

**Selectmen Meeting  
Minutes  
June 29, 2011**

Selectman Connolly, Selectman Sargent, Selectman Dickhaut, Selectman Dziokonski and Chairman LeBlanc were in attendance. Attendees were Administrator Ward and Solicitor Gibbons. Chairman LeBlanc opened the meeting at 7:00PM.

**Review of Minutes**

No Minutes to Review

**Reorganization of Board**

**Chairman**

Chairman LeBlanc opened nominations for Chairman. Selectman Sargent nominated Selectman Dickhaut as Chairman for the year 2011 -2012. Chairman LeBlanc asked for other nominations, they were none. Nominations closed the vote was unanimous electing Selectman Dickhaut Chairman. Selectman LeBlanc congratulated Chairman Dickhaut, she thanked the board.

**Vice Chairman**

Chairman Dickhaut opened nominations for Vice Chairman, Selectman LeBlanc nominated Selectman Sargent. Chairman Dickhaut asked for additional nomination, there were none. Nominations closed the vote was unanimous electing Selectman Sargent Vice Chairman.

**Clerk**

Chairman Dickhaut opened nominations for Clerk, Selectman LeBlanc nominated Selectman Dziokonski. Chairman Dickhaut asked for additional nomination, there were none. Nominations closed the vote was unanimous electing Selectman Dziokonski Clerk.

**Common Victuallers License Hearing – 120 Union Street**

The board received an application request for a Common Victuallers License from Penny DiCienzo d/b/a Penny's Bakery & Cafe. Chairman Dickhaut opened the hearing, for Common Victuallers License, he invited the applicant to come forward and state their name and address. Ms. Penny DiCienzo of 380 Day Street were before the board. Chairman Dickhaut asked Ms. DiCienzo to explain her business plan. Ms. DiCienzo

explained she will be opening as a café and bakery. Selectmen Dickhaut asked if she was just taking over the existing business. Ms. DiCienzo replied yes. Selectman Sargent made a motion to approve the Common Victuallers License for Penny DiCienzo d/b/a Penny's Bakery & Cafe. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

### **Common Victuallers License Hearing – 1040 Main Street**

The board received an application request for a Common Victuallers License from McDonald's Corporation of Massachusetts d/b/a McDonald's Restaurant. Chairman Dickhaut opened the hearing, for Common Victuallers License, she invited the applicant to come forward and state their name and address. Mr. Cory Pace was before the board representing the new ownership of the McDonald's Restaurant. He explained the restaurant will operate the same under new ownership. Selectman Connolly made a motion to approve the Common Victuallers License for McDonald's Corporation. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

### **2011 Street Paving Program**

Superintendent of Public Works Christopher McGown was before the board to review the streets in the 2011 Street Paving Program. He reviewed the town received a big bump in the Chapter 90 Funding it went from \$250,000.00 to \$335,000.00. He received a price of \$63.50 per ton which is a good rate. He submitted a proposed list of roads for paving to the board. He reviewed Park Street will be partially done with Chapter 90 funding and part will be done as part of the Water Tank project. He reviewed the developer of Lancaster Mills repaved Green Street including all new curbing. Selectman Connolly asked if it was part of the Planning Board approval for the street to be paved. Superintendent McGown explained it was part of the agreement to have the corner done and the curbing reset to improve the turn. Discussion continued regarding the streets recommended by Superintendent McGown and streets the board felt needed to be completed. Selectman Dziokonski mentioned Oak Street as far done as the Holy Rosary is in need of paving along with Franklin Street, Selectman Connolly mentioned Clamshell Road also needs to be paved. Superintendent McGown agreed stating there is only so much funding to go around he agreed those streets are in need of paving. The board agreed with the list submitted by Superintendent McGown.

