

The November 12, 2008, Regular Meeting of the Woodbridge Board of Selectmen convened at 6:05 p.m. in the Town Hall Central Meeting Room.

Present for the Selectmen: Ms. Stein, Ms. Ferrante-Fernandes, Messrs. Fox, Sheehy, and Dr. Sabshin

Present for the Board of Finance: Messrs. Giglietti, Grotheer, Luther, and Schaeffer.

Present for the Staff: Mr. Genovese, Finance Director; Mr. Hellauer, Administrative Officer; Mrs. Shaw, Clerk.

Excused: Ms. Scalettar and Mr. Perito, Town Counsel

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:05 p.m. the Board entered into executive session pursuant to Section 1-200(6)(E), 1-210(9) CGS to review Woodbridge Board of Education negotiated labor contracts. Invited to attend the session: Members of the Board of Finance; Sheila McCreven, Chair, Woodbridge Board of Education; Dr. Guy Stella, Superintendent; Chuck Zettergren, Business Manager; and Floyd Dugas, Atty. for the Woodbridge of Education.

6:25 p.m. the Board moved out of Executive Session and returned to the Regular Meeting. No motions were made or votes taken in Executive Session.

WOODBIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION – UPDATE

- Dr. Stella presented an update of current events at Beecher Road School:
- October 30 – Hundreds attended the Extended Day Family Ethnic Pot Luck Dinner. Children did the serving
 - October 31 – PTO's Halloween Hoot also attended by hundreds of parents and children
 - Projecting a FY09 surplus of \$242,000: \$75,000 in salary savings through early retirements and staff profiling procedures; \$16,000 in Workers Compensation; \$149,000 in Special Education; \$48,000 in medical insurance due to staffing choices.
 - Kucinkas Track Loop Update – Dr. Stella distributed a flyer describing the exercise track that WBOE has approved in concept. The track, to be named in honor of the late Kevin Kucinkas (teacher at Beecher Road School), is to be completed by June 2009. Cost is approximately \$51,000 including a construction contingency of \$5,500. Funding = \$26,000 from Capital Projects account (unless full amount raised by PTO efforts); \$10,000 Grant from Senator Crisco; Donation of \$15,000 from PTO; PTO additional fund raising programs.

PTO members distributed to the Board the forms for donations or to purchase bricks.

BEECHER ROAD SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Ms. McCreven described the capital program for repairs and renovations required to the 1960 A & B wings of Beecher Road School. The Board is requesting that the Selectmen convene a Building Committee.

(302-5150/57470)

From: Special Recreation – Operating Transfers Out – General Fund
(214/58100)

For: Funds needed to replace diving board that can no longer be repaired.
(Fox – Sabshin) Unanimously Approved

0809-13 – Interdepartmental Transfer Amount: \$ 5,190

To: Inland Wetlands – Tech. Consulting (1630-00/52200)

From: Dept. Revenues – IWA Fee Revenue (1-5-1850/45420)

For: Transfer funds from fee revenue collected from three applicants (175 Seymour Road, 1955 Litchfield turnpike, 12 Fieldstone Dr.) for technical services in inland wetlands.

(Sabshin – Ferrante-Fernandes) Unanimously Approved

0809-14 – Interdepartmental Transfer Amount: \$ 51,000

To: Capital & Non-recurring WBOE – Construction/Track

From: Revenue – Misc. Grant (302/42600) \$10,000

Revenue – Donations (302/46410) \$15,000

CNR-WBOE/Electric Upgrades
(302-9100/57500/ELECT) \$26,000

For: ¼ mile track at Beecher Road School

(Sabshin – Ferrante-Fernandes) Unanimously Approved

Library Capital Account – The Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Fox – Ferrante-Fernandes) to approve funding from the Library Capital Reserve Account (302-5500/57200) in the amount of \$3,000 to complete the library signage program.

Resolution Peck Hill Road State project No. 167-104 – The Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Stein – Fox) to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That Edward Maum Sheehy, First Selectman, be, and hereby authorized to sign the agreement entitled:

“Agreement between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Woodbridge for the Development of Contract Plans, Specifications and Estimates for Reconstruction of Peck Hill Road utilizing Federal Funds under the Urban Component of the Surface Transportation Program” and a certification indicating the council adopts as its policy to support the nondiscrimination agreements and warranties required under the Connecticut General Statutes.

Salt Bid – Award – The Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Fox – Stein) to award the winter salt contract to International Salt for \$71.29 per ton, delivered.

