

**Board of Selectmen’s Special Meeting**

**April 21, 2009**

Present: First Selectman Woody Bliss; Selectman W. Glenn Major; Selectwoman Gayle Weinstein; Town Administrator Tom Landry; Administrative Assistant Judy DeVito and members of the public.

**This meeting was recorded and video taped and the tapes are available in the Selectmen’s office.**

Mr. Bliss called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance-** Don Gary lead the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance

**Discussion/decision regarding setting a date for a public hearing for a driveway variance for 88 Lyons Plain Road-** Mr. Major made a motion to set a date for a public hearing for May 7, 2009 at 7:15pm. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Request for property tax refunds**

<b>Roger C. Rosenfeld Tr.</b>	<b>\$7,891.41</b>
<b>Namon Lewis Jr.</b>	<b>\$1,008.27</b>
<b>VW Credit Leasing</b>	<b>\$861.03</b>
<b>Mercedes Benz Financial</b>	<b>\$820.73</b>
<b>Volvo Car Finance</b>	<b>\$369.89</b>
<b>BMW Financial Savings</b>	<b>\$302.86</b>
<b>Honda Lease Trust</b>	<b>\$257.62</b>
<b>Linda S. Brown</b>	<b>\$227.07</b>
<b>Anna Sekaran</b>	<b><u>\$95.31</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,834.19</b>

Mr. Major made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to provide property tax refunds as set forth on the agenda for a total of \$11,834.19 subject to his review of the same with our tax collector. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Report on status of grant efforts under the stimulus package-** Ms. Weinstein said that there were four grants that have already been approved. She said two of the grants applied for, the Emergency Operation Center Construction Grant and the COPS Hiring Recovery Program Grant will have an impact on future budgets. We need to keep an eye on that and have a discussion if those grants come through as to whether we want to accept them or not.

The Emergency Operations Center Construction Grant will help us build a new center for emergency operations and the police. We still have to bear 20% of the cost for that. COPS Hiring Recovery Program would pay for a police officer for 36months. The town

is obligated to fund the position for another year after that. She wants to have a discussion when the grants come through.

Mike Ferullo, Ms. Weinstein, Craig Cohen representing the fire department and Jon Weingarten from EMS are meeting to discuss the assistance to fire fighters grant. They are applying for the truck which will eliminate the funding we had just done, an ambulance and some of the water apparatus equipment. She has been working with Jim Himes's office to try and figure out what the best approach would be.

There is another grant that will become available soon which will offset some of the funding for the new firehouse. The project needs to be "shovel ready". She needs to check and see if we break ground does that mean that we are no longer eligible for the funding. She spoke to Bob Waters who said it is a competitive grant and about 25,000 municipalities can apply for this. She said she mentioned that the Town is not funding the entire project and he felt that that would be something that would make us a priority.

Another area they are looking at with grants is if they do the fuel cell at the school and other kinds of alternative energy it looks like there are grants available for that. Ms. Weinstein said that the one disappointment that she had is that all of the school related grants we seem not to fit any of the categories.

Don Gary said that there are two major grants that could be available. One is the CCEF which allows up to \$4,700 a kilowatt and, if we go for the 400 kilowatt system, that would be about 1.7 million. Part of the stimulus money is homeland security because that would be our emergency power source.

**Open Items:**  
**Ongoing update**

Food Pantry Lease- Awaiting PBA reply- Woody Bliss

Emergency and Disaster Planning Ordinance-Woody Bliss – Ms. DeVito will check with Mike Ferullo

FAA- Woody Bliss- There is a meeting of all the Towns on April 28, 2009.

Booster Barn- Woody Bliss- Move to tickler file.

Lachat - W. Glenn Major- Meeting April 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm in the Town Hall Meeting Room. Mr. Major said for the record this is an executive session meeting with Steve Patton in order to discuss modifying the existing agreement that we have between the Town and the Conservancy. It is not to approve or otherwise take any action in any construction projects out at Lachat. There are no decisions that are going to be made at that time.

**Tickler file, discuss as updated**

Municipal Amnesty (SB1200)- Keep Pending

Recycling- Tom Landry

Reimbursement from FEMA for Cartbridge- Tom Landry

Reimbursement from State for school projects- Tom Landry

Building Survey Fees

At 7:13pm Ms. Weinstein made a motion to enter into executive session. Mr. Major seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Executive Session- Litigation**

**Attendance and Discussion** - The meeting was convened at 7:15 PM in the First Selectman's office by Chairman Bliss, with Mr. Major and Ms. Weinstein present. Also present were Town Administrator Landry, and Building Committee member Don Gary. Legal Counsel Monte Frank participated by telephone

**Fletcher-Thomson** - The purpose of the executive session was to review revised settlement offers in the Fletcher Thomson mediation effort, the architectural firm for the school construction project. Appropriate responses and strategies were discussed. No votes were taken.

**Adjourn Executive Session** - The Board voted unanimously (Ms. Weinstein, motion; Mr. Major second) to end executive session and reconvene in open session. The time was 7:41 pm.

**Adjourn** - At 7:43 pm, the Board voted unanimously (Ms. Weinstein motion, Mr. Major second) to adjourn the meeting. Members then journeyed to the High School Auditorium for the Annual Town Budget Meeting.

Respectively submitted,

Judy M. DeVito  
Administrative Assistant  
Approved 5/7/09