

TOWN OF KINGSTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES
November 29, 2005

Chairman Paul M. Gallagher opened the meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on November 29, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 200 at the Town House, 26 Evergreen Street, Kingston. Present were Vice Chairman Joseph D. Kelleher, Mark S. Beaton, Olavo B. DeMacedo, Sandra D. MacFarlane and Town Administrator Kevin R. Donovan.

The Chairman announced the dates to note and the Open Forum. No one present requested to speak at Open Forum.

The Chairman announced that the members of the Recreation Commission were present to make a joint appointment with the Board of Selectmen to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Douglas Fleming. Mr. Gallagher thanked Mr. Fleming for his years of service. Recreation Commissioners Norman Harbinson, Arthur Naumann, Linda Rohr and Barbara Chandler were present. Mr. Gallagher read the letters of interest and list of qualifications submitted by the two applicants; Linda Felix and Paul Maloney. Neither candidate was present. Members of the Recreation Commission expressed their support for Paul Maloney because he had attended 17 or the last 18 meetings and was up to speed on the matters before the Commission.

Mr. DeMacedo, Mr. Kelleher and Mr. Gallagher all expressed their support for Mr. Maloney. Mr. Demacedo nominated Mr. Maloney and Mr. Gallagher took a roll-call vote. Mr. Beaton supported Ms. Felix and all other Selectmen and Recreation Commissioners supported Mr. Maloney. Mr. Gallagher thanked Ms. Felix for her interest.

Jean Landis Naumann, Finance Committee Chairman was present to discuss the ambulance fee schedule. She requested that the Board reconsider their previous vote of setting the ambulance billing at the Medicare allowable rate and to set the rate at the Medicare rate plus 30%. Ms. Naumann stated that the Town needed to generate more revenue and this was a method that would be paid by insurance companies. She further stated that the additional money collected could be put back into the revenue generating source and could possibly use the funds for an ambulance when it is needed.

Mr. Beaton stated that the difference in the allowed rate and the billed rate would have to be paid by the residents that use the service. He further stated that the seniors that were using the ambulance service and paying property taxes did not have children in the schools and did not use the ball fields. Ms. MacFarlane stated that she did not want to burden the seniors with more expenses. Mr. DeMacedo stated that he did not want to leave money on the table if the insurance would cover it. He further stated that the safety net for residents who could not pay would be the ability to request the remaining fee waived by the Board.

Mr. Gallagher stated that he hoped the Board did not vote for reconsideration. Mr. Beaton made a motion to deny reconsideration which was ruled out of order. Mr. DeMacedo made a motion for reconsideration which was not seconded.

Ms. Naumann stated that the Board should consider its philosophy on fees because taxes do not cover everything and the only other revenue source is to increase fees.

Peter Koska of Chilton Development was present to request permission to have a sign for MacFarlane Farm Estates Subdivision on the island between Old Wapping Road and Wapping Road. Mr. Koska stated that he was under the impression that the little strip of land was owned by Chilton Development but learned after placing the sign and planters that it was Town property.

Ms. MacFarlane stated that she was an abutter to where the sign was placed and recused herself from participating in the discussion.

Mr. DeMacedo stated that he recalled that the Town received payment from Lowes and Sullivan Brothers for placing signs on Town owned property and was in favor as long as Chilton Development was treated the same.

Mr. Beaton suggested that Chilton Development may want to buy the piece of land. Mr. Koska stated that they were not.

Upon motion made and seconded, following a discussion and a 4 to 0 to 0 vote, it was –

VOTED: To approve using the Town owned property for the MacFarlane Farms subdivision and to authorize the Town Administrator to determine a fee for the use of the Town owned property, consistent with what has been charged to others in the past.

Mr. Donovan provided a summary of his Town Administrator's report. Items discussed were; financial forecast, 2007 Budget review schedule, dates for submission of ATM articles and Sampson Fund requests, and DOR's approval of the tax rate set at \$10.23.

Upon motion made and seconded, following a discussion and a 4 to 0 to 1 vote, it was –

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the November 15, 2005 public and executive session meeting.

Mr. Kelleher abstained from voting.

Upon motion made and seconded, following a discussion and a 5 to 0 to 0 vote, it was –

VOTED: To accept the \$30.00 donation from Ms. Boda Goud for the Fire Department, and further;

VOTED: To hire Kyle Swanson as part-time library page, Eileen Grinham as Department Assistant assigned to the Collector's office and appoint Carol A. Carrera as an Election Worker.

Upon motion made and seconded, following a discussion and a 5 to 0 to 0 roll-call vote, it was –

VOTED: To enter into executive session¹ to discuss a Financial Assistance request and not return to public session at the conclusion of the executive session.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy M. Howlett, Assistant to the
Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen

¹ The public session adjourned at 8:30 p.m. and the executive session adjourned at 8:40 p.m.