Fire House Restoration Update – Mr. Genovese reported that the bids for the Fire House Restoration are due on December 1, 2008.

MINUTES

The Board VOTED to approve the following minutes of previous meetings:

October 7, 2008 – Regular Meeting (Stein – Sheehy) - Approved
Ms. Ferrante-Fernandes Abstained

October 29, 2008 – Regular Meeting (Ferrante-Fernandes – Stein) – Approved

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Board VOTED UNANIMOUSLY (Sabshin – Stein) to acknowledge receipt of the Town Clerk's Report for the month ending October 31, 2008.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Michael Luther, 128 Northrop Road – Mr. Luther spoke to three items, two of which would require the seating of a Charter Revision Commission. The two items requiring Charter Revision are 1) that the annual budget be decided by a machine vote; 2) the Board of Finance be elected instead of an appointed.

Mr. Luther said that the third item requires adoption of an Ordinance. The proposed Ordinance would prohibit a commission, board, or agency member who resigns before the expiration of their term to be reappointed to the same commission, board, or agency for a longer term. He then cited two instances where such resignations and reappointments occurred.

The Board agreed to request that the Ordinance Committee review the request at its December 10th meeting.

Mr. Robert Gregg, 11 Old Quarry Road (President of the Woodbridge Land Trust) – Mr. Gregg spoke regarding the Town owned property located at 282 Seymour known as the Zwick Property. Mr. Gregg said that the only entrances to the property are either through Land Trust property or over property owned by Mr. Fred Anderson. He said that the Town did not accept the offer to establish an entrance from the Land Trust property on Hallsey Lane. Mr. Gregg wanted the Town to be aware that Mr. Anderson cleared an area of his property to allow access to the Zwick Property for mowing. Mr. Gregg said that, for the future, the Town must consider accepting the Land Trust's offer of access.

Maria Kayne, 1891 Litchfield Turnpike (Chairman Woodbridge Conservation Commission) – Ms. Kayne invited the Board to attend the oral report by the students of the Yale School of Forestry who are conducting a management study of the Fitzgerald Property and the Alice Newton Street Park, to the Conservation Commission at 2:00 p.m., December 11, 2008, at 360 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT.

SOLAR ENERGY REPORT – Jon Gorham

Mr. Jon Gorham reported that Mr. Roundtree, Architect/Engineer for Connecticut Clean Energy, has completed a survey of Town buildings. After reviewing The Center,

Town Hall, Library, and Beecher Road School, Mr. Roundtree recommends that the 3kW Voltaic Array be installed on the roof at Beecher Road School. Mr. Gorham said that Beecher Road School provides the best use of the generated energy, and will also provide a learning tool for the curriculum. He also noted that with the installation on Beecher Road School, there is the possibility to obtain third party financing to obtain an additional array for the school. It is noted that the current 3kW Voltaic Array, valued at \$25,000 was received through the efforts of the Woodbridge Clean Energy Initiative work in obtaining over 100 households signed up for clean energy generation through the United Illuminating.

Mr. Gorham said that the school administration is very supportive of such installation as a first step in obtaining a “green” school.

In answer to questions from Ms. Stein, Mr. Gorham said that the Array can easily be temporarily removed to allow for roof replacement and that the life of an array is approximately 25 years.

VOTE: The Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Stein – Fox) to approve the installation of the 3kW Voltaic Array on the Beecher Road School Roof as recommended by the consultant and staff.

Additional Voltaic Arrays – Mr. Gorham explained that the Town could get an additional 3kW Voltaic Array for Beecher Road School. An additional Array would cost approximately \$20,000, however, the Town would receive a \$10,000 grant to offset the cost of the purchase and installation. 6kW will generate approximately \$51,000 - \$100,000 dollars worth of electricity depending on the escalating costs of electricity. The exact cost will be determined by bid results.

VOTE: The Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Sabshin – Fox) to authorize the First Selectman to file an application for a \$10,000 grant toward the purchase of an additional 3kW Voltaic Array and to seek quotes for the Array and installation on Beecher Road School. When the quotes are received, the Board will reassess the expenditure and consider requesting a line item transfer for the additional funding.

Mr. Gorham also reported that on Election Day, 33 more households signed up for Green Energy Electricity Transmission. He also noted that Bethany, Orange, and Woodbridge could pool their sign-ups toward a photo voltaic array for Amity High School

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting of the Selectmen to hold the duly noticed Public Hearing to receive comments on a proposed ordinance banning out door wood-burning or wood-fired furnaces/boilers.

