

**Board of Selectmen Meeting
Selectmen's Meeting Room
March 16th, 2009, 6:30 PM**

Present

Ingrid F. Miles
James W. Foley
Elizabeth A. Kilcoyne
Patrick J. McNally
Charles D. Surpitski

Ms. Miles convened the Monday, March 9th, 2009 Board of Selectmen meeting at 7:41PM.

Citizen Queries

Mr. Nathaniel Pulsifer, 60 Waldingfield Road spoke to the upcoming Sunday, March 22nd 375th Anniversary event.

Mr. Charles Trainer spoke to the 375th Anniversary Committee in relation to a permit for blockage of a Town sidewalk. Mr. Trainer is serving as the "Town Crier" for the 375th Anniversary Celebration.

Students **Eli Morrissey** and **Luke Roesler** from the Winthrop Elementary School spoke to energy conservation efforts and asked that the Town of Ipswich turn off all lights on March 28th, 2009.

By motion of Mr. Foley, seconded by Ms. Kilcoyne, the Board voted to unanimously turn off all lights on March 28th, 2009 at 8:30 PM.

Shellfish Rules and Regulations Public Hearing

Ms. Miles opened the public hearing to adopt the proposed shellfish rules and regulations by reading the legal advertisement.

Ms. Kilcoyne presented the proposed shellfish rules and regulations as authored by the shellfish sub-committee to the Selectmen. Ms. Kilcoyne spoke to the process, review and composition of the proposed regulations.

Ms. Kilcoyne went through the proposed regulations section by section.

Ms. Kilcoyne spoke to the increased fees, catch limits, availability for seasonal clam licenses for high school students and elimination of out of state clam licenses.

Mr. Foley asked for further clarification of the section relating to daily limits.

Mr. Gerald Woodmansee, 34 Elm Street, North Reading, questioned the use of the shellfish enhancement fund and the locations for commercial clammers without boat access.

Ms. Kilcoyne spoke to the definition of residency and the process involved in obtaining a license. In addition, Ms. Kilcoyne spoke to deadlines and fees involved with commercial permit fees.

Ms. Kilcoyne spoke to the application process for hardship clamming licenses. Ms. Kilcoyne noted that the sub-committee would not consider a hardship license if the citizen was on the waiting list for a permit.

Ms. Kilcoyne clarified the student permit process and dates for shell fishing (Memorial Day through Labor Day.)

Mr. Pick Thistlewood, Shellfish Constable, noted that currently there are 40 citizens on the waiting list for a clam license.

Mr. Foley requested clarification on the cap of commercial permits for citizens above 70 years old and conservation enhancement tasks in relation to the work burden for Mr. Thistlewood.

Mr. Thistlewood spoke to 240 pound daily catch limit.

Mr. Markel spoke to the availability of resources and the negative impacts of increased catch limit.

Mr. Surpitski spoke to the number of rain closures and red tide closures throughout the past year. The sub-committee noted that in the past year red tide and rain closures closed the flats for an estimated 25% of the harvestable time.

Mr. McNally questioned the 240 pound increase.

Mr. Thistlewood noted that the negative and positive impacts of the 240 pound increase.

Ms. Kilcoyne and Mr. Surpitski spoke to the sub-committee review of compensation for closures relating to red tide and rain closures. The sub-committee also reviewed the potential of re-opening the flats on Sunday's.

Mr. Foley asked Mr. Thistlewood for the estimated time of clam flat closure relating to a rain closure.

Mr. Ernie Brockelbank, 284 High Street, spoke to his concern relating to weight limits, history of sub-committee decisions and the fees relating for the over 70 year old commercial clam licenses.

Gerald Woodmansee, 34 Elm Street, North Reading, questioned the weighing process associated to daily poundage.

Mr. Thistlewood spoke to the auditing process associated with the flats in relation to daily poundage.

