

**Board of Selectmen  
Minutes  
October 26, 2010  
Center School Office  
7:00 p.m.**

Select Board Chair Paul Newlin called the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Whately to order on Tuesday, October 26, 2010 at 7:00p.m. Also present were Selectman Joyce Palmer Fortune, Town Administrator/Town Clerk Lynn Sibley and Municipal Secretary Maryellen Cranston. Minutes from the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting were accepted as written. Payroll and vendor warrants were reviewed and signed.

**Town Administrator - Introduction** – Lynn introduced the new Municipal Secretary, Maryellen Cranston, to the Board. Maryellen has municipal experience from the Town of Ashfield. **Selectmen's Association Meeting** – Lynn informed the Board that the next Franklin County Selectmen's Association meeting is November 18, 2010 at the Franklin County Technical School. Board members will let Lynn know if they are able to attend. **Exit polling** – Lynn discussed with the Board a request from Kevin Murphy at the Frontier Regional School to conduct exit polling at town hall on Election Day. A live broadcast will occur on FCAT from 5 to 8 pm utilizing the information gained from the polls. Mr. Murphy asked in his email if a town administrator or select board member is available to be interviewed on Election Day. Paul will contact him to arrange a possible time for the interview. **EDS Drill** – Lynn reviewed the Drive Thru Flu Clinic, which occurred on October 24 with the Board. The Clinic also served as an Emergency Dispensing Drill, which tests how the towns would respond in the event of an emergency. This was the first drive thru clinic in this area and only the second one in the state. 576 injections and 105 mists were administered. The clinic was considered a success. Some potential problems, like having shelter at some of the stations in case of rain, will be addressed for the future. **Housing Committee** – Lynn spoke to the Planning Board about having them serve as a Housing Committee. Lynn reported that they have a lot on their plate right now. Housing issues are in a different category and should be kept separate from the Planning Board. The Community Preservation Committee is looking for input on the housing section of the Community Preservation Plan. Three members should be enough with meetings primarily in November and December. Lynn will look at her street list for potential candidates.

**Town Clerk – Dog Licenses** – Four delinquent dog owners have been turned over to the police. The police were going to make a final effort to contact the owners before submitting the complaints to the Court. Two owners have contacted Lynn to inform her that they will be getting their dog's rabies shots. **Town Hall Vault** – Lynn showed the Board the report outlining the improvements needed for the storage of records at town hall. As part of the town hall renovations discussion, Lynn suggested that an additional, environmentally controlled vault for critical records could be part of the new structure. The current vault is not adequate for storage of records due to humidity.

**License Hearing** – The hearing to amend the Explosives and Flammable Materials License for Philip Goulet was called to order at 7:32 pm. Also present was Philip Goulet and Chet Carrara from Abeniqui Trucking. Lynn read the hearing notice, which was advertised a week ago and the abutters were duly notified. The application asks for an additional 46,000 gallons of storage capacity for gasoline to be added to the license. The amended license was asked for because Abeniqui Trucking leases spaces from Mr. Goulet. Paul asked what happens in the event of a major spill. There are protocols in place to deal with a hazardous catastrophe. The Board approved the amended application. Paul signed as chair the amended license.

**Highway Department** – Keith Bardwell was present to update the board. **Haydenville Road Bridge/Conway Road Culvert Update** Mass DOT is working on a new method to insert the footings for

the abutments of the bridge. Because of salmon in the water, work needs to be done either after June 1 and before October 30, unless an exemption is granted. The work that needs to be done on this bridge would be in conflict with the work that needs to be done on the Conway Road culvert. After discussion of the impact of both projects, the consensus was that an exemption should be sought for the work on Conway Road culvert. That project would need to be completed first and then begin work on the Haydenville Road bridge in order to minimize the impact of having to close the road. There will be a site visit at the Haydenville Road bridge on Tuesday, November 2. Joyce can attend the meeting if it is in the morning. Paul could attend if it is in the afternoon. **Williamsburg Road Bridge update** – Keith reported that the bridge on Williamsburg Road was closed by DOT. The Board discussed the impacts of the closure on residents. Discussion occurred on the possibility of investigating if Williamsburg would plow the road. Currently if a fire is toned out, then Williamsburg responds. All of the bridges discussed are designed short of the 20 foot requirement to receive federal assistance. If the bridges were redesigned to bring them up to code, then they could qualify to receive federal assistance.

## **Old Business**

**CORI Policy** – The Board voted to adopt the CORI policy as presented by Lynn.

**Fire Station Roof Contract** – RCI roofing signed the contract for the fire station roof repairs. Lynn had their performance bond and insurance. Paul signed the contract as chair. The Board discussed potential colors for the roof. They had no preference. Lynn thought gray would look nice.

**CDBG Change in Program Guidelines** – Lynn reviewed proposed guidelines changes to the CDBG program. There is still money available under this program. The proposed changes are to discharge half the debt after 15 years. The remaining half would be paid back in the second 15 years. The Town would get a payment when the property is sold. Lynn recommended to the Board to approve the new regulations in order to make the money more available. The Board had agreed to the program in order for residents to improve their properties, which would increase property values. The Board agreed to support the new program guidelines. **Sibley Driveway Permit** – The Board will hold a hearing at a future meeting to discuss a variance request of Christopher and Julie Sibley to use an existing road as their driveway for their new house to be constructed at 113 North Street. This road does not have a 20' setback from the abutting property.

## **New Business**

**Sheriff's Office Willing to Paint Town Hall** – Lynn spoke to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. They will be able to paint Town Hall in the spring. The Town needs to provide the paint, drop cloths and a lift. Community Preservation funds may be available to de-lead the paint from previous coats.

**APR Announcement and Discussion** – Lynn informed the Board of a new APR application at 62 Christian Lane, assessor map 19, lot 11. The Board discussed whether or not the Town should appropriate any money for APR's. The consensus was that APR's are an appropriate use of CPA funds since one of the priorities of the Community Preservation plan is to encourage open space. The Selectmen felt it was up to the applicant to pursue CPA funds. **Ambulance Abatements** – The Board signed Ambulance abatements. Two from FY08 are not collectable. A few from FY09 have issues with either addresses or are insurance write-offs. The abatements from FY10 are insurance write-offs. FY08 amounts abated total \$1580.06. FY09 amounts abated total \$8654.54. FY10 amounts abated total \$11,062.18.

**Parking Ban** – The Board voted to enforce the parking ban from November 1, 2010 thru April 15, 2011. No cars will be allowed to park on the streets or municipal parking areas from midnight until 7 am.

**Ballot Questions** – Lynn asked the Board if they wanted to take a stand on the ballot questions. Paul and Joyce were against repeal of the alcohol sales tax and lowering the sales tax. They were in favor of funding the capital stabilization account. They had mixed feelings on the repeal of the affordable housing law.

**Cultural Council contract** – Paul signed as chair the Cultural Council contract with the State to receive \$3870.

**Appointments** – The Board appointed Suzanne Cycz to the position of election worker.

There was no public comment or executive session needed at this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Palmer-Fortune, Clerk

**Documents Used at Meeting and are on file in Selectmen's Office**

Payroll and Vendor Warrants for warrant #9.

Ambulance Abatements

Philip Goulet's Application For License (amended license) 10/15/10

Quarterly Meeting Notice from the Franklin County Selectmen's Association

Email from Frontier Regional School District requesting election day exit polling 10/22/10

Town Hall vault data logger report 10/8/10

Town of Whately CORI policy

Fire Station Roof Contract between the Town of Whately and RCI Roofing, LLP

APR announcement for 62 Christian Lane

Cultural Council contract between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Town of Whately