

**TOWN OF WEBSTER  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
DON BOURQUE, CHAIRMAN  
DEBORAH KEEFE, VICE CHAIRMAN  
JEFFREY DUGGAN  
MARK DOWGIEWICZ  
ROBERT MILLER**

A Board of Selectmen's Meeting was held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at the Town Hall on Monday, December 17, 2012, Chairman Bourque called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**Attendance:** Robert Miller, Mark Dowgiewicz, Jeffrey Duggan, Deborah Keefe, Don Bourque

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Chairman Bourque led the Selectmen in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion:** made by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Keefe to approve the meeting minutes of December 3, 2012.

**Vote:** Mr. Miller – yes, Mr. Dowgiewicz – abstain, Mr. Duggan – yes, Ms. Keefe – yes, Chairman Bourque – yes.

**Lieutenant Michael Shaw – Swearing-In**

Mr. McAuliffe stated that Officer Shaw has been with the Webster Police Department for sixteen (16) years and has demonstrated great leadership. He stated that he was honored to announce the promotion of Sergeant Shaw to Lieutenant. Town Clerk Robert Craver swore in Lieutenant Michael Shaw. Newly appointed Lieutenant Shaw thanked the Town Administrator and all of his colleagues. He stated Webster has a great Police Department and he looks forward to continuing his commitment to the Department. Chief Bent stated Lieutenant Shaw is an all around great police officer. He stated he is great on the streets and as a leader. Chairman Bourque stated the Board is very excited and that the Town has a great Police Department.

**Traci Niemszyk – Michael's Place Bar & Restaurant**

Traci Niemszyk came forward. Selectman Keefe stated she asked Ms. Niemszyk to the meeting in order to verify the manager on the liquor license. She stated the newspaper printed an ad stating that Michael was back. Ms. Niemszyk stated she had some health issues and some issues within the kitchen. She stated she is still involved and is still the manager on the license. She stated that she will be putting in more hours at the restaurant.

**Angela Brayton – Appointment to the Recreation Committee**

Angela Brayton stated she sent an email to the Board of Selectmen to find out more about the Recreation Committee. She stated she attended the Harvest Festival and wanted to get involved. Selectman Keefe suggested she get in touch with Leslie Baker, the Chairman of the Recreation Committee for information regarding meeting dates and times to see if that would be compatible with her schedule. She stated if Ms. Brayton was still interested in being appointed to let the Board's Secretary know.

Selectman Duggan recused himself.

**J.T. Gaucher – Update on Sewer Connections**

J.T. Gaucher passed out an updated list of non-sewer connected properties. He stated he detailed the reasons why these properties have not connected. Selectman Keefe asked if Mr. Gaucher could separate the list into the properties that we know we cannot connect and the ones that we can go after to connect. She said it would make going through the list easier because the Board wouldn't keep looking at the same people that cannot connect. Selectman Miller stated there are stories that go along with these properties. He stated all these properties should be flagged so that when the property is sold it will bring this up to the new purchaser. Selectman Keefe stated she agrees with Selectman Miller. The Town should have a tracking system that will notify the broker or attorney that the sewer needs to be tied in. Mr. McAuliffe stated the Town had offered a hardship in the past. He stated he agreed that this needs to be disclosed to the buyer. Selectman Keefe stated the Board should set a deadline on these properties that can connect.

## **J.T. Gaucher – Water/Sewer Abatements**

The Selectmen reviewed the water/sewer abatements for May 2012. Mr. Gaucher stated he is pleased that the number of abatements has gone down.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Keefe, seconded by Selectman Dowgiewicz to approve the water/sewer abatements for May 2012.

**Vote:** Mr. Miller – yes, Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Ms. Keefe – yes, Chairman Bourque – yes.

The Board of Selectmen reviewed the water/sewer abatements for August 2012. Selectman Keefe asked why the Town was abating \$291.48 to Curt Downing. She stated he had two illegal apartment units. Mr. Gaucher said he would have to look into the situation. Mr. McAuliffe stated the account was charged for four units and was only allowed two units. He is being abated the minimum charge for the two additional units that he could not use because of the housing restriction.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Keefe, seconded by Selectman Miller to approve the water/sewer abatements for August 2012.

**Vote:** Mr. Miller – yes, Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Ms. Keefe – yes, Chairman Bourque – yes.

## **J.T. Gaucher – Corrosion Control**

Mr. Gaucher stated the water storage tank should be back in service before the first of the year. Chairman Bourque asked for the total cost of the tank to be completed. Mr. Gaucher stated the total cost will be roughly six hundred twenty four thousand dollars (\$624,000.00). He stated they needed to take ninety thousand dollars (\$90,000.00) from plant improvements to complete the job.

Mr. Gaucher stated there is a second project that needs to be done. He stated improvements are needed on the Corrosion Control System. He stated the system is performing at a minimum. He stated this system prevents rusty water. He stated the DEP is requiring that the Town add chemicals to the water to raise the PH level. He stated adding chemicals to the water will help with the corrosion on the pipes and push sediment out of the system. He stated the cost for the total project would be two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000). Mr. McAuliffe stated the Town does not have the money in the budget to fund this project. He stated they are looking to hold a Special Town Meeting. Selectman Dowgiewicz asked how long the DEP have been looking into this problem. Mr. Gaucher stated the DEP has been looking into this before he even worked for the Town. Mr. McAuliffe stated he will give the Board a timeline for the Special Town Meeting at the next Selectmen's Meeting.

