

**Board of Selectmen
Minutes
November 25, 2008
Center School Offices
7:00 p.m.**

Select Board Chair Alan Sanderson, Jr. called the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Whately to order on Tuesday, November 25, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Selectman Paul Newlin, Town Administrator/Town Clerk Lynn Sibley, and Municipal Secretary Barbara Hancock. Selectman Jonathan Edwards was absent. Vendor and payroll warrants were reviewed and signed. Minutes from the November 12th meeting were accepted as written.

Town Administrator, Lynn Sibley: Trench Regulation – The regulation is scheduled to be enforced beginning January 2009. Need to designate someone to issue the permits for Whately and determine a fee schedule. FrCOG has written another letter to the Department of Public Safety and to the legislators with questions/concerns regarding the implementation of this regulation. **FCSWMD May Collection** – The District is considering running a spring bulky waste collection day. The spring event would be run just like the fall event with four towns hosting collection sites. Whately would save the \$1000 that they usually spend on the Town-run spring event. The District should also cover the Highway Department's payroll associated with the event. **Regional Advisory Committee** – Sunderland had contacted Frontier's member towns to form a committee to monitor Frontier's budget. No one from the Finance Comm. is able to serve on the committee. The Selectmen recommended Jonathan to represent Whately. Lynn will check with Jonathan and again with the Finance Committee to find a representative to work with Sunderland, Deerfield, and Conway. **Citizen's Advisory Committee for CDBG** – Still looking for someone from Whately to serve on the committee. Lynn has email Richard Korpiewski to see if he is interested. **ZBA Secretary** – The position is still vacant despite being advertised in the newspaper and in town. Lynn reviewed the position's responsibilities and pay rate for the broadcast audience. **Franklin Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority** would like to apply on behalf of the town to a new weatherization program. Whately would need to add the weatherization program to its Community Development Strategy by updating the plan. A posting will publicize the hearing to update the Community Development Strategy at the next meeting when it will be voted. More details will be available during the public meeting on Dec 9th. FRHRA will submit the application, which is due Feb 20th. **Franklin County School Project** – Robert Pura, GCC President and project coordinator has extended an invitation for Whately to participate in the countywide brainstorming group focused on the future of education in Franklin County. Next meeting is Dec 8th at FCTS at 7pm.

Town Clerk, Lynn Sibley: Elections – Election results have been certified.

Highway Department – Lynn updated the Board. **Haydenville Rd Bridge** – The Mylar's have been forwarded to the Planning Board for their signatures and will be sent to FrCOG. Another copy will be sent to the Town's attorney for the takings to be written.

New Business

Parking Ban – The Selectmen voted unanimously to impose the annual parking ban beginning immediately and continuing through April 15th. There will be no on street parking or parking in municipal lots between midnight and 7am.

FrCOG's Technical Assistance Program – FrCOG is looking for input regarding towns' needs. This program will receive state funding to expand regional and inter-town cost-sharing opportunities, such as: new or on-going planning projects, Expedited Permitting (Chapter 43D), and projects that relate to regional cost sharing or service provision.

Open Space Committee – Cris Coffin has agreed to serve. Haven't heard from other previous committee members yet.

Municipal Energy Consulting Group – Received correspondence regarding the company’s offer to seek refunds from WMECO for street lighting overcharges. The company would keep 25% of the returned overcharges. The Board had limited interest. Whately doesn’t have street lighting.

Pay Day Policy – If a holiday falls on payday, the Board agreed that Town employees would be paid the business day before the holiday if the Treasurer can arrange that with the bank.

Adelia Bardwell appeared before the Board to tell them about a meeting she had attended. The monthly Selectmen Association dinner focused on education this month. Adelia was impressed with the enthusiasm at the well-attended meeting. Superintendents from all the school districts as well as school committee members and town leaders make up the group that are meeting to collaborate on cost saving and efficient ways to share resources. Robert Pura, GCC President and Chair of the committee, spoke as well as Linda Dunlavy from FrCOG, Chris Donelan, and Representative Kulik. This collaborative group is being watched by state officials to see what can be accomplished. The next meeting is scheduled for Dec 8th and the Mass. Education Secretary will attend. Adelia wanted to encourage the Select Board and Whately School Committee members to become involved. Paul Newlin has attended previous meetings.

Oldest Citizen – Adelia asked what the status was for acknowledging the oldest Whately resident. The Historical Society is in possession of the cane. Lynn explained that in the past the Town has presented the oldest citizen with a certificate during a ceremony. The Boston Cane program has been in existence for many years. The current oldest resident is John Jarosewicz. A recognition ceremony must be scheduled. The Selectmen thanked Adelia.

STM Warrant – The Selectmen reviewed the warrant for the Dec 16th Special Town Meeting. Articles 1-3 related to ‘house-keeping’ finances, Article 4 proposes to change the date of Annual Town Elections to the second Tuesday in June, Article 5, which Finance Committee did not review, would move money from one account to another to pay for road machinery repairs, Article 6 would return money to the Highway Department used during the 2005 storm damage, Article 7 would move \$3000 out of free cash to pay for easements and legal fees associated with the Haydenville Rd Bridge, Article 8 would appropriate money needed to pay veteran’s benefits, Article 9 would appropriate money to pay tuition for a Smith Vocational student. The Selectmen did not include an article that would appropriate \$2900 to cover additional costs for a new police cruiser. The cruiser was approved at the last annual town meeting, but was not ordered right away. Now, the price of the cruiser has gone up and the lease figures have increased. The Selectmen felt the additional money should be approved at an annual town meeting, not a special town meeting. Lynn has suggested the Department request the additional money from Yankee Candle as part of the Company’s annual donation. The Selectmen approved Articles 1-9 and signed the warrant.

There being no further business to come before this meeting, it was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul K. Newlin, Clerk