

Board of Selectmen's Meeting

March 4, 2010

Present: First Selectman Gayle Weinstein; Selectman David Muller; Town Administrator Tom Landry; Administrative Assistant Judy DeVito;

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

Mr. Gilbert joined the meeting by telephone.

Ms. Weinstein called the meeting to order at 7:35pm

Pledge of Allegiance- Mr. Machson lead the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Discussion/decision regarding the DPUC draft decision- The draft decision that we received from the DPUC went further than we had requested. It essentially said that we would be able to net meter anywhere on the campus. Exceptions to the draft decision were filed from CL&P and UI. After looking at those exceptions and realizing that we want to make this fuel cell work for the Town we worked with CL&P to come up with a compromise.

If the DPUC denied our application then we would be looking at paying for the entire supplier and delivery charges for the High School as billed with no distributive generation. With this agreement, CL&P is saying that they would let us net meter the two schools without having to physically connect them, which would save us some of the supplier charges. We would also not have to pay some of the distribution charges at the Middle School associated with that as well.

Ed from CL&P said that we were very close to scenario 1 (on handout) but it is subject to a little bit of interpretation. He said the fuel cell is sized largely to meet all the Middle School needs so any reduction we see on the demand side is very minimal. Ms. Weinstein said that CL&P was going to credit us on the supply side at the retail rate which is about a 40 to 50 percent savings over the wholesale rate.

Ms. Weinstein said that we have a hearing tomorrow at the DPUC and what she and CL&P are hoping for is that they can go in together with a settlement agreement that says that CL&P will allow us to net meter. They will credit us on the supply side at a retail rate and to the extent that the actual generation reduces demand at the CL&P side that at the High School it would be reduced accordingly.

Mr. Muller made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to sign the joint agreement with CL&P to be presented to the DPUC. Mr. Gilbert seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Robert Uzenoff, David Coprio and Paul Deysenroth Jr. to the Lachat Homestead Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2011. Mr. Muller made a motion to reappoint Robert Uzenoff, David Coprio and Paul Deysenroth Jr. to the Lachat Homestead Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2011. Mr. Gilbert seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the appointment of Woody Bliss as the moderator for the Special Town Meeting on March 23rd at 7:00pm in the Middle School Cafeteria. Mr. Muller made a motion to appoint Woody Bliss as the moderator for the Special Town Meeting on March 23rd at 7:00pm in the Middle School Cafeteria. Mr. Gilbert seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding proposed bonding projects. Ms. Weinstein said she asked Dr. Keating to break out the numbers in case there was concern about the level of funding that we are looking for, for the bonding. The Middle School Roof Replacement is \$3,760,000. The boiler replacements are Hurlbutt North House \$235,000; High School \$144,000; Town Library \$100,000; Middle School Windows/Doors \$1,419,400; Concrete Pads 40+ Doors \$160,200; High School Windows/Doors \$978,981; New Windows for 26 Classrooms \$97,952 the total for all the projects come to \$6,895,533.

Mr. Gilbert asked about the window/door replacement. When he looked at them and compared them to the initial estimates they are all off. Ms. Weinstein said that when they first came to us they did not have good estimates. Mr. Gilbert said he thought the numbers would have come down. Ms. Weinstein said they talked about it at the Building Committee and the price for materials has not come down and some have even gone up slightly. The price for labor has not come down, but the one thing that might have decreased is the range of profit that a contractor might be willing to take. She said they had to do a comprehensive study, as their initial numbers were rough estimates.

Mr. Gilbert asked if there were written estimates from contractors for each of these individual items. Ms. Weinstein said no they have not gone out to bid and we would not have written estimates until it goes out to bid. Mr. Gilbert said if we are going to the public and recommend 6.6 million dollars in bonding, that we should have written line item estimates signed by a contractor. Ms. Weinstein said the numbers were vetted by an architect who is very familiar with the projects. Mr. Muller said from his experience from the Board of Finance this is the procedure. This will also go to the Board of Finance's meeting next Thursday.

Mr. Muller said if the bids come in and they are dramatically different from what is forecast we are under no obligation to proceed at that point. Mr. Gilbert said that when you think through writing the bonding that it might be helpful to have language there that would give the Board of Education, the Board of Finance and the Selectmen the opportunity to move monies from one project to another. Mr. Landry said it does. Ms. Weinstein said when we built the schools there were other projects involved in that and when the cost of the schools ballooned they had to cut projects out and there is a

mechanism to do so. Mr. Landry said if you want the Board to have that flexibility it would say that in the Town Meeting resolution, which it does.

Discussion/decision regarding approving the formal call of the Special Town Meeting. Mr. Muller moved, Whereas, at its meeting held on March 4, 2010, the Board of Selectmen recommended that the Town of Weston appropriate \$6,926,000 for capital improvements to the Weston Public Schools and the Weston Town Library, and to authorize the issue of bonds, notes or temporary notes in an amount not to exceed \$6,600,000, and

Whereas, the Board of Finance is expected to approve the appropriation and bonding authorization at its March 11, 2010 meeting.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached detailed appropriation and bonding resolution (the "Resolution") is hereby approved and shall be submitted to a Special Town Meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 23, 2010, in accordance with the attached Warning of Special Town Meeting, which is also hereby approved.

Mr. Gilbert seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Open item

Ongoing update

Grants- Gayle Weinstein- No new news. Ms. Weinstein said that she spoke to Rachel Kelly from Congressman Himes' office regarding federal appropriation. We do not qualify for anything. She said when you go through the list of special appropriations that are available a lot of them are very specific, for very specific communities.

Fuel Cell- Gayle Weinstein- No new news

Booster Barn- Gayle Weinstein- We will add Mr. Machson to a future agenda to discuss his issue on the Booster Barn

Tickler file, discuss as updated

Reimbursement from State for school projects- Tom Landry- Mr. Landry said that we did hear from them but we are trying to figure out what it means. Our initial read of what they told us is not favorable. They told us that the School Building Committee had to have signed the change orders within six months and all of them are much older than that. Some of them were submitted within the required time and then were resubmitted and they think they can take those.

Mr. Landry said if it does end up that way we will now be at it with the construction manager because they are the ones who would not have submitted the things in time. He is not sure that we are at that point yet.

January Tax Collection- Tom Landry

Ms. Weinstein said that the rate collection is down by .2%.

Any other business to come properly before the meeting. None

At 8.07pm Mr. Muller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Gilbert seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Judy M. DeVito
Administrative Assistant.
Approved 4/01/10