

**TOWN OF HAMILTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SEPTEMBER 28, 2009**

The Board of Selectmen met at Hamilton Town Hall at 7:03 p.m. on Monday, September 28, 2009 with David Carey and William Bowler present. Finance Director Deborah Nippes-Mena, Planning Board Chairman David Santomenna and Town Administrator Candace Wheeler also present.

Minutes Approval

William Bowler moved that the Board approve regular session minutes for June 8, July 29, August 26, August 31 and September 3, 2009. David Carey so moved. Bowler seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Bowler moved that the Board approve executive session minutes for May 18, June 5, August 31, September 8 and 17, 2009. Carey so moved. Bowler seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Presentation by EMS Committee

Postponed until Jennifer Scuteri was in attendance.

Letter from State Ethics Commission

The Board deferred taking any action until it had more information about the state legislation changing the conflict of interest law, on-line training program from the Attorney General's office and need to designate municipal liaisons.

Fill vacancy on Council on Aging

There are two candidates. Selectmen will make a decision next week.

Revise Budget Process Committee charge

Budget communication amongst Hamilton, Wenham and the school department as well as to the public has been the charge of the committee. A suggestion has been made that budget information be traded between the three entities. A revised charge has been

developed to reflect this and the committee has approved it. It has to be approved by all three entities involved with the committee. Still important is educating the public, improving discussion transparency, educating budgeters, allocation of funds, analyzing regional school agreement, improving communication and sharing approaches to collective bargaining and long term outlook.

Carey entertained a motion for the Board to adopt the modification to the charge of the Budget Process Committee. Bowler so moved. Carey seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Sign Cemetery Deed

Carey entertained a motion to have the Board sign a cemetery deed dated September 28, 2009. Bowler so moved. Carey seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Discussion re: Johnson Controls study of potential utility savings

Carey entertained a motion for the Town of Hamilton to go to the contract development stage and have Town Counsel Donna Brewer review the contract. Bowler so moved. Carey seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Mass. Renewable Energy Fund -- \$10,000 grant money available

The Town will file an application for the grant money.

Letter to Green Meadows Farm

A festival will be held during the afternoon on Saturday, October 17. The Selectmen's office sent a letter to Joanne Patton about how advertising could not be done at Town Meeting earlier that day. Carey suggested Town Administrator Candace Wheeler call and find out if Patton wanted to put a flyer on tables at Town Meeting.

Senior Tax Exemption Legislation

The hearing on the Home Rule petition is scheduled for October 6 at 10 a.m. at the State House. Finance Committee and Selectmen representatives will attend.

Update on ERRB decision on moving funds to PRIT

Communities are not happy that the Essex Regional Retirement Board has tabled and did not have a transference plan for investments from ERRB to PRIT completed at a

recent meeting. The delay was attributed in part to waiting for the market to recover to prevent paper investment losses from becoming real losses.

Applications for 15 Walnut Road (formerly Indigo Bar and Grill): entertainment license, common victualler's license and ABCC Form 43

Carey entertained a motion to sign the agreement to allow a name change of the former Indigo Bar and Grill to 15 Walnut Road for an entertainment license, common victualler's license and ABCC Form 43. Bowler so moved. Carey seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary update

Carey said the seminary is planning on making a donation of \$100,000. This is in consideration of the number of children of seminarians that attend the public schools.

Meet with Jim Farnham to discuss Senior Housing

Resident and developer Jim Farnham had discussed with the Planning Board and spoke to the Selectmen about his interest in putting some senior housing on his property on Longmeadow Way. Farnham plans to stay in his residence on the site. There would be a mixed use between single-family residential housing and the proposed senior housing.

Planning Board Chairman David Santomenna said pork chop lots could not be subdivided, according to the related Town by-law. There was discussion on if a proposed condominium conversion would work on the site.

Audience podium for Selectmen meetings

Wheeler will ask Wenham about its podium that is used during that town's selectmen's meetings since speakers be seen and heard more easily on the cable television program.

Carey entertained a motion to go into executive session at 8:01 p.m. not to return to open session for the purpose of discussing disciplinary matters – police reserves and collective bargaining. Bowler so moved. Carey seconded the motion. Members raised their hands for a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Dooley, Minutes Secretary

ATTEST: _____

Clerk