

**Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
6/2/08**

The Board of Selectmen met this evening at the Easton Town Offices, Selectmen's Office, 136 Elm Street, with Chair Colleen Corona presiding.

Members present: Colleen Corona, John Haederle, Charles King, Ellen Barlow, and Town Administrator David Colton

Members not present: Irwin Cohen

Corona called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

One day liquor license/fee waiver request – Easton Lions Club

Lions Club Member Mike Melley was present.

On King's motion, seconded by Barlow, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the one day all alcohol license for the Installation Night to be held at Oakes Ames Memorial Hall on June 11, 2008 from 6:00 – 9:30pm. One detail officer is required.

On Barlow's motion, seconded by Haederle, the Board **voted unanimously** to waive the fee associated with the one day license.

Corona asked about the proposed Summerfest event. Melley noted that on June 14th, the Lions Club will hold their first Summerfest Jamboree at the Yardley-Wood Rink. This will be an all day event with music, food and fun for the entire family.

Initiation of cable television licensing process

Cable Advisory Chairman Paul DiNicola was present. Colton noted the Cable Advisory Committee members are in the process of negotiating a license renewal with Comcast. In the meantime, its time to begin the process of seeking proposals from other companies. DiNicola noted that the Board of Selectmen needs to vote to open this up so that we can seek proposals from Verizon. Corona thanked DiNicola and the entire committee for their work. DiNicola noted that they get a lot of emails from people looking for other options. He feels that Verizon can offer more options. Barlow asked about the fios and Colton confirmed that now that the bylaw has been repealed, Verizon can come in and install the fios. Colton clarified that the licensing is for cable only, not phone service.

On King's motion, seconded by Haederle, the Board **voted unanimously** to have the Town Administrator send two letters to the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Cable as indicated in the Board's packets. (see attached)

On Corona's motion, seconded by King, the Board **voted unanimously** pursuant to 207CMR 3.02 (1) (a), the Board of Selectmen, as statutory Issuing Authority, hereby votes to begin the cable television licensing process.

Order of taking – Central Street sidewalks

Colton referred to the town meeting vote and the need for the Board's approval of the order of taking as prepared by Town Counsel.

On Corona's motion, seconded by Haederle, the Board **voted unanimously** to acquire permanent easements necessary for the reconstruction of Central Street as approved by town meeting on May 19, 2008.

Discussion regarding paperless agendas

Colton noted that he and Mary have been discussing the option of paperless agendas. The office staff has been producing packets with 80 or 100 copies for selectmen, press and the staff. We are proposing to email the material each Friday prior to a meeting and then on Monday night, when the Board comes in for the meeting, the Board

would have the information loaded on a laptop computer at their desks. Colton spoke of the paper and time involved with preparation for each meeting. Colton asked the Board consider this option. He suggested if further information is needed, we can provide that.

Corona noted that at first glance, she had questions about the cost benefit. She acknowledged the time involved with the employee copying and somebody dropping the packets off to each Board member's home. Barlow suggested a paper copy of the agenda and possibly other things that may be discussed. Haederle suggested that other Boards or committees could use the laptops when not being used by the Board. This may help with the cost analysis. Colton and the other Board members we were agreeable with this idea. Barlow asked if there may be an Energy Conservation Committee formed over the summer or the fall to help save with other energy saving ideas. Colton agreed with the formation of a committee. King suggested that we keep in mind that some of the other committee members may not want a laptop and prefer the paper method. Corona agreed.

Minutes

On Haederle's motion, seconded by King, the Board voted unanimously to approve general minutes dated 3/10/08

On Barlow's motion, seconded by King, the Board voted unanimously to approve general minutes dated 3/24/08.

On Barlow's motion, seconded by Haederle, the Board voted unanimously to approve general minutes dated 4/7/08.

On Barlow's motion, seconded by Haederle, the Board voted unanimously to approve general minutes dated 5/19/08.

Verizon New England, Inc/Mass Electric Company – Pole location hearing Pole 6-1 Norfolk Ave

Rights of Way Manager, JoAnn Robidoux was present.

Haederle read the notice of hearing into the record.

Robidoux spoke of the pole location proposed in the industrial park to bring more electrical facilities into the buildings. Colton noted no adverse comments from DPW Director or abutters.

On Haederle's motion, seconded by King, the Board voted unanimously to approve the pole location.

Town Administrator's notes

None

Press notes

None

Selectmen's notes

Corona referenced last week's Memorial Day Parade and she thanked all who put that together. She also noted the high school graduation ceremony yesterday and the Safe Grad Night which was very successful.

As a volunteer, she commented on the work of all the other volunteers and all the donations that came throughout the community.

Colton noted that he will not be present at the next meeting on June 16th. He has been selected to attend a seminar on the Civil Rights Movement and is looking forward to participating.

Public participation

None

Introduction of new Town Clerk and Assistant Assessor

Brian Howard was present. Colton introduced Brian Howard to the Board and the public. He will begin work as Town Clerk on June 23rd. Brian is currently the Town Clerk in Randolph. He is a certified Municipal Clerk and has been a Town Clerk for 8 years. He also served as Interim Executive Secretary during a transitional period. He is also chair of the CPA Committee in Randolph.

Howard gave a summary of his background. He has served as a member of the School Committee and the Board of Selectmen in Randolph. He noted that Town Clerk Janet Linehan has been a tremendous resource. He was

interested to see our recent town meeting in May. He noted that Randolph is a representative town meeting and town meetings are different in Easton. He is very excited about this opportunity. He stated that he really wrestled with this decision but feels it is a wonderful opportunity and looking forward to being part of David Colton's administrative team.

Corona referenced the Town Clerk's Office here in Easton and suggested that Howard will really be an asset. He agreed that the Town Clerk's office is a department that every office and the citizens deal with. Government needs to be as transparent as possible.

Barlow asked Howard about the elected position in Randolph. He noted that Randolph is also looking into the possibility of having the Treasurer/Collector as an elected position. Randolph's Government Study Committee is looking at the issue. Corona suggested that it is amazing that these positions are still elected.

Howard spoke highly of the Easton's teamwork which is apparent when putting together the town meeting articles and the briefing book. The public is readily informed prior to the town meeting of all the issues.

On behalf of the Board, Corona noted that we are happy to have Mr. Howard come to Easton.

Robert Alford

Mr. Robert Alford was present. Colton noted we are happy to have Rob Alford with us here in Easton. He comes from the Town of Norfolk and comes highly recommended by Assistant Assessor, Anne Carney. He went through a thorough interview process and met with the Town Accountant, Collector/Treasurer, Assistant Assessor and a member of the Board of Assessors. He is a member of the Advisory and Finance Committee in the community where he resides, Swansea, MA.

Corona noted that the Board is happy to have him here. He begins on June 16th and there will be some overlap with Anne Carney. Alford has been talking with Carney and he's been in the office a couple of times over the last several weeks. The Board welcomed Alford to the Town of Easton.

On Corona's motion, seconded by King, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to go into executive session for the purpose of contract negotiations, not to return to open session.
(7:35pm)

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Southworth