

# TOWN OF GILL

MASSACHUSETTS



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## SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

*November 9, 2009*

### Called to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:33 p.m.

### Present

John Ward, Nancy Griswold, Selectboard members; Tracy Rogers, Town Administrator.

### Absent

Ann Banash, Selectboard member.

### Notice of Assessor Disqualification

Nancy explained the reason for the notice from the Dept. of Revenue stating that she has been disqualified as an assessor. She did not take the class in a classroom over the summer because of her handicap. Instead, she intended to take the class on a DVD, but a loss in her family occurred. She has now taken the preliminary test and will send the final test in tomorrow.

### Review Minutes

Nancy made a motion to accept minutes from the Board's October 19, 26, and 28 meetings as written. John seconded the motion and it was carried by a unanimous vote.

### Burn Permits

Tracy reported that Shelburne Dispatch will issue burning permits for at least one more season.

### Management Consultant

Tracy reported that Tom Groux had declined to provide consulting services for the Town because of the extensive contract involved. Tracy contact Town Counsel to confirm that the contract should be so extensive and was told to keep it as is.

Tracy asked Town Counsel whether the extra services added in after the interviews was acceptable or should the project be rebid. Town Counsel suggested it be rebid. The Board suggested pulling out the personnel issues and bidding those out separately. Tracy will look into the possibility.

### CEDS

Tracy reported that she spoke with Jessica Atwood at FRCOG about the CEDS listing. Funding for the Town would not receive high priority because per capita income is not low enough. Also, we'd have to list a project that would create new jobs and further economic development in the region—if Mariamante is out of the picture, the Town doesn't have any other plans for economic development right now. The Board decided not to submit a project for the CEDS listing.

### Governor's Cuts

Tracy reported that the Governor has cut state aid to local libraries, resulting in a \$99 loss for Gill. He has also proposed cutting Payment in Lieu of Taxes for state owned land, which would result in a \$5,526 loss for Gill, but the legislature must approve this cut before it is finalized. The Board decided to wait and see what the legislature does before acting on the cuts.

### Fire Department Update

Fire Chief Gene Beaubien joined the meeting. Gene reported that the SAFE grant will likely be cut later this year. This grant provides \$2,500 - \$3,000 for the Department to provide safety training to schoolchildren.

Gene presented a Siamese clapper valve whose flapper has worn out. The entire unit needs to be replaced. He's in the process of getting prices for replacement.

Gene also reported that the multi-gas meter needs new sensors (this is the piece of equipment that senses carbon monoxide). He has gotten a quote for \$650, but is waiting to confirm that. Gene left the meeting.

### Board of Health Grant Application

Tracy presented an invitation from FRCOG to join in a grant application for assessing public health needs in the region. Board of Health Secretary Randy Crochier has volunteered to sit on the planning committee. The Board agreed unanimously to join the application and John signed the letter of interest.

### EECBG

Claire Chang, Tupper Brown, Alden Booth, Timmie Smith, Ronnie LaChance, Jim Poulsen, and Lee Stevens of the Finance Committee joined the meeting. Claire presented information about an opportunity to apply for an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant. The grant would give the Town up to \$150,000 to buy down the cost of the energy savings contract (ESCO). The grant application is due December 7. Alden left the meeting.

Tracy questioned whether the Gill Elementary School should be included in the Town's ESCO project, even though it was part of the District's preliminary audit. The Board felt it should be included and instructed Tracy to notify the Superintendent and School Business Manager that it will be.

The Selectboard gave permission for the Energy Commission and Tracy to submit the EECBG application.

Claire suggested setting aside funds to pay for the investment grade audit that Siemens will conduct as part of the ESCO project in case the Town decides not to go through with the project. John made a motion to appropriate a maximum of \$2,500 from the building maintenance account for the audit. Nancy seconded the motion and it was carried by a unanimous vote.

Tupper, Lee, Timmie, and Jim left the meeting.

#### Mariamante Loan

Ronnie reported that she is in the midst of bidding out the loan payment for the Mariamante parcel. She will need the Board to sign the papers next week. Ronnie left the meeting.

#### Riverside Municipal Building (RMB)

Claire reported that the Riverside Municipal Building Study Committee may have a volunteer willing to reglaze the windows of the RMB right away. The Board asked for an estimate of materials costs before the project gets started.

Tracy reported that Maurice Dumas contacted her to state that he doesn't have enough time to devote to the RMB Study Committee. Since Maurice was never sworn in, there's no need for a letter of resignation. Bev Demars has asked to be appointed to the Committee in Maurice's place. Nancy made a motion to appoint Bev. John seconded the motion and it was carried by a unanimous vote.

Claire left the meeting.

#### Election Worker Appointments

Tracy presented a request from the Town Clerk to have additional election workers appointed for the two upcoming elections necessary to fill Senator Kennedy's seat. On the Town Clerk's recommendation, Nancy made a motion to appoint John Barry, Valeria Smith, Christine Kovalchick, and Pat Hisz as election workers. John seconded the motion and it was carried by a unanimous vote.

#### Election Warrant

Tracy presented a warrant for the upcoming primary election to fill Senator Kennedy's seat. The Board signed five copies.

#### Purchase Order

Tracy presented a purchase order for buying more trash stickers, totaling \$830.50 with Resourceful Bag & Tag, Inc. The Board signed it.

Sales Tax Exempt Purchaser Certificate

Tracy presented a sales tax exempt purchaser certificate for the Board to sign affirming the Town is exempt from paying sales tax. John signed the certificate.

Governor Highway Safety Bureau Grant

Tracy presented forms requiring the Board's signature so the Police Department could apply for another round of funding through the Governor Highway Safety Bureau program. Potential funding totals \$8,400; \$3,000 of which may be spent on equipment. The Board signed the required forms.

Chapter 90 Reimbursement Request

The Board signed a Chapter 90 reimbursement request for \$113,297.35 for resurfacing roads.

Holiday Schedule

Tracy presented a request for schedule changes over the holiday season, given that both Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on Fridays this year. She proposed giving employees Thursday 12/24 and 12/31 off instead. She also proposed closing Town Hall on Thursday, 11/12, given that Lynda would be on vacation, Ronnie would like some quiet time to get work done, and Tracy will be at meetings out of the office all day. The Board approved all recommendations.

Windows at RMB

Ray Steele joined the meeting and stated that his son is the volunteer willing to reglaze the windows at the RMB. He will need someone to remove the windows, bring them to his home, and put them back in once they're glazed. Tracy will see if someone else on the RMB Study Committee will volunteer to transport the windows. Ray left the meeting.

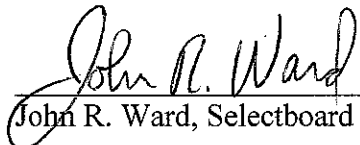
Payroll and Bill Warrants

The Board approved payroll and bill warrant number 10.

Adjourned

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Tracy Rogers, Town Administrator.*

  
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John R. Ward, Selectboard Clerk