### **Administrative Business**

#### Late Night Closing Request

Town Administrator Ward reviewed the following establishments are requesting late night closings for Saturdays in the month of July 2011: Clinton Turn Verein, Clem's Liberty Tavern, Old Timer, Ringside Café, The Simple Man Saloon and Crystal Café. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to approve late night closings for the month of July 2011 as requested; if any additional establishments apply they can be approved with

the Police Chiefs review and approval. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

#### Public Works Monthly Report

Superintendent of Public Works submitted a monthly report relative to the operations of his department for the month of May 2011 for the Selectmen's review and approval. Selectman Dzikonski made a motion to accept the report as presented. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

#### Town Hall Use Commission

Administrator Ward explained the Town Hall Use Commission is recommending approval of the following event for use of the Fallon Memorial Auditorium:

5/12/12 Assabet Valley Mastersingers 6:00PM – 11:00PM

Selectman Sargent made a motion to approve the event for Town Hall Use as requested by the Assabet Valley Mastersingers. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

#### **Old & New Business**

##### *FY2011 Year End Budget Transfers*

Administrator Ward presented the board with a spreadsheet showing the departmental transfers needed to cover expenses. The board discussed the transfers, Chairman Dickhaut asked about the transfer for Veteran benefits; at town meeting for next year \$230,000 was budgeted is this enough for the upcoming year. Administrator Ward reviewed this year the line item totaled a little over \$230,000. Selectman Dziokonski asked about the funding being used to cover the transfer from short term borrowing. Administrator Ward reviewed the funding was set aside in case short term borrowing was needed but it was not so the funding can be used to cover the expense of Veteran benefits. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to approve the list of budget transfers to cover the departmental expenses as presented. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Administrator Ward explained the requests need to be approved by the Finance Committee on Thursday night at their meeting. The vote was unanimous.

##### *Sunday Liquor Sales*

Administrator Ward explained the office was contacted by the owner of Sonny's Liquors inquiring as the policy for the sale of liquor on Sundays prior to the holiday. State law allows package store to be open until 11:30PM on Sundays prior to a holiday. The town of Clinton only allows for liquor sales until 6:00PM on Sundays. It would require the local licensing authority to authorize a later opening to reflect state law for days prior to a holiday. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to comply with the 6:00PM closing on Sundays, he reviewed at the prior meeting the majority of package store owners were asked and agreed a 6:00PM closing is best. Selectman Dziokonski seconded the

motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Connolly stated he realizes the sentiment but the obligation is to serve the public, not business, he feels the option should be available for those who want to be open. The vote was 4/1 opposed Selectman Connolly.

#### *Katie's Lunch Box*

Administrator Ward explained the initial location for the business was 564 Main Street, the owners contacted the office requested a change in location to 637 High Street where he has been in contact with the owner and entered into a rental agreement. He has opened at this location earlier this week and the office has received a complaint regarding the noise of the generator used to operate the business. The Board of Health reviewed the noise complaint and the owner has mitigated the issue by building an enclosure for the generator to muffle the sound. Selectman Sargent made a motion to approve the new location of 637 High Street as requested by Katie's Lunch Box. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Connolly stated he will abstain from voting he is an abutter to the property. The vote was 4/0/1 abstention by Selectman Connolly.

#### *Federal Law Enforcement Fund Transfer*

Administrator Ward explained the Police Chief is requesting that the Board of Selectmen approve a transfer from the Federal Law Enforcement Fund in the amount of \$12,600.00 to the State Law Enforcement Fund to be used for the purchase of a new fully loaded Toyota Rav-4 vehicle for the department that was seized during a drug operation. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to approve the transfer as requested \$12,600.00 from the Federal Law Enforcement Fund to the State Law Enforcement fund. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

#### *WRTA Transportation Contract*

Administrator Ward reviewed the Worcester Regional Transit Authority sent out the annual agreement; it is the standard contract for Senior Van Service. The WRTA provides the buses and a payment of \$42,230.00 and the town provides the drivers and the insurance. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to accept the WRTA annual agreement as presented. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

#### *MRPC Disaster Plan Grant Proposal*

Administrator Ward explained the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission is applying for a grant from FEMA to write Local Hazard Mitigation Plans for communities. This is a requirement by FEMA for communities who are eligible for disaster relief. Currently the town has a plan that will expire in 2015. The MRPC has requested all communities interested to send a letter of interest by July 6, 2011. Selectman LeBlanc

made a motion to send a letter of intent to participate in the grant MRPC. Selectman Dziokonski seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

### ***Committee Reports***

Selectman Dzikonski explained he had three things he would like to discuss with the board. He explained being elected Clerk of the board he would like to have all agendas and meeting minutes on the town web site. He explained he is willing to do it.