Shaun Parker, 213 High Street, spoke to shellfish conservation in relation to the increase daily poundage. Mr. Parker asked that the Board look at alternatives to the increased poundage. Mr. Parker noted economic impacts of increasing the poundage.

Andrew Alexson, 19 Juniper Street, spoke to the "grandfather" process in relation to over 70 commercial clam licenses.

Linda Alexson, 19 Juniper Street, asked when the proposed rules and regulations would be taking effect.

Mr. Foley asked for clarification on the language of residency requirements and the usage of the words may vs. shall. Mr. Foley spoke to conservation efforts in relation to out of town clambers.

Ms. Kilcoyne noted that the Town has 250 non-resident clambers and 550 resident clambers.

Mr. Thistlewood spoke to “walk-outs” on the Plum Island clam flats.

Mr. Thistlewood spoke to the tools used for clamming.

Mr. Markel asked for clarification of closing of beds for oysters in September.

Shaun Parker, 213 High Street, asked if clarification should be given to the distinction between public and private lands in relation to aquaculture.

Ms. Kilcoyne provided the Board with final commentary to sum up the proposed rules and regulations.

Mr. McNally asked for additional clarification for the words may vs. shall throughout the proposed rules and regulation document.

Mr. Foley is noted that he is not interested in changing the word “may” for non-resident recreational clambers but asked that the word shall be used instead.

By motion of Mr. McNally, seconded by Ms. Kilcoyne, the Board voted unanimously that the proposed shellfish rules and regulations be adopted.

Mr. Foley made note that he would not support the increased fee for over 70 residents.

In addition and as discussed, the Board voted to unanimously accept the proposed shellfish rules and regulations with the addendum that the provision for increased fees for over 70 license holders be removed.

Mr. Thistlewood asked the language additionally include that all those over 70 must have had a license for five years.

Facilities Directorate Budget

Presented by William Hodge, Facilities Director and Jane Spellman, Facilities Assistant.

Mr. Hodge and Ms. Spellman showed a ten minute film of all the work they have completed in FY2009.

Mr. Hodge provided the Board with a spreadsheet outlining expenditures and spoke to the efficiency of correctional help.

Mr. Hodge outlined the plan for each Town own building such as the cemetery facility, town hall (including window replacement) and additional work to the public library.

Mr. Hodge spoke to the fractured relationship with the school department.

Mr. Hodge spoke to the role of custodial staff and the need for an additional full time custodian to replace the two part-time.

Mr. Hodge spoke to his request for a 400 kW generator so that the Town Hall will be used as a command post in an emergency scenario.

Ms. Miles commend Mr. Hodge for such an impressive presentation and his “can-do” attitude.

Mr. Foley spoke to the renovation of the cemetery and parks property and potential funding opportunities.

Mr. Foley questioned Mr. Hodge if there were grants available in converting the energy system at the police station.

Mr. Foley asked the Board to discuss the 33% school department contribution to Mr. Hodge’s salary.

Mr. Surpitski asked for clarification on the hours of employment for the two part time custodians.

Ms. Kilcoyne asked Mr. Hodge to speak to the need and process involved with the procurement of a generator for the Town Hall building. Ms. Kilcoyne asked if it would be appropriate to use the school department generator.

Mr. Hodge spoke to the substantial costs of cell phone service as provided by Nextel.

County, Summer and Green Streets Historic Sidewalk Presentation

Presented by Robert Gravino, Director of Public Works and Larry Graham of H.L. Graham Associates.

Mr. Gravino spoke to costs estimated with the sidewalk project.

Mr. Gravino outlined his recommendations and the Manley residence.

Mr. McNally asked about the durability of concrete and the cost difference between cement and asphalt. Mr. Gravino noted that the difference is estimated at \$20,000.

Mr. Foley asked for clarification on the plan for County and Green Street. Mr. Gravino stated that he did hire a historic consultant to evaluate the historic nature of the proposed sidewalks.

