

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

September 2, 2008

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Chairman Jonathan F. Henry, Board members Roger F. Blanchette and Stephen M. Cushing and Town Administrator Paul F. Dawson. Also present were Lee Craver, Kenneth J. Souza of *The Wanderer*, Andrea Smith of the *Tri-Town Observer*, Ruth Thompson of *The Sentinel*, Leonard Cook, Building Commissioner Richard Marx, Alternative Energy Committee members William Saltonstall, David K. Pierce and Norman Hills, Eunice Manduca, Helen G. Westergard and Helene Craver, secretary.

Mr. Cushing moved the minutes of August 19, 2008; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The Board met with Mr. Cook, who has volunteered to guide the Town through the process of a reduction in flood insurance premium rates by following the program known as the Community Rating System, which awards points for certain activities beyond the minimum requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program. Mr. Cook said that the program encompasses the areas of public information, mapping and regulations, flood damage reduction and flood preparedness with attendant courses of action. Mr. Cook said that many tasks are basically record keeping, with the result that everyone gains a discount on the flood insurance premiums. Mr. Cook said that he was volunteering because he would like to advise other towns as to how to accomplish the discounts. Mr. Cook said that he is a technical representative of a company which sells FEMA-accepted foundation flood vents that protect the home's foundation. Mr. Cook explained that the Community Rating System is a national program whereby a town could easily save 10-15% on insurance premiums within six months. Mr. Henry said that this program sounds worthwhile. Mr. Marx noted that the new FEMA flood plain maps are out and there are financial implications for many. Mr. Marx said that he was planning to have an informational meeting for the Town in conjunction with the Conservation Commission. Mr. Marx reported that the flood insurance costs will be rising precipitously in a short period of time.

Mr. Blanchette moved to adopt the Community Rating System; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Henry requested that Mr. Marx report periodically on the progress of the program.

The Board then met with members of the Alternative Energy Committee to discuss a proposal to begin exploration of a wind turbine at Great Hill. Mr. Dawson presented a memo of understanding, which only binds the Town to investigation of wind power at a Great Hill site. Mr. Pierce said that the Met tower which had been installed at the Junior High School for the last two years proved insufficient wind speed for further investigation. Mr. Pierce said that the State would be rechecking the wind speed at higher elevations and they are awaiting those results. Mr. Saltonstall said that

the Stone family is eager to learn of this potential; testing will take about a year and if there isn't enough wind speed at this location, "we're out of business". Mr. Hills said that the State required a memo of understanding, as the site is on private land. Mr. Henry noted that the Town already has a water tank on Stone land and thanked the Stone family for working with the Town.

Mr. Blanchette moved to authorize the Town Administrator to sign a memo of understanding regarding the wind tower at the Stone property; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The Board considered an offer from the Hermitage Trust to buy land for \$225,000 abutting Littleneck Village, which is critical to the proposed expansion. Mr. Dawson said that the details of the purchase and sales agreement are still being worked out by the Town's and Trust's attorneys and that the Board needs to vote to authorize the Chairman or Town Administrator to sign the agreement. Mr. Dawson explained that there was a complication in that the land had been classified as forestry land and there are differences of opinion on the tax status.

Mr. Blanchette moved that the Board of Selectmen vote to authorize the Town Administrator to begin negotiations with the Trustees of the Hermitage Trust to develop a purchase and sales agreement for the purchase of a portion of the land owned by the Hermitage Trust, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 and for the purposes of the expansion of the Littleneck Village project; said purchase and sales agreement shall include conditions favorable to the Town of Marion and shall require, at a minimum, that the purchase be contingent on an affirmative vote of Marion Town Meeting; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Dawson reported that the Town had received a 30-day comment notice this afternoon from the Department of Housing and Community Development which was triggered by the Littleneck Village LIP application from E. A. Fish. Mr. Dawson explained that the Town would like to waive the comment period, so they will send out a letter of support for the project to cover all eventualities.

Mr. Cushing moved to authorize the Chairman to sign the letter dated September 2, 2008; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Dawson noted that it would be good to have a vote to authorize the Chairman sign the letter of support for the project, regardless of the fact that we are unable to waive the comment period.

Mr. Blanchette moved to authorize the Chairman to sign the letter of support as proposed by the Town Administrator; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Cushing moved to appoint Richard Barnes, John Beck, Eric Coble, Christopher Collings, Jill Durkee, Robert Dolan, Gerald Thornell and Anthony Ucci to the Fireworks Committee; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Dawson indicated that it has come to his attention that the existing handicapped parking space on Water Street near the Beverly Yacht Club has never been officially designated, which causes difficulties in enforcement.

