BOARD OF SELECTMEN APPROVED MINUTE DISTRIBUTION LIST

TOWN CLERK

MEMORIAL LIBRARY

BOARD OF HEALTH

HISTORIC DISTRICT

SUPT. OF SCHOOLS

VCC

PLANNING BOARD

WEST ACTON LIBRARY

(selectmenLDrive) Minute Cover Sheet

BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

October 22, 2007
Acton Town Hall, Faulkner Hearing Room
7:00 P.M.

Present: Dore' Hunter, Lauren Rosenzweig, Andrew Magee, Paulina Knibbe, Peter Berry. The Temporary Town Manager, John Murray was present. Recording Secretary, Christine Joyce This meeting was televised.

CITIZENS' CONCERNS

None

OPERATIONAL MINUTE

John updated the Board about the upcoming budget sessions with staff to be held at the PSF on Tuesday through Thursday, and longer if needed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS & APPOINTMENTS

TRAFFIC RULES AND ORDERS AMENDMENT, FOSTER STREET

Dore' noted that he was a resident of Foster Street, but had not initiated the study. Dore' noted the other memo received about commuter traffic on School Street.

Rob Landry of Foster Street, noted he as two children and there are 7 houses on Foster Street, they have been having cut through and the safety issues with children walking to the buses and playing on the street.

Paulina asked about School Street request to limit cut through traffic on School Street. Lauren wanted to have the speeds checked on School Street and felt the speed limit should be lower.

Andy noted that all of the streets, Foster, School Street and Piper Road have cut through traffic. Andy felt we needed to have a review of the School Street effect.

A School Street resident questioned a study done by the Police Department. He asked about how the study came about. He has called the Police Department and said that they don't respond to his complaints. Dore' explained that there had been an issue of speeding while he was a vacation and that due to the incident between a resident and driver, the Police Department reviewed this and put out a speed trailer. The man said that he hoped that the Board would address the Hosmer and School Street traffic issues of commuter traffic cut through.

Andy suggested that we should study the School Street extension section.

Cory York, Engineering Assistant discussed the way the Town monitors these traffic issues by setting up the traffic counters, and working with the Police Department. He discussed the 85% percentile and that Mass Highway and the Registry still monitor changes. ANDREW MAGEE - Moved to table the decision on the Foster Street until we look into and do the School Street extension traffic study. DORE' HUNTER - Second.

Dore' noted he would vote no on the Motion as it is a neighborhood, and does not think it should wait. Andy said it we need to get the data. Dore' felt that it should be implemented as soon as possible.

Peter asked about the Police Department review and wanted more input from the Staff.

ANDREW MAGEE WITHDREW HIS MOTION.

LAUREN ROSENZWEIG – Moved that we accept the change to the Traffic Rules and Orders to close off Foster Street to no through traffic between 6am to 9am, and signs installed on Hosmer at Foster and we carefully consider addressing the speed issues on School Street.

PAULINE KNIBBE - offered a friendly amendment to the motion, that we conduct the speed study on School Street extension from Route 2 to Lawsbrook Road. ANDREW MAGEE Second. Paulina withdrew her friendly amendment. UNANIMOUS VOTE

LAND/WATER USE STUDY GROUP DISCUSSION

The committee reviewed their presentation with the Board. They felt that the district needs to look at long term implementations for Source Protection and Conservation. They have worked with Concord and Boxboro to protect our water supply. They discussed the rate structure and that the other communities use different formulas. They also have to think about new water sources. We have to remember we could have a well go down at any time and we need to look for additional well sites. They are looking at bedrock sites in Littleton.

They are looking to collaborate with the surrounding communities. And should the Water District provide water outside the town's boundaries. The committee said they do provided that there has to be a benefit to the Water District, and it must go before the Water Users for vote.

Dore' noted that the WD provides a good service. Most people that come in don't know the history and expect to have public water.

Paulina thanked them for the report and she is concerned about the chemicals and drugs that could flow with the water supply. She also is concerned about the Assabet III and plans to open a well that was closed due to contamination by Grace. The voters were asked to approve opening of the well. They retested the well and after a few hours they had a problem with equipment and noted that there were no contaminates found at that time. They will continue to review this well. Paul noted that the well has a tremendous amount of water and they say in 100 years down the line, it has the capacity to provide water to the whole town. They will move forward to restricting that well and providing the extra resources to the town.

