Town Treasurer, Keith Arsenault reiterated the process. **Motion by Mr. Brown to award the contract in the amount of \$5,000 to provide Post Employee Benefits Valuation – GASB 45 to USI Consulting Group of Glastonbury, CT for a three year period starting with FY08 and for FY2010 subject to appropriation in the amount of \$5,000, seconded by Mr. Bacon, motion carries.**

2. One day special license request – St. Joseph’s Church is seeking a one day special license to be used on Saturday, November 17, 2007 from 5:00pm to 10:00pm to serve wine & malt beverages. This is for a non profit organization therefore there will be no charge for the license. **Motion by Mr. Bacon to allow St. Joseph’s Church the one day special license to be used on November 17, 2007 from 5:00pm to 10:00pm and that no alcohol be served to persons under 21, seconded by Mr. Brown, motion carries.**
3. Set Selectmen’s meetings for January 2008. Mrs. Craver noted that the first meeting of the Board to be held in January 2008 would be the 1st which is a holiday. She has asked the board if they wish to skip the first meeting or to reschedule to another day of that week. **Motion by Ms. Walker to have the first meeting for January on 1/15/07, seconded by Mr. Bacon, motion carries.**
4. Fifth Annual unsung heroine of Massachusetts Award – Ms. Walker stated that we are looking for another unsung heroine for the Town of Charlton. If anyone has any ideas please send them to the Town Administrator’s office, c/o Mary Devlin.
5. Site Plan application – Tim Gingras, Pet Resort. The Planning Board will be holding a public hearing on November 19, 2007. Should the Board have any questions or comments, we must notify them no later than November 15, 2007. No comments by the Board.

VIII **Town Administrator Report Town Administrator Report Mrs. Craver noted that due to her being away, she does not have a formal report but has some information for the Board. Bay Path has sent correspondence looking for a person to be appointed to represent the town in the bargaining process. Motion by Ms. Walker to have Town Administrator Robin Craver be our representative for voting on a town representative for the negotiations, seconded by Mr. Brown, motion carries.**

Mrs. Craver noted that the ADA Plan contract expired and is asking the Board to grant an extension to this contract until December 31, 2007. **Motion by Ms. Walker to allow the extension, seconded by Mr. Bacon, motion carries.**

Mrs. Craver noted that the Highway Barn Building Committee has been working hard to contract with a Project Manager Service. Ms. Walker would like not to discuss this as the agenda closed on Thursday and this item was not on the agenda. Chairman Boria noted that we have two members on this Board and this item should have been put on the agenda. Present on behalf of the committee Gerry Foskett, Chairman and members Tony Polletta and Armand Carpentier. Mr. Foskett thanked the Board for allowing this item to be put on the agenda. He reiterated what the process has been and said that the committee is recommending that the board award the project manager services to CTM Construction Technologies pending Town Counsel review. **Motion by Mr. Bacon that the Town of Charlton hire CTM Construction Technologies company to act as Project Manager for the Highway Barn in an amount not to exceed \$52, 625 pending Town Counsels review of the contract, seconded by Mr. Brown. Vote taken: Mr. Bacon – aye, Mr. Brown – aye, Chairman Boria –aye and Ms. Walker opposed only due to not following policies and having it put on the agenda in advance. Motion carries.**

IX. **Student Selectperson Report** Katie Walsh gave an update of events and sports at the hill.

X. **Other Business**

XII. **Adjourn/Executive Session: Motion by Mr. Brown to go into executive session at 8:05pm under MGL. Chapter 39, section 23B, #3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government’s bargaining or litigating position. Also, to conduct strategy sessions in**

preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel; to actually conduct collective bargaining and contract negotiations with non-union personnel, seconded by Ms. Walker. Roll call vote taken: Mr. Bacon – aye, Mr. Swensen – aye, Mr. Brown – aye and Chairman Boria – aye.

VIII. Next Meeting Announcement:

- Next Regular Selectmen’s Meeting – November 20, 2007

Respectfully submitted by:
Mary C. Devlin
Administrative Assistant

Accepted by:

Peter J. Boria, Chairperson

Scott D. Brown, Vice-Chairman

Kathleen W. Walker, Clerk

John R. Bacon, Member

Frederick C. Swensen, Member (absent)