John Soinnen, 17 County Street, spoke to his recommendations for sidewalk installation in relations to aesthetics. Suggested two options for of purchasing concrete with an alternative and broadcast an aggregate in to it and consider stressing the surface.

By motion of Ms. Kilcoyne, seconded by Mr. Foley, the Board unanimously moved to adopt the recommendation of the Public Works Director to incorporate cement sidewalks on Green Street and County Streets, asphalt sidewalks on Summer Street and granite curbing throughout the project areas.

Mr. Graham spoke to the right of way in relation to the property as owned by Mr. Steven Manley. Mr. Graham asked that he be given latitude to move the side walking away from the Manley property before construction is begun.

Steve Manley, Green Street, thanked the Board for taking his situation in to advisement and asked for clarification of the line between street end and the grass. Mr. Manley asked that Mr. Graham reconstruct the brick walkway that would be impacted as well as the rot iron rails.

Ms. Kilcoyne modified her motion to include working together with Mr. Graham and Gravino to make the road on Green Street and recognizing that it is indeed in the public way, seconded by Mr. McNally, the Board moved unanimously to support working together on Green Street.

Robert Waldner, 22 Green Street, spoke to the proposal.

John Soinnen, questioned if there is closure to the use of a historical architect who was asked to develop a standard that can be universally used.

Bob Weatherall, Labor In Vain Road, member of the Planning Board, agreed with the need for standardization and asked that the definition be clarified.

Department of Public Works Budget

Presented by Robert Gravino, Director of Public Works.

Mr. Gravino highlighted each of his eight budgets. Highlights included accounts such as gasoline and diesel, equipment maintenance, waste management, and recycling.

Mr. Gravino noted that the current snow and ice deficit is \$229,000. Mr. Gravino asked that Mr. Markel explain to the Board the procedure involved with the fall town meeting.

Mr. Surpitski asked how the gasoline prices were configured.

Mr. Gravino spoke to the success of the Operations Manager.

Mr. Surpitski asked if Mr. Gravino was removing the DPW foreman from the list and asked if certifications/trainings were considered.

Mr. Markel offered support to the Department of Public Works budget and stated that the budget may be too lean.

Ms. Kilcoyne asked if the Town Manager had considered voluntary furloughs.

Mr. Gravino spoke to spring overtime reductions.

Ms. Kilcoyne asked Mr. Gravino if he had a plan/protocol for painting sidewalks.

Mr. Gravino added the request of additional staffing for the forestry department.

Mr. Foley spoke to the positive relationship between the Shade Tree and Beautification Committee and the Department of Public Works.

Updates

Ms. Kilcoyne updated the Board on meetings with the Town Manager, Town Clerk and Town Treasurer to discuss residency requirements. Ms. Kilcoyne in addition spoke to beach sticker requirements.

By motion of Mr. McNally, seconded by Mr. Surpitski, the Board unanimously voted 4-1 (Mr. Foley was absent) to accept the residency requirements as stated; 1. Being listed on the Town census, 2. Possessing a Massachusetts driver's license with an Ipswich address or identification card issued by the Registry of Motor Vehicles, 3. Having an automobile registration in the Town of Ipswich with proof of paying excise tax to the Town of Ipswich. If no automobile, a tax bill, lease agreement, rental receipt and or/utility bill will be required.

Mr. Thistlewood provided the Board with a memorandum outlining the removal of net in the area of Mr. Anthony Murawski's former grant.

By motion of Ms. Kilcoyne, seconded Mr. Surpitski, the Board voted 4-1 (Mr. Foley was absent) to accept the report of Mr. Thistlewood.

Town Manager's Report

Mr. Markel updated on the Board on his week's activities including meetings about regional ambulatory services, budget discussions, warrant preparation and the Finance Committee budget hearings.

By motion of Mr. McNally, seconded by Mr. Surpitski, the Board voted to adjourn the Monday, March 11th, 2009 Board of Selectmen meeting at 12:45 AM.