Selectman LeBlanc stated this is a topic the board has reviewed in the past.

Administrator Ward explained he will review the process of adding the agendas and minutes to the town site. Secondly, Selectman Dziokonski explained at the recent candidate's night the subject of Christmas lighting on High Street was discussed.

Selectman Dziokonski would like to see these decorations restored, he would like to with the approval of the Chairman form a committee to work on fund raising to support the Christmas decorations. Chairman Dickhaut supported the request and asked any other board members if they were interested in working on the committee. Selectman Sargent agreed to work with Selectman Dziokonski on Christmas Lighting. The third item he discussed was the young people in Central Park. He would like to see the two groups the residents of Cocoran House and the teens meet one another. He explained there would be a better understanding of use of the park if the two groups were to met on another, it could be explained to the younger group that the elderly are afraid of the skateboards. If contact was developed between the two groups it may bring awareness to the situation. Chairman Dickhaut reviewed there are some young people who are damaging the sidewalks with spray paint, last Sunday evening there was a hammock tied to the trees, this is damaging and destructive to the park. These kids are not bored looking for things to do they are destructive, there should be a Police detail walking through the park. Selectman Connolly agreed the teens should not be that brazen to be destructive in the park located so close to the Police Department. He explained he has witnessed a few things himself and their actions are malicious. He agrees with Selectman Dzikonski suggestion, it is insightful, it is difficult to be rude to people you know. Chairman Dickhaut asked for Administrator Ward to contact Superintendent Ingano to set up a meeting. Administrator Ward explained the school department wants to be involved; they are willing to help find a solution to this issue. Chairman Dickhaut stated there should be an on foot patrol in the park.

### ***Senior Building Needs Committee***

Selectman LeBlanc reviewed the RFP have gone out for the Senior Center and the deadline is July 7, 2011. Administrator Ward reviewed the ZBA approved the special permit request, now there is a 20 day appeal process once the decision is written. He explained by the end of the summer the town will have ownership of the property and get an Architect on board.

## **Public Comment**

Mr. John Martin of 28 Orange Street was before the board. Mr. Martin discussed concerns regarding the open meeting law with the board and the town's compliance. He reviewed some cost saving measures the town should consider, he recommended contracting custodial and landscaping services along with establishing a centralized purchasing system and making a change with the town health insurance benefit to the state GIC plan. Further recommendations include regionalizing with other communities, using the example of a specialty purchase of a truck by the DPW could be done by more than one town and shared by all the towns. He recommends regionalizing the Water & Sewer and Rubbish Enterprise funds and selling the Weke Peke water to create a revenue source. He explained a lot of work cannot be done on one meeting a month. He recommended the board contact other communities and start working together, this cannot wait the MMA should also be contacted. Selectman Dziokonski stated all the ideas brought forward by Mr. Martin are great ones, he agrees there should be a review of doing things differently. He explained he is a former state employee and he is familiar with a contacted janitorial service versus a private in house service. It is not always a good idea. Chairman Dickhaut reviewed a lot of the issues brought forward the board has reviewed in detail and recognizes a need for change. The board has made an honest effort to review centralized purchasing and it is a wonderful idea but has to provide a cost savings to be effective. The board does recognize deficiencies and is constantly taking time to look for improvement. Selectman Connolly explained he would like to compliment Mr. Martin for coming forward with the information. He explained the board is intimate with the issue of reliance on state aid; the subject of group insurance rate is being worked on by a consultant for the town. He explained a lot of what has been brought forward is being done. All departments work best to economize, the board is working aggressively on all of the issues brought forth. He complimented Mr. Martin again and thanked him for bringing his ideas forward but they are being worked on. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to adjourn at 8:11PM. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Joyce A. Corbosiero

Administrative Assistant  
Clinton Board of Selectmen