



**TOWN OF CHARLTON**  
Minutes of Regular Selectmen's Meeting  
November 20, 2007

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Received by \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

*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 6:37pm with the pledge to the flag.

II. Consent Agenda:

- Chairman Boria read the agenda.
- Minutes of Regular Selectmen's Meeting – November 6, 2007. **Motion by Mr. Bacon to approve the minutes of the Regular Selectmen's Meeting of November 6, 2007, seconded by Mr. Brown. Vote taken: Ms. Walker, Mr. Bacon, Mr. Brown and Chairman Boria – aye, Mr. Swensen abstained.**

III. Community Relations, Announcements and Open Forum:

- Chairman Boria read the announcements.
- Chief Pervier announced that the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held on December 2, 2007 at 5:00pm. The singing and performances will take place in the Charlton Library's renovated meeting hall on the second floor. Santa will arrive by sleigh at approximately 6:00pm whereas all the lights will be lit. Marine Corps Toys for Tots will also be there for anyone that would like to help and bring a new toy.

IV. Appointments/Resignations: None

V. Scheduled Appointments:

6:45pm – Pole Hearing – A F Putnam Road. Chairman Boria opened the hearing by reading the notice as mailed to all abutters to act on a request from Verizon New England, Inc. and Massachusetts Electric Company to locate poles, wires, cables and fixtures including the necessary anchors, guys and other such sustaining and protecting fixtures to be owned and used in common by petitioners along and across the following public way or ways: A F Putnam Road: Place three new jointly owned poles on the northerly and southerly side of A F Putnam Road beginning at a point approximately 1,309 feet easterly from the centerline of Partridge Hill Road at its intersection with A F Putnam Road and placing new pole number VZ-28 ½ on the northerly side thereof; thence running easterly approximately 140 feet and placing new pole number VZ-28 on the northerly side thereof; thence running southeasterly approximately 100 feet across A F Putnam Road and placing new pole number VZ-27 ½ on the southerly side thereof. Remove existing pole number VZ-28. Sue Payne from Mass Electric was present. With no questions to be heard, **motion**

**by Mr. Brown to close the hearing, seconded by Mr. Swensen, motion carries. Motion by Mr. Swensen to approve the request as read, seconded by Mr. Bacon, motion carries.**

VI. Old Business:

1. Charlton / Casella proposal. Mrs. Craver stated that she met with Casella representatives regarding the requests made on behalf of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Health. Attached is a proposal for the Board's consideration. Mrs. Craver noted that she did bring this before the Board of Health at their meeting this evening and they have approved of the proposal. Mr. Bacon asked if this should be brought in front of Town Meeting. Mrs. Craver will talk to Town Counsel first. Chairman Boria stated that our special counsel will review the draft agreement and send to Casella upon approval. Ms. Walker noted that the Recycling Committee is also 100% behind this proposal. Mr. Swensen asked if this agreement will preclude us from seeking site assignment. Mrs. Craver stated that was not even discussed so it should not be an issue. She would recommend the Board approve the proposal and to let her work with special counsel to come to an agreement, solidify the agreement, advertise, notify the residents of this, and put some sort of a release out with the tax bills. **So moved by Mr. Bacon, seconded by Mr. Brown.** Cheryl Meskus asked if there would be a monitor at Flint Road and if so, who would be paying for that position. Mrs. Craver stated that Casella has agreed to take care of that. Armand Carpentier asked if there were any commercial overtures being made? Have the schools been considered. Ms. Walker stated that she has been dealing with the schools and they are thinking of going out to re-bid. Mrs. Craver noted that Casella has offered educational programs to the schools as they would like to be very active in recycling. **Vote taken on Mr. Bacon's motion, carries.**
2. Landfill Capping – Renewable Energy. Mrs. Craver stated that at a Board of Health meeting last week discussed changes to the DEP permit for the landfill capping including petitioning DEP for additional capacity and some relocation of wetland mitigation in order to better accommodate the proposed new highway barn. Another topic discussed was the possibility of adding one or two wind turbines to the top of the landfill for energy generation as we complete the cap. If the Board is interested, Mrs. Craver will gather information over the next several weeks on the subject and come back to the board with what she comes up with. She will also put together an application for a wind survey and work with the DEP and Board of Health. **Motion by Mr. Swensen to authorize the Town Administrator to pursue the application for survey regarding this proposal and for her to work with the DEP and the Board of Health to that end, seconded by Mr. Bacon, motion carries.**

VII. New Business:

1. Possible part time custodian – Mrs. Craver noted that there is a need for additional custodial services from what we presently have. Prior to the new library opening, a custodian was shared between the two buildings. When the new building became occupied, we agreed to continue with 40 hours of service between the two buildings. We were not able to at budget time, predict the hours that would be needed in the new building. It is anticipated that an approximate amount of \$7,000.00 would be needed. She has also spoken with the Chairman of the Finance Committee regarding the funding. If approved by the Board, he will call a meeting for this purpose. **Motion by Ms. Walker to approve this request subject to Finance Committee approval, seconded by Mr. Swensen, motion carries.** Ms. Walker thanked Mr. Sage and Mr. Meskus for taking care of the flag poles at the Library.
2. Cable Contract Renewal – Special Counsel – The Cable Negotiation Committee has voted at their meeting of November 19, 2007 to appoint Peter Epstein as special counsel for the purpose of cable contract negotiations in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 to be paid from the Cable TV revolving account pending the Board of Selectmen's approval. The Committee feels this is the best way to work with the renewal of the Charter Communications contract. Present from the

committee: Carl Ekman and Armand Carpentier. **Motion by Mr. Brown to approve the appointment of Peter Epstein as special counsel for the purpose of cable contract negotiations in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 to be paid from the Cable TV revolving account, seconded by Mr. Bacon, motion carries.** Mrs. Craver stated that the committee would like to hold the public hearing at the Board's meeting for January 15<sup>th</sup>. **Motion by Mr. Brown to hold the public hearing on January 15, 2008, seconded by Mr. Brown, motion carries.**

VIII Town Administrator Report (see attached)

IX. Other Business Gabriel Berthiaume and John McGrath spoke on behalf of the Water Search Committee with a report of what they have been doing. (see attached) They are asking the Board of Selectmen for full support of what their intentions are. The Water/Sewer Commission already voted to support their efforts. Mr. McGrath noted that they are in the process of drafting a letter supporting the concept of regionalization as one of the possible sources of potable water that they would like both boards to review and sign to show their support. They will be using these letters to send to neighboring towns. **Motion by Mr. Brown to support the efforts of the water search committee, seconded by Mr. Swensen, motion carries.**

Mrs. Craver would like to propose a joint meeting on December 5 at 9:30am with the Council on Aging at their regular meeting to discuss the Senior Center and the possibility of putting it out to bid. The Board agreed.

XII. Adjourn/Executive Session: **Motion by Mr. Brown to adjourn at 7:37pm, seconded by Mr. Swensen, motion carries.**

VIII. Next Meeting Announcement:

- Next Regular Selectmen's Meeting – December 4, 2007

Respectfully submitted by:  
Mary C. Devlin  
Administrative Assistant

Accepted by:

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Peter J. Boria, Chairperson

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Scott D. Brown, Vice-Chairman

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Kathleen W. Walker, Clerk

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John R. Bacon, Member

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Frederick C. Swensen, Member