ACTION ON MATTER HEARD IN PUBLIC HEARING

The Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Fox – Ferrante-Fernandes) to adopt the ordinance entitled: **“Ban on Installation and Use of Outdoor Wood-Burning or Wood-**

Fired Furnaces/Boilers’. Said Ordinance shall become effective 30 days from adoption, said date being December 12, 2008.

MASSARO FARM UPDATE – Jason Morrill

Mr. Morrill reported that as of November 4, 2008, the group is officially incorporated as a “Not for Profit Entity” known as the Massaro Farm, Inc. In order to begin fund raising prior to achieving a 501c3 status, the group is seeking sponsor support from other 501c3 fiduciaries. Members of the Massaro Farm, Inc. Board of Directors will be tasked with applying for various grants. Mr. Morrill said that he gives special recognition to Paul DeCoster who has given his time, his professionalism, and financial support to file the incorporation documents as well as paying the Attorney’s fee. He said that the group is seeking information on how to utilize volunteers while protecting the Massaro Farm, Inc. and the Town from liability.

90’ BASEBALL DIAMOND – ALEGI PROPERTY – Dwight Rowland

Mr. Rowland said that the Woodbridge Fathers Baseball League is anxious to get a 90’ baseball diamond. He said that the WFBL Board of Directors request that the Selectmen retain an engineering firm to: 1) survey the existing 3.4 acre Alegi property to determine if there is adequate space for a 90’ field; 2) if the site is found adequate, to work with the WFBL to lay out a field with suitable access; 3) dig test pits to determine soil conditions; 4) prepare an itemized construction cost estimate based on documents to be provided by the WFBL.

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Debra Pines, Deputy Police Chief Stuart

Ms. Pines and Deputy Stuart were present to explain and discuss the concept of a Traffic Safety Committee comprised of citizens interested in establishing safety measures and training for pedestrians and bicyclists.

The Board requested they prepare a Charge and proposed membership for the December 10, 2008, Board meeting.

HITCHCOCK FARM – Mr. & Mrs. Santoro

Gate - Mr. & Mrs. Santoro, new owners of the Hitchcock Farm located at 48 Center Road, were present to request permission to replace the chain across the entrance to the adjacent Town property at 52 Center Road. They proposed to install a locked, double wide, cattle gate. A key will be given to Town personnel.

The Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Sabshin – Fox) to approve the concept of the installation of a double wide cattle gate at the entrance to the Town owned property known as 52 Center Road. Further that Mr. Santoro is to work in conjunction with Parks Supervisor, Adam Parsons, to assure the gate does not obstruct entrance to the Regional Water Authority meter for the soccer field sprinkler system.

Sign - Mr. & Mrs. Santoro requested permission to install a 2’x3’ sign identifying the property as *“Hillcrest Farm, Woodbridge, Connecticut, Circa 1825”*. It was noted that

zoning regulations limit signs in Resident A District to 4 sq ft. The Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Fox – Stein) to inform the Building Official that the Board of Selectmen supports the proposal to identify the Historic Hitchcock (Hillcrest) Farm with a 2'x3' sign similar to the rendition presented to the Board.

FIRE STATION BUILDING COMMITTEE – Messrs. Rowland and Calistro

Update – Mr. Calistro said that the building should be substantially complete by December 15th. Landscaping will be completed in the Spring. Mr. Calistro reported that the Garden Club of Woodbridge is planting 500 daffodil bulbs in the planting beds around the Fire Station.

Range/Oven Exhaust Hood – The Fire Marshall has requested that the residential style hood be replaced by a commercial design.

The Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Fox – Sabshin) to authorize the Building Committee to obtain a commercial designed range hood for the Fire Station kitchen.

Landscaping – Path – Mr. Sheehy informed the Board that on November 11th, he, Mr. Calistro, and Mr. Rowland met with Conservation Commission members, Jim Urbano and Maria Kayne regarding the path from the Fire House to the Fitzgerald Trails. He said that it was the consensus that, for safety purposes, there should be no access to the trails from either Center Road or the Fire House. He also noted that Connecticut DOT has denied requests for a crossing either from the back of the Police Station to the new Fire House or from the Old Fire House to the Fitzgerald Property.

The Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Sabshin – Ferrante-Fernandes) that for safety purposes and to discourage pedestrians from crossing Center Road, the entrances to the Fitzgerald Trails from both Center Road (the north entrance) and the new Fire House are to be closed.