Paulina asked about the agreement between Quail Ridge and the District to supply potable water to water the grass.

Lauren is a member of Quail Ridge and would not discuss those issues. Lauren asked about the expansion of the Districts.

Andy asked if should we provide water out of the District and what if we have to close a well, and then what do we do. Andy asked about the final recommendation with regard to the question of providing water out of town. Andy said that in the end, it will be a case by case decision.

Greta Elkhart said that their original charge is complete but that the Water District asking them to continue to review the need.

AUDUBON HILL SEPTAGE REPAIR

Dore' asked about the understanding that thisis maintenance work per Doug Halley. Mr. Stacy Angle, 111 Audubon Hill North Association President of the Board of Governors, thanked the Town for their support. He noted the history of the system that is owned by Audubon Hill and leased to the town for 1.00 per year. He discussed the maintenance of the building which relieved them the responsibility of the building. He felt that the sewage at the senior center slipped thought and noted article 8.3 that said that the Septic/sewer furnished to the senior center and be separately metered and paid for the services

Dore' noted that something had gone wrong and what was the problem. They could not pass Title 5 in December of 2005 and they have been working the problem with the Board of Health. John would need to look at article 8.3 and it is clearly up to the Board. We have regularly pumped and we have taken over the landscaping not provided by the Board of Governors.

Dore' felt that he would like to review the document and ask council to review the agreement. We may want to rewrite the agreement so if it comes up in the next 100 years, it will be clear how to handle it.

Andy noted we are users and feels it is reasonable, but we need to check the contract to see if we can pay the requested $20,000. Andy would proceed on the assumption and we are accountable for some of the cost. Lauren too agreed and that the $20,000 is alright once the contract was reviewed. Paulina too agreed with Lauren and Andy. Mr. Angle noted the cost is based on one sixth of the cost of the repair. Dore' asked John to consult counsel and see if it is permissible and suggested language to make it clear going forward for the future.

TRAFFIC ON MAPLE STREET

Dore' noted that the speed counters data has been reviewed and noted that the speed is within the 85% on Maple Street. Corey York said it would not be an effective tool to slow traffic to install a speed hump. Corey noted the Pope Road review and those drivers habits did not change and folks did not decrease speed. Dore' spoke about the speed hump on Windsor Ave. Corey noted that that is 20 feet wide and it is a more gradual thing and you can drive 25-30 miles per hour, but the smaller the distance the more it becomes uncomfortable to go over the Bumps at a greater speed. People are driving 36 miles per hour on Central and Windsor Ave. Dore' said he felt that we could not help them. Lauren said she noted that the residents wanted to see the cars coming down the street so they could be aware of them. They also need a place to walk safely. Lauren noted the issues of the commuters and thinks patrolling and letting the word get out that you will be ticketed will slow down the cars.

Andy noted the total per day vehicle trips was 1078 which is not a lot of traffic. Andy noted that were going down Maple Street was 215 or 800 vehicles did not go down Maple Street but went down Stow Street. Andy noted the local neighborhood trips is 185 per day. Peter asked about a children sign at Maple. Corey will review to see if they have one posted. Lauren noted that they have reinstituted the Jones Field program and put the word out that we have spaces available. She also wanted to educate the drivers about speed and pedestrians. Dore' said that in the streets that there is a traffic problem that we might consider the suggestion to the citizens observing the traffic excessive speeds to get the license number and report the incident to the Police Department if the police get more than one complaint on the driver they speak with that person. Dore' asked John to run this by Town Counsel. Dore' said that we cannot honor this request and asked, John to draft a letter for his review in this regard.

