

**MARION BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS**

**April 15, 2008**

**Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Chairman Roger F. Blanchette, Board member Jonathan F. Henry and Town Administrator Paul F. Dawson. Also present were Lee Craver, Stephen M. Cushing, Kenneth J. Souza of *The Wanderer*, Ruth Thompson of *The Sentinel*, Andrea Smith of the *Tri-Town Observer*, Arnold Briggs, William Claflin, Jr., Carol Sanz, Eunice Manduca, Julia Deane Crowley, Thomas Magauran, Sherman Briggs, Lucy and Joseph Napoli, Margherita Baldwin and Helene Craver, secretary.

Mr. Blanchette announced that Board member Andrew N. Jeffrey was on vacation and would not be present at the meeting.

**Mr. Henry moved** the minutes of March 4, 2008; the motion was seconded and carried.

**Mr. Henry moved** to approve a request from Tabor Academy to extend the hours of live entertainment to 11:00 p.m. on June 21, 2008; the motion was seconded and carried.

**Mr. Henry moved** to approve a street closure for Tabor Academy during the commencement ceremony on May 31, 2008; the motion was seconded and carried.

Abatement requests were reviewed, along with the recommendations of the Department of Public Works.

**Mr. Henry moved** to accept the recommendation of the Department of Public Works and deny the abatement request from Center Village Condominium Trust; the motion was seconded and carried.

**Mr. Henry moved** to accept the recommendation of the Department of Public Works and deny the abatement request from John D'Italia (J&W Realty); the motion was seconded and carried.

**Mr. Henry moved** to accept the recommendation of the Department of Public Works and deny the abatement request of Walter Shaw and Rebecca Hutchinson; the motion was seconded and carried.

**Mr. Henry moved** to accept the recommendation of the Department of Public Works and deny the abatement request of F. Donald Hudson; the motion was seconded and carried.

**Mr. Henry moved** one-day, all-alcohol licenses for VFW Post #2425 for April 26 and May 3, 2008; the motion was seconded and carried.

**Mr. Henry moved** one-day, all-alcohol licenses for the Marion Mallet Club for May 31, June 2, June 30, July 11, July 28 and August 25, 2008; the motion was seconded and carried.

**Mr. Henry moved** to appoint Christina Bascom to the Parks Committee; the motion was seconded and carried.

**Mr. Henry moved** reimbursement mileage rate as noted by the Town Accountant for 2008 at 50.5¢ per mile; the motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Dawson explained that the Planning Board had requested a Special Town Meeting be held, as they had missed the deadline for the closing of the Warrant, the Articles they had requested for the Annual Town Meeting were to be passed over and there were several Articles they still wanted brought before the Town this Spring. Mr. Dawson noted that having a Special Town Meeting necessitated holding the Annual Town Meeting over two evenings—does the Board wish to offer this option to the Planning Board? Mr. Blanchette was concerned that they may have difficulty achieving a quorum with a second night and felt the Planning Board Articles should come at the beginning of the meeting, not at the end.

At this time, Planning Board members Napoli, Magauran and Crowley joined the Board to discuss the Articles. Mr. Napoli said that the Planning Board was eager to establish an overlay district; Mr. Magauran said that the district comes from the 1996 Growth Management Report and allows for greater density for projects which are already underway and for which the Planning Board does not currently have a mechanism to move forward. Mr. Dawson explained that, since the Warrant is closed for the Annual Town Meeting, the Articles will have to be accomplished through a Special Town Meeting. Mr. Dawson reported that the printer can produce a separate Warrant and that the Moderator strongly suggests that the Articles not be presented at the beginning of the Annual Town Meeting, as people will leave if there is a discussion about zoning Articles at the outset. Mr. Dawson said that the Moderator wished the Special Town Meeting be discussed on the second night of the Annual Town Meeting. Mr. Henry said that he was troubled that the public hearing may not be timely. Mr. Magauran said that there had been miscommunication between the Planning Board Co-Chairmen and Town Counsel. Mr. Henry said that the Articles are important and that he will concur with the Moderator's recommendation; Mr. Blanchette reluctantly agreed to this scenario.

**Mr. Henry moved** to accept the recommendation of the Planning Board to place the Articles on the Warrant for the Special Town Meeting to convene the second night of the Annual Town Meeting on May 20, 2008; the motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Dawson asked for guidance from the Board on a matter of changing the locks at the Town House as a precaution to changing the custodian. Mr. Dawson explained that he had wished to limit the number of keys to the building, but had been overwhelmed by requests for keys. Mr. Dawson explained that it was his intention to issue keys to the employees and the Chairmen of committees which meet on a regular basis, with an extra key available at the police station for others who would sign for the

key and return it there. Mr. Blanchette said that it was his experience that only the Chairmen of committees had keys and he saw no reason to change this procedure. Mr. Henry agreed. Mr. Dawson stated that he would develop a policy for the Board's approval.

Mr. Dawson announced the arrival of the CDM evaluation of the wastewater treatment plant. Mr. Dawson said that the report is technical and contains detail on the plant's capacity under the current discharge permit and comes to a conclusion as to the number of additional connections which could be supported by the plant. Mr. Dawson expressed concern that the report would be misunderstood because of its technical nature, as the additional capacity is tied to many factors requiring a commitment by the Town of time, effort and money, which the Town had not made. Mr. Dawson noted that the Town's discharge permit may not allow the increased load which would be placed on the plant. Mr. Blanchette suggested the Board hold a special meeting with a representative from CDM to explain the report and the implications of the "available" connections. Mr. Henry agreed with the suggestion and asked if the report would be released before the meeting. Mr. Blanchette noted that the numbers in the report aren't quite what they seem; it was important that people attend the meeting for clarification. Mr. Dawson reported that Town Counsel had indicated that the report was a public document; it would have to be distributed, but there are certain facts which need explanation.

Mr. Blanchette read the following letter from Peter B. Perkins, Plumbing and Gas Inspector, into the record:

"It is with deep regret that I submit my letter of resignation as Plumbing and Gas Inspector for the Town of Marion effective April 11, 2008. Due to illness, I find that I am not able to keep up with the schedule that is expected of me and which I have been accustomed to providing.

"I have enjoyed my relationship with the Town over the many, many years that I have served, greatly appreciate the opportunity that I have had and thank you all for your faith in my ability."

Mr. Henry extolled Mr. Perkins' integrity, thoroughness, impartiality and knowledge and regretted his resignation. Mr. Dawson was surprised to learn that the Town's Plumbing and Gas Inspector was a civil service position and said that he would research receiving a waiver to fill the position.

**Mr. Henry moved** to adjourn at 8:12 p.m.; the motion was seconded and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

Jonathan F. Henry, Clerk