Proposed Gross Maximum Price Expenditures – The Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Fox – Sabshin) to approve changes to the GMP for an increase of \$10,816.00.

Proposed New Expenditures – Mr. Rowland requested approval to purchase miscellaneous equipment - work benches/tool cabinet/carts, etc.

The Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Stein – Sabshin) to approve the expenditure of \$5,681.79 for miscellaneous equipment as listed.

TAX APPEALS

Tax Appeals – Following a presentation by Ms. Quist, Town Assessor, The Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Stein – Ferrante-Fernandes) to approve the negotiated tax appeal settlement for 330 Amity Road based on a \$6.4 million evaluation.

Ms. Quist told the Board that the Town is still negotiating a tax settlement regarding the property located at 225 Amity Road.

REVALUATION – 2009

Ms. Quist reported to the Board that 752 letters have been sent to owners of property that did not receive a full inspection in 2004. Of those, 375 inspections have been completed. She added that presently there are less than 300 Woodbridge homes that she has not done a personal, interior inspection. Ms. Quist noted there are 3,062 homes and 3642 properties in Woodbridge.

UPDATE ON FINANCIAL MARKETS

Matthew Spoerndle of Phoenix Financial Advisors updated the Board on the impact of the credit crunch on the current bond market. He said that though there are fewer potential buyers, Woodbridge bonds should do well. Mr. Spoerndle distributed a copy of Moody's Investors Report Rating Update on Woodbridge. The report stated that Woodbridge's financial position is expected to stay "sound and stable" and maintain its Aa1 rating.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Scenic Road Ordinance – Mr. Sheehy explained the purpose of the proposed scenic road ordinance and briefly outlined the procedure for applications for scenic road designation. He said that the Ordinance Committee recommends that the Board of Selectmen call a Public Hearing to receive comments on the proposed ordinance. Mr. Fox noted that the Conservation Commission and the Woodbridge Park Association support the proposed ordinance.

The Board agreed to hold a Public Hearing on December 10, 2008, to receive comments on the proposed "Scenic Road Ordinance".

General Code – General Code has submitted the Editorial Analysis of their re-organization of the Town Ordinances. The Town Counsel and the Ordinance Committee are reviewing the analysis. Revisions to the Charter have also been recommended. Charter revisions must be referred to a Charter Revision Commission. General Code has been requested to provide one complete copy of the Charter for reference when and if a Charter Revision Commission is seated.

Next Meeting – the next meeting of the Ordinance Committee will be December 10th at 5:00 p.m. To be considered: an ordinance to address clear cutting of trees on private property; Woodbridge Code of Ethics.

APPOINTMENTS

District Animal Control – the Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Sheehy – Stein) to appoint Cheryl Lipson as a Woodbridge Representative on the Board of Directors of the District Animal Control for a term ending June 30, 2011.

EMS Council – The Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Fox – Sabshin) to approve the Police Commission’s recommendation and appoint Lt. Jeffery Leiby to serve as the Woodbridge Liaison to the EMS Council for a term ending June 30, 2009.

Tree Warden – The Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Sheehy – Fox) to appoint Warren Connors, Tree Warden for a term ending June 30, 2009.

Deputy Tree Warden – The Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Fox – Stein) to appoint Adam Parsons, Tree Warden for a term ending June 30, 2009.

TEAM Representative – The Board **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (Fox – Sheehy) to appoint Julie Cooper Altman to serve as the Woodbridge Representative on the TEAM Board of Directors for a term ending November 1, 2010.

