

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING**  
**April 3, 2012**

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, April 3, 2012 in the Assembly Hall.

Members present: First Selectman Michael Criss, Selectman Jon Truskauskas, and Selectman Frank Chiaramonte.

Approximately 30 people were in attendance.

**Call to Order**

Mr. Criss called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Mr. Truskauskas moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on March 20, 2012. Mr. Chiaramonte seconded. All were in favor.

**Public Participation**

None

**Appointments and Resignations**

Mr. Criss noted the Board will soon be receiving a letter of resignation from Sabrina Janco from the Planning Commission.

**New Business**

Update on the Ambulance Facility:

As requested by Mr. Criss, Attorney Rybak reported on the status of the ambulance facility. Drake Petroleum has given the town a deadline of April 15 to close on the property located at 166 Burlington Road. Currently at issue is obtaining environmental liability insurance for the property. The company the town has been negotiating with, Chartis Insurance, will not commit to issuing coverage without a known conditions exclusion. Even though it would be unlikely for the town to be held liable for contamination it did not cause, the town would still incur legal expenses to defend any claims. Another issue is whether or not Drake's plan of remediation and certification by their LEP is acceptable for the use of state grant funds. Brian Washburn with HRP Environmental was present to answer questions regarding ground water monitoring. A special meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be held prior to April 15<sup>th</sup> and the selectmen will have to decide on whether or not to proceed with the purchase. Attorney Rybak stated he will be at the Town Meeting on April 10<sup>th</sup> to explain the latest developments.

Review Proposal from Collection Agency for Tax Office:

Beth Hamel, Tax Collector, proposed the idea of contracting a collection agency to assist with collections of delinquent tax invoices. She invited Mr. Roger Blain with TaxServ Capital Services, LLC. In her proposal she states the utilization of a collection

agency is an enforcement tool which the Tax Collector can use to assist her in collections. This type of enforcement allows the taxpayer to develop a payment plan with the agency. A tax collector does not have the authority to accept payment plans. The utilization of TaxServ will reduce delinquent mailings (paper, envelopes, and postage) and the many hours spent tracking bad addresses. There is no cost to the town for this service. She stated the town currently has over \$210,000 in delinquent motor vehicle and supplemental motor vehicle taxes. Mr. Blain explained how TaxServ works and answered various questions including how the company is paid. He explained that a 15% fee is added to the obligation and that is how they are paid. They also try to be compassionate, especially in regard to the elderly, military personnel, and hardship cases. He stated their goal is to collect 50% within three (3) years. Mr. Criss stated the selectmen will make a decision after further review of the proposal.

Request to form a Recycling Task Force:

Mr. Criss read a letter from Recycling Coordinator, Tracy Mirsky, requesting permission to form a Task Force for the purpose of identifying and setting short and long term goals in order to 1. Increase the town's recycling rates and 2. Generate recycling income directly through the sale of recyclables and indirectly by lowering the town's tax base. She expects the task force to meet monthly for approximately one (1) year. The following residents have agreed to serve- Patricia Williamsen, Fred Finken, Lillian Wilbert, Deborah Czark. Heather MacDonald Burritt is considering serving. Mr. Chiaramonte moved to establish a recycling task force. Mr. Truskauskas seconded. All were in favor.

Harwinton House- Letter of Intent:

A rewritten letter of intent for the Harwinton House was presented. A change in the letter was made whereby the current Harwinton House committee would also serve as the building committee for the house. Mr. Chiaramonte moved to accept the Harwinton House Letter of Intent. Mr. Truskauskas seconded. All were in favor.

**Correspondence**

The Selectmen reviewed the Fire Marshal's report for February and March, 2012. The selectmen reviewed a letter from the state regarding state trooper dispatch consolidation.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Truskauskas moved to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Mr. Chiaramonte seconded. All were in favor.

Minutes submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa Santoro