Mr. Blanchette moved to so designate the parking space on Water Street; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Cushing moved one-day, special alcohol licenses for VFW Post #2425 for September 6 and 21, 2008; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Blanchette moved one-day, special alcohol licensees for Sippican Tennis Club for October 3 and November 8, 2008; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Cushing moved a one-day, special alcohol license for Sippican Lands Trust for September 18, 2008; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Cushing moved to proclaim October 24, 2008 United Nations Day; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

(A copy of the proclamation is attached to these minutes and made a part by reference.)

Mr. Dawson explained that, due to a technical error (failure to advertise in the Central Register), the Town will rebid for the Owner's Project Manager for the police station project; the deadline for bid submission is September 19.

Mr. Dawson reported his pleasure with the contractor for the village loop project, Robert B. Our, and noted that the project is going smoothly. Mr. Dawson explained that there is a water leak at Park Street, which will require a street opening at Route #6 and Main Street.

Mr. Dawson reported that he and his wife and daughter had attended the Annual Town Party on August 31 and had a wonderful time.

The Board discussed a letter from the Chairman of the Buzzards Bay Regatta. Mr. Henry noted that there will be improvement in the plans for the next race. Mr. Blanchette recalled that the Harbormaster listed as a problem the boats which were launched from Old Landing and Island Wharf without permission; however, he feels that there are people who come to watch others race—the Town should extend an invitation to these people. Mr. Cushing suggested charging a launch fee and making arrangements prior to the next race, as we have no estimation of how many boats are involved. Mr. Blanchette said that he would discuss this with the Harbormaster.

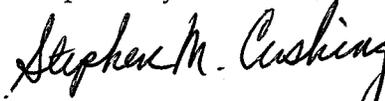
The Board was notified by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs that Bird Island and the tern habitat restoration project cost has increased to \$3,775,000 and that the State has acknowledged responsibility for the costs. Mr. Dawson

explained that the State is now willing to sign an agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers on this ongoing project, which seems to be gaining in importance.

Mr. Blanchette moved to go into executive session to discuss collective bargaining at 8:18 p.m. and not to reconvene the open session at the adjournment of the executive session; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously, Messrs. Blanchette, Henry and Cushing voting aye.

Mr. Cushing moved to adjourn the regular session of the meeting; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen M. Cushing, Clerk

Date approved: 9/16/08

Attachment

United Nations Day Proclamation

Whereas, the United Nations was founded in 1945, and the anniversary of its founding is observed each year on October 24th; and

Whereas, the central role of the United Nations is to promote peace and security, development and human rights around the world and is vital now more than ever; and

Whereas, in September of 2000, one hundred eighty-nine countries, including the United States, agreed upon eight Millennium Development Goals to meet the needs of the world's poorest; and

Whereas, the seventh Millennium Development Goal seeks to integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs and reverse the loss of environmental resources and biodiversity; and

Whereas, the Goal also seeks to reduce by half the proportion of people living without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation and achieve significant improvement in the lives of at least one-hundred-million slum dwellers by 2020; and

Whereas, the United States has demonstrated its commitment to sustainable development partnership efforts with other countries to create and implement development strategies in areas that include access to clean water and sanitation services; conservation and environmental stewardship; and protecting marine and freshwater resources; and

Whereas, the United States must continue to work with the United Nations and UN agencies in order to provide a coordinated, multilateral effort to assess the loss of environmental resources and achieve further progress towards global sustainable development; and

Whereas, the United Nations Association of the United States of America, in cooperation with other organizations, has declared "Environmental Sustainability as an Essential Tool for Poverty Alleviation" as its theme for the 2008 United Nations Day commemorations; and

Whereas, the Governor's appointed Massachusetts UN Day Chair and local UNA-USA members and community leaders will organize events and activities to educate citizens about the continuing need for the United Nations and the importance of undertaking efforts on the local and international level to promote global cooperative initiatives toward a more healthy and sustainable world;

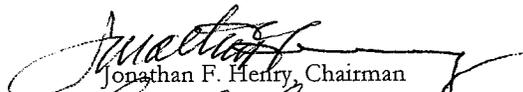
Whereas, the citizens of the Town of Marion should participate in all activities related to United Nations Day;

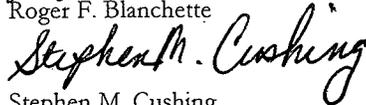
Now, therefore, the Marion Board of Selectmen, officially proclaim

*October 24, 2008 as
United Nations Day*

In Witness Whereof, we have set our hands and caused the seal of the Town of Marion to be affixed on the 2nd day of September, 2008.

Marion Board of Selectmen


Jonathan F. Henry, Chairman

Roger F. Blanchette

Stephen M. Cushing