FIRST SELECTMAN’S REPORT

- Mr. Sheehy reported on his activities since the last meeting:
- October 10, 2008, received a letter from Chris Randall, President of the New Haven Land Trust re Pond Lily Dam stating that: “The Land Trust is open to the possibility of removing the dam but reserves the right of final approval until a through study is complete.”
 - A wage settlement with the police in regard to roll-call duty has been executed and the money has been distributed
 - October 16, 2008, the Investment Committee met and will meet again on November 20 to discuss matters of Town investments
 - October 20, 2008, Fire Chief Esposito received an award on behalf of the Woodbridge Volunteer Fire Department from the National Fire Safety Committee as there have been no fire related deaths in the past year in Woodbridge
 - October 23, 2008, Marvin Lender received the Community Leadership Award from the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce
 - October 24, 2008, with Town Counsel James Perito, Finance Director Tony Genovese, and Selectman William Fox, met with Jeremy Vickers and Bob Congdon of the Methodist Homes concerning their proposal to build an assistant living facility on the Hitchcock Property in Derby with an entrance from Baldwin Road in Woodbridge. As of today, November 12, 2008, no application has been filed in connection with that proposal. Methodist Homes have scheduled a meeting with interested residents on November 20th at The Center
 - November 1, 2008, attended the installation of Rabbi Joel Levenson at Congregation B’nai Jacob
 - November 4, 2008, Election Day, at 6:00 p.m. there was an accident on Meetinghouse Lane. A pedestrian was hit by a vehicle as she was returning to her car. Mr. Sheehy said that he will meet with the Registrars to discuss the possibility of moving State and National Elections to either Amity High School or Beecher School
 - November 10, 2008, met with representatives of the Amity Teen Center, various merchants in the area, and Orange First Selectman, Jim Zeoli, in connection with certain events that have occurred at the Amity Teen Center in recent months. As a result of the meeting the Amity Teen Center has agreed in writing to provide the Woodbridge Police Chief with a list of events for each month, including anticipated

attendance, with the understanding that the Police Chief will determine how many Police Officers are necessary to monitor the events. Cars parked on private property will be towed. The Teen Center has so notified their members. Another meeting will be held in February

- November 11, 2008, attended the veterans ceremony held on the Town green. Commander Dan Russbach was the Master of Ceremonies. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Police Dept., Senator Crisco, Representative Klarides, and many other participated

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Coyote Informational Meeting – Mr. Hellauer reported that the Town hosted a DEP, 13 town, regional information meeting for police, animal control officers, and some Town staff, on the behavior and habits of coyotes.

LIAISON REPORTS

Ms. Ferrante-Fernandes – Amity Regional Board of Education: Two students from the Bethany Campus along with several High School Students received CAP awards; November 4th was a professional development day; initiating an Amity Education Foundation to receive private donations; received the CAFE award for excellence in communication; settled labor contracts with the nurses and custodians; the curriculum committee approved a Latin AP – Virgil and Level-1 Latin in year four.

Mr. Fox – Land Use Agencies: Erosion Control on Elderslie Lane continued to November 19th; Vernon Court, show cause hearing continued to November 19th; 175 Seymour Road, application for replacement of existing bridge continued; new application for five lot sub-division on Newton Road; Inland Wetlands denied a four lot subdivision at 54 Newton Road; 12 Fieldstone application continuation; Inland Wetlands approved the RWA 8-bay maintenance facility on Litchfield Turnpike; Inland Wetlands - 1080 Johnson Road, property owner to remove 100 truckloads of non-approved fill; Zak Hill Road performance bond will be held until erosion control plantings become mature; 60 Acorn Hill Road, a cease and desist has been issued in regard to illegal ATV activity in wetlands; New England Brewery – application to ZBA for change of hours of operation.

Ms. Stein – Human Services Commission – The Commission met on November 3rd. 210 attended the last Youth Evening Program function; fuel fund received \$3,000 from the Recreation Commission, but more is needed so they are seeking direct donations; \$2,000 Grant from Joseph Crisco = \$1,000 for fuel and \$1,000 for the food fund; Senior Center Fair was very successful; 80 seniors are expected to attend the Thanksgiving Luncheon on November 25; December 5th is the holiday party; will help sponsor the Rotary holiday baskets for needy families.

Ms. Stein - Woodbridge Board of Education – Meetings are now electronic, no paper documents; teachers are attending a “tech academy” on their own time to learn the uses for the smart boards and other technology tools; investigating new cafeteria equipment; the Finance Committee is still reviewing the possibility of an “internal controls audit”.

Ms. Stein – Woodbridge Clean Energy Initiative – reported that on November 4th (Election Day), thirty-two households signed up for green energy generation and received sixty-three e-mails seeking information on the program.

Dr. Sabshin – Fire Commission – working on the capital budget; Fire Department activity (alarms, accident responses, etc.) about the same as last year; continuing discussion regarding work at the new fire station.

Dr. Sabshin – Recreation Commission – still concerned that there is no vestibule to protect Department staff from weather; discussion regarding donation to the fuel bank.

Mr. Sheehy – Police Commission – interviewed three applicants for a vacant patrol position; Mr. Connors made a presentation re speed bumps on Landin Street; Traffic Authority voted to have the Police Department continue the increased monitoring of traffic on Landin Street; several warnings have been issued, and arrests made, for excessive speed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Geraldine S. Shaw, Clerk