DOG POLICY AT NARA PARK

Dore' noted that we should have advertised the issue more widely for interested people. Dore' asked that we provide more notice and put it over to the next meeting

ROSENZWEIG - Move that we continue the discussion of Canine control on town o November 5th at 8:00 P.M., and further to have the notice placed on cable, in the and at recreation areas, etc. PETER BERRY – second UNANIMOUS VOTE

SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS

MBTA PEDESTRIAN CROSSING SURFACE IMPROVEMENT, CENTRAL STREET AT IDYLWILDE FARM

Dore' spoke about the problems with ladies with small children at this location. Dore' spoke to the MBTA person that put him in the direction for help. He was surprised that they had looked at it a day before and noted it could use work but were concerned about there not being a pedestrian gate on either side and they want it to look like West Acton. They said that they could not pay for this. Dore' came back from vacation and resumed the discussion; they said they are reviewing and that there was a man out at this time to review it. Dore' asked about the money and he said it will be around $100,000 however, he predicted that they might pick up all but $50,000 (or 15,000,). Dore' noted he has a meeting on Wednesday in Somerville, and asked if anybody wanted to come with him. Dore' wanted the Board's support. He felt that the Railroad should pay for it as they contributed to the problem.

STATUS REPORT IN REGARD TO THE MAIN STREET SIDEWALK PROJECT OTHER BUSINESS

Andy gave an update on the project he has met with the Conant's and has presented to the Water District plans that would require some alterations on their property and they were receptive. He has discussed the placement of the sidewalks and noting that we would be able to save a few trees. No changes on Conant Property except the first deviation with the exception of having the sidewalk bumped out, but was not safe. When we get off the Conant land and are on the Water District's parcel, the District would need to bring this to the voters in March, and it was noted that DEP may not allow it anyway. Andy said we should proceed with the tree removal. Paulina asked to borrow those charts for a Wednesday meeting. Paulina asked that we move this along swiftly to accommodate town staffs schedules.

Lauren asked if the sidewalk was closer to the Davis Trail, Andy said not really, and noted that Brewster was concerned about th a leakage of people into the property. Lauren also wanted to make sure that the signage for the Trail was in a historic flavor.

OTHER BUSINESS

Peter said that the Wireless bylaw would be ready for the Spring Town Meeting.

Paulina spoke about the 40B Change, she has submitted the testimony, and she cannot attend.

Paulina spoke about the letter to be sent to the newspaper concerning the Laramie Project and she has discussed this with the chair of the School Committee and would like to hear if people are willing and comfortable with this. Dore' feels it should have all names of the Board on the letter for the paper.

Lauren supports the letter being sent to the Newspaper. She is concerned that the students and parents be notified. Lauren asked for restraint and passive resistance and to avoid confrontation.

Andy agrees and his only concern is what this doesn't do that it doesn't warn folks and might make it difficult to stay silent if people are screaming at them. He felt that he agreed that we respect their right to have an opinion and he urged passive resistance and to avoid confrontation.

LAUREN ROSENZWEIG - Move that we submit this letter to the Acton Boxboro Beacon reflecting the view of the BOS and School Committee and we expect people attending will be exercising their Freedom of Speech in a restrained manner. ANDREW MAGEE – second. UNANIMOUSE VOTE

Lauren spoke about land use reform and transportation funds. Pam Resor is working at giving communities more freedom on how to develop their properties.

Lauren spoke about the consent item for the TAC. There is funding available for planning. She noted it was very technical and how would you marketing it.

Andy wanted to comment and congratulate the ABCC on the State's Ward for Robert Creeley, award. Mr. Creely was a poet from Acton and he received the first award given by ABCC.

Andy reminded the Board that the Water Resources Committee will meet next week at 7:00, they will be fine tuning the plan.

Andy will attend a MassHighway meeting to discuss the Bruce Freeman Trail. They plan to have quarterly meetings. The next meeting is Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

Dore' spoke about an employee who wanted to file an article about Deployed employees and compensation. He said that the Board may receive an article in this regard.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

John wants to move the fitness center to the 468 Main Street House. It is in the center of town and suggested we fund this if monies become available. It will bring down health care costs and help the firefighters with their activities. He is recommending that we move forward with this as money becomes available. The Board felt that we need more review of this.

CONSENT AGENDA

ANDREW MAGEE – Moved to accept the Consent Agenda with a hold on 12. LAUREN ROSENZWEIG – second. UNANIMOUS VOTE

Peter asked if we have any employees serving. John said we have had three: two to Iraq and one to the New Orleans disaster site.

