

Town of Nahant, MA
Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes
05 December 2013 7:30pm

Present:

~~Richard J. Lombard, Chairman~~
Perry Barrasso, Vice Chairman
Michael P. Manning, Secretary
Andrew Bisignani, Town Administrator
Charles H. Riley, Town Counsel

Also present: Gretchen Benkert, Resident, Richard D'Orlando, Resident, Bonnie and John D'Orlando, Residents, Calantha Sears, Resident, Bob Cusack, Resident, USCG MC Maurice Poulin (Ret.), Resident, USS Flying Fish Commanding Officer, USCG SC Kucera, Molly Conlin, Memorial Day Committee member.

Meeting Opened at 7:30 pm

Pledge of Allegiance was not recited

Mr. Barrasso welcomed all to the meeting.

Announcements: Mr. Manning stated that Nahant owns 3% of the new wind turbine located in Lynn at the Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant that is visible from the causeway due to the efforts of Bob Tina with support from the member communities in acquiring grant money for a portion of this project.

- 1. Approved:** Mr. Manning moved to accept the prior meeting minutes of November 21, 2013. Seconded by Mr. Barrasso. Unanimous Vote in Favor.
- 2. Coast Guard Introduction:** Mr. Cusack introduced Chief Keith Kucera of the Coast Guard Cutter the Flying Fish. Chief Kucera stated that Nahant would be officially adopted the Flying Fish which will in turn support the community through education, community service to residents and with a focus on shared values rather than money. Mr. Barrasso stated that this was a great opportunity for both parties. Mr. Manning thanked everyone for their efforts over the last several years and was happy to see this project come to fruition.
- 3. Ch 30B Regulations for Disposal of Surplus Equipment:** Mr. Bisignani requested the Board adopt the document explaining the Town procedures for Disposal of Surplus Supplies or Equipment. On a motion by Mr. Manning, seconded by Mr. Barrasso it was voted unanimously to adopt the one page document concerning Chapter 30B procedures for disposal of surplus equipment as presented by the Town Administrator.
- 4. Northeastern University Donation for Canoe Beach Parking Area:** Mr. Bisignani stated that this area was damaged in the February storm and was recently improved and Northeastern University was gracious enough to share half the cost. On a motion by Mr. Manning, seconded by Mr. Barrasso it was voted unanimously to accept the check and send a letter of thanks to the university.
- 5. Dune Grass Planting:** Mr. Bisignani stated that approximately 25,000 square feet of dune grass has been planted along Short Beach for restoration and protection of the dunes and thanked Mr. Manning for his involvement in this project and was money well spent with work done with our own resources and community service from Essex County Sheriff's Department. Mr. Manning stated a

maintenance plan should be established for the future upkeep of the area and ask the citizens at Town Meeting what their thoughts are. Mr. Manning thanked the DPW for their hard work in this project. Mr. Barrasso agreed. Mr. Bisignani stated that approximately \$145,000 in FEMA reimbursement has been received and is being used to fund projects affected by the February storms.

6. **Budget Process Status:** Mr. Bisignani stated the budget process has begun and is reviewing each departments request for the upcoming fiscal year. Mr. Manning suggested an outline be given to the FinCom for their review.
7. **Sustainable Budgeting:** Mr. Bisignani stated there are discretionary and non discretionary expenses such as Swampscott Tuition that has increased dramatically for FY 15 which will need to be addressed to sustain this commitment or go in a different direction. Mr. Manning made a motion to adopt the concept of using sustainable budgeting as a review procedure in preparing this year's budget and in years to follow. Seconded by Mr. Barrasso for discussion. Mr. Manning stated as a general guideline at last years budget that the Town was spending more than was taken in on an annual basis and summarized the concept of Sustainable Budgeting as follows:

The Town can determine its relative economic capacity by computing three numbers:

1. Extent to which free cash is required to balance the omnibus article (a negative),
2. Extent of free cash used to prepay debt or make capital expenditures (a positive) and
3. Extent to which free cash is used for saving (a positive).

Mr. Manning stated that the process can be additionally clarified as we go through the budget process. After a brief discussion it was a unanimous vote in favor start the sustainable budgeting review process.

8. **James L Connolly Request:** Mr. Riley stated he received a letter from an attorney acting on behalf of Mr. Connolly as the owner of 2 Wendell Rd Ext, requesting approval to the proposed transfer of the property to his revocable trust, known as the James L Connolly Trust – 2013. Mr. Riley recommended this approval as long as the restrictive wording in the original deed remain unchanged and contain a similar requirement to continue forward. On a motion made by Mr. Manning, seconded by Mr. Barrasso, it was a unanimous vote in favor to have Town Counsel respond to this request as recommended.

New Business: Mr. Manning stated the Board received an email from the Town Clerk regarding Mosquito spraying and suggested this be discussed at a future meeting with the Health Agent.

9. **Announced:** Mr. Barrasso read the announcements that are included in the packet.

Adjourned at 08:30 pm. On a motion by Mr. Manning, seconded by Mr. Barrasso, it was a Unanimous Vote in Favor to adjourn

The minutes were prepared by Mary Lowe, Administrative Assistant.

The minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen on the 9th day of January 2014.

Board of Selectmen