Selectman Duggan returns.

## **Town Administrator's Report**

Mr. McAuliffe stated he attended the Finance Committee Meeting.

He attended the Council on Aging. He stated Melissa will be filling in for Jean Travis while she is in Florida.

He stated he conducted collective bargaining.

He stated he attended the Police/Fire Building Committee Meeting.

He stated he attended the "Wreaths Across America" ceremony at the Court of Honor. He stated several members of the Board attended the ceremony. He stated Senator Moore also attended.

He stated he attended the Winter Wonderland. He stated he would like to Thank Cindy Johnson for her hard work putting this event together.

He stated he attended the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Webster Dudley Business Alliance Tree Lighting. He stated many people attended.

He stated the Building Inspector has sent a compliance letter to 8 East Main Street. He stated nine out of the fourteen vehicles have been removed. He stated the lot is zoned for residential. He stated the Board did allow employee parking in the back at one time.

He stated the tax rate has been approved. He stated it has been a very smooth process. He stated the tax bills will go out before the holiday.

He stated he would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Keefe, seconded by Selectman Miller to accept the Town Administrator's Report.

**Vote:** Mr. Miller – yes, Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Mr. Duggan – yes, Ms. Keefe – yes, Chairman Bourque – yes.

## **Old Business**

Mr. McAuliffe passed out a draft list of Town Administrator's goals to the Board. He stated he would like the Board to review the goals and take them under advisement. Chairman Bourque stated the Board can review the goals and email him any additional goals they would like to see added to the list.

Mr. McAuliffe stated the 2013 license renewals have gone extremely smooth. He stated there are only a few establishments that owe taxes. Selectman Keefe stated it had always been a Selectmen's policy that the taxes needed to be paid before an establishment could pick up their license. She stated this is required for owners and renters. She stated withholding a license from a renter is sometimes the only way to get property owners to pay their back taxes.

Selectman Dowgiewicz asked for an update on North Village. Mr. McAuliffe stated he sent back a narrative of security to be put into place. He stated he also received an email from the Town's legal counsel. Selectman Dowgiewicz asked if there was a draft overview of what they are proposing. Mr. McAuliffe stated he has all the information and will forward it to Selectman Dowgiewicz.

Selectman Dowgiewicz stated a couple months back he had brought up the topic of adding more police officers on the force. He stated Chief Bent had attended the meeting and stated he had a plan. He stated no additional police officers were needed. He stated they have started a traffic enforcement aggressive driver program. He stated this program is targeting aggressive drivers. He stated he wanted to give the public an update so that everyone knew that the Town is still moving forward on this issue. He stated the police roster is up an officer with Officer Lee returning. He stated he has seen a lot more police presence around Town. He stated there are many steps that are taking place at this time to make Webster a safer place.

## **New Business**

Selectman Miller stated he had copies of the letter the Town of Oxford sent to the Governor regarding reduced in-state tuition for illegal immigrants. He stated for a parent that spend their hard earned money to put their children through school it is very hard to see illegal immigrants going to the same school for free or at a reduced rate. He stated the Governor the fact overlooked that legal Americans are struggling to put their kids through school never mind helping the people who don't even pay taxes. Selectman Dowgiewicz stated people are struggling and that this is hurting America. He stated people work hard throughout their whole life and aren't given this break. Chairman Bourque stated he didn't have enough information on this to support writing a letter to the Governor. He stated the Town is working on a lot of things and this issue isn't going to move the Town forward. He stated the Town of Auburn didn't vote on this. Selectman Keefe stated she did read the article regarding the Town of Auburn and she believes this is a State issue not a municipal issue. She stated she is concerned about the information, but needed to get all the facts before making a decision.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Dowgiewicz to support writing a letter to the Governor regarding reduced in-state college tuition for illegal immigrants.

Chairman Bourque suggested the Board write a letter and let the residents that support this sign it. He also suggested residents email the Board with their feedback on this topic.

Selectman Miller rescinded his motion. He stated there is too much politics in Webster.

## **Informational Mail**

Selectman Keefe stated the Board received a letter from Mike Fafard requesting to be on the Zoning Board of Appeals. She asked if this could be added to the next agenda.

Chairman Bourque stated the Board needs to decide on the cover for the Annual Report. Selectman Keefe suggested this be added to the next agenda so that the Board members could come up with some suggestions.

## **Adjournment**

Chairman Bourque adjourned the meeting to Executive Session at 9:35 P.M. in accordance with MGL Chapter 39, Section 23b, Item 3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation, in an open meeting.

**Motion:** to go into Executive Session and to come back into open session made by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Keefe.

**Vote: Mr. Miller – yes, Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Mr. Duggan – yes, Ms. Keefe – yes, Chairman Bourque – yes.**

Selectman Duggan left the meeting before Executive Session.

Chairman Bourque called the Regular session Meeting back to order at 9:47 P.M.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Keefe, seconded by Selectman Miller to ratify the DPW Union contract.

**Vote: Mr. Miller – yes, Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Ms. Keefe – yes, Chairman Bourque – yes.**

## **Adjournment**

**Motion:** made by Selectman Keefe, seconded by Selectman Miller to adjourn the Meeting at 9:50 p.m.

**Vote: Mr. Miller – yes, Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Ms. Keefe – yes, Chairman Bourque – yes.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Courtney Friedland