PETER BERRY – Moved to approve. LAUREN ROSENZWEIG second. UNANIMOUS VOTE.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ANDREW MAGEE - Move to go into Executive Session to discuss land purchase and lease agreements only to come back into Regular Session to adjourn. Roll Call was taken: All Ayes

Christine Joyce, Recording Secty

Clerk, Board of Selectmen

19 November 2007

Date

BOARD OF SELECTMEN & SEWER COMMISSIONERS' MEETING AGENDA

Francis Faulkner Meeting Room
Town Hall
October 22, 2007
7:00 PM

I. CITIZENS' CONCERNS

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. **7:02 OPERATIONAL MINUTE**
   The Town Manager will provide a brief report on topics of interest.

2. **7:15 AMENDMENT TO THE TRAFFIC RULES AND ORDERS, FOSTER STREET**
   Enclosed please find materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.

3. **7:20 LAND/WATER USE STUDY GROUP PRESENTATION**
   Enclosed please find materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.

4. **8:05 AUDUBON HILL SEWAGE DISPOSAL REPAIRS**
   Enclosed please find materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.

5. **8:30 TRAFFIC CONCERN ON MAPLE STREET**
   Enclosed please find materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.

6. **8:45 RECREATION COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION – CANINE CONTROL ON CERTAIN RECREATION PARCELS *(THIS MEETING WILL OPEN AND THE BOARD MAY WISH TO CONTINUE THIS DISCUSSION TO NOVEMBER 5 AT 8:00 P.M.)***
   Enclosed please find materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.

III. SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS

7. **MBTA PEDESTRIAN CROSSING SURFACE IMPROVEMENT, CENTRAL STREET AT IDYLWILDE FARM**
   Enclosed please find materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.

8. **STATUS REPORT IN REGARDS TO THE MAIN STREET SIDEWALK PROJECT**
   No Materials Enclosed

9. **OTHER BUSINESS**

IV. Town Manager's Report

10. 468 MAIN STREET REUSE PROPOSAL

Enclosed please find materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.

V. Consent Agenda

11. ACTON COMMUNITY HOUSING CORPORATION, REQUEST FOR USE OF ROBBINS MILL/PULTE AFFORDABLE HOUSING GIFT FUND

Enclosed please find materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.

12. EMPLOYER SUPPORT OF THE GUARD AND RESERVES, REQUEST FOR SUPPORT AND SIGNATURE OF A PLEDGE.

Enclosed please find materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.

13. REQUEST FROM TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) TO SURVEY CITIZENS REGARDING TRANSPORTATION ISSUES AND PERMISSION TO PROCEED WITH A GRANT APPLICATION.

Enclosed please find materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.

14. ACCEPT GIFT RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Enclosed please find a gift of $2,000.00 from the Daniel McCarthy Memorial fund to be used to support the 2007-08 Acton Teen Repertory Theatre Group, for Board consideration.

15. ACCEPT GIFT, MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES

Enclosed please find a gift of an "October Glory" Red Maple valued at $1,000.00 from NSTAR, for planting on the town Common in front of 468 Main Street, for Board consideration.

16. DISPOSAL OF OBSOLETE MATERIALS, MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Enclosed please find materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.

17. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, NICHOLAS FRANCIS

Enclosed please find materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.

18. ACCEPT FEE INCREASE – STATE CONTROLLED FEES

Enclosed please find materials in the subject regard, for Board consideration.

VI. Executive Session

An Executive Session will be needed for discussion of land purchase and possibly other matters. Materials may be found in the Confidential Folder

Additional Information

Enclosed please find additional correspondence that is strictly informational and requires no Board action.

MINUTES PENDING VOTES

September 29, Special Meeting, October 9, Regular and Executive Session, October 11, 2007 Special Meeting

PENDING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Mike Fisher, TAC Nicholas Francis, EDC

FUTURE AGENDAS

To facilitate scheduling for interested parties, the following items are scheduled for discussion on future agendas. This is not a complete agenda.

November 5 & 19 December 3 & 17