



Submitted by MCD
Date 5/29/14
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TOWN OF CHARLTON
Minutes of Regular Selectmen's Meeting
Tuesday – May 13, 2014 at 6:30pm

Present: Chairman – Frederick C. Swensen, Vice-Chairman – Joseph J. Szafarowicz, Clerk – Cynthia B. Cooper and Members – David M. Singer and John P. McGrath. Also in attendance: Town Administrator – Robin L. Craver and Student Selectperson – Emily Sprague.

NOTE: Some matters may have been taken out of agenda order but were typed up in agenda order for ease of locating information when necessary.

I. Call to Order:

1. Chairman Swensen called the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag. He officially welcomed our new members, Cynthia Cooper and John McGrath.
2. Chairman Swensen reminded everyone to treat each other courteously and be acknowledged by the Chair before speaking. Those in attendance are requested to turn off cell phones or put them on vibrate so as not to disrupt the proceedings and remove hats, if any.

II. Consent Agenda:

1. Minutes of Selectmen's Regular Meeting – April 15, 2014. **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to accept the minutes of April 15, 2014, seconded by Mr. McGrath. Vote taken: 3 abstentions with Mr. Szafarowicz and Chairman Swensen – aye.**
2. Minutes of Special Selectmen's Meeting – April 22, 2014. **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to accept the April 22, 2014 meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Singer, 3 ayes with Mr. McGrath and Mrs. Cooper abstaining.**
3. Minutes of Selectmen's Regular Meeting – April 29, 2014. **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to accept the April 29, 2014 meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Singer, 2 ayes with Mr. Szafarowicz, Mr. McGrath and Mrs. Cooper abstaining.**
4. Minutes of Special Selectmen's Meeting – May 6, 2014. **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to accept the May 6, 2014 meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. McGrath, motion carries unanimously.**

III. Community Relations, Announcements and Open Forum:

- Chairman Swensen read the announcements.
- Stefan Sage from Lincoln Point Road came forward. He has a problem with whoever is taking care of the town properties as the bushes are being way over mulched. He stated that he did research and too much starves the trees. Trees require moisture to spread and reproduce. He would request this be taken care of as he doesn't want to see us incur additional expenses. Chairman Swensen thanked Mr. Sage for bringing this to the Board's attention. Mrs. Craver will contact the lawn care company.
- Peter Cooper, Jr., Town Moderator came forward and would ask all to come to the Town Meeting on Monday, May 19, 2014 to help make the decisions on the important issues about our community. He also stated that there are two openings on the Finance Committee that are appointed by the Moderator. If anyone is interested, he would ask that they contact him. Mrs. Craver applauded Mr. Cooper for putting a fact sheet together that will be going in the town meeting books for the first time this year.

- Peter Cooper, Sr. from 190 Berry Corner Road came forward. He wanted to discuss the four day work week that the Finance Committee recommended. The Finance Committee makes recommendations that go to the Selectmen. It was his idea. He said it would save money on oil and they are not asking anyone to cut hours they are just asking employees to extend their hours during the week. He has information from the Town of Brookfield that he provided to the board. They closed their town hall one day a week and also only held one night for meetings. They dropped their oil usage by 2,240 gallons in 2010, basically they almost cut in half and that's a dollar amount. He feels we could save up to 30% but we won't know unless we do it. He feels that we should look at each building separately and the hours are open. He would recommend the Library stay open five days a week.

IV. Appointments/Resignations:

1. Appointment – per diem Dispatcher. Mrs. Craver stated that attached please find a letter from Chief Pervier requesting to add one additional per diem dispatcher to cover certain shifts on various days. In an effort to avoid the unnecessary payment of overtime, an immediate need exists to add the requested position. In reviewing the Charlton Police Department's current pool of per diem dispatcher applicants, Chief Pervier interviewed and would recommend the appointment of Brian J. Gonzalez of 109 Sunderland Road, Worcester, MA 01604. A complete background check and reference check was conducted and revealed that Mr. Gonzalez has a clean record and a solid background and should be considered for the per diem dispatcher position for the Charlton Police Department. Chief Pervier stated that overnight shifts and weekends are hard to fill. **Motion by Mr. Singer to appoint Brian J. Gonzalez as a per diem dispatcher for the Town of Charlton, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz, motion carries unanimously.** The Board congratulated Mr. Gonzalez and welcomed him.

V. Scheduled Appointments:

7:00pm – Public Hearing – Ye Olde Commons Live Entertainment License – continued. Mrs. Craver stated that at the Board's last meeting, the public hearing for Ye Olde Commons Live Entertainment License was opened. There was lengthy discussion regarding the stipulations for this license as well as comments from abutters. The Board voted to have two residents abutting this property, Mr. Henning and one more representative from Ye Olde Commons, police and fire and a member of the Selectmen which Chairman Swensen volunteered to sit down and address some of the issues which aren't addressed yet and to bring that information back to the board. The meeting was held and the majority agreed to limit the 1200 to 600 capacity, that the pole mounted flood lights would be turned off when the entertainment ended. Mr. Henning would place "no trespassing" signs on neighbor's fence to help prevent attendees from going into her yard and a thorough inspection will be made of the boundaries and all litter picked up. It was identified that the only weekend late night outside entertainment was planned for, is the 4th of July weekend. The group agreed to meet after that weekend and see if there needed to be any adjustments. The group scheduled a meeting for Tuesday, July 8, 2014, 5:30pm at Ye Olde Commons. Chairman Swensen declared the continuation hearing open at 7:00pm. He thanked everyone that participated in the discussion. He feels they have covered all the concerns of the neighbors. Chief Cloutier stated that the stipulation should read 527 CMR not 521. With no further discussion, **motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to close the hearing at 7:05pm, seconded by Mrs. Cooper, motion carries. Motion by Mr. Singer to approve the license with the agreed upon terms as amended with 527 CMR, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz, motion carries unanimously.**

VI. New Business:

1. Site Plan Application – LFB-USA, Inc. – Mrs. Craver stated to please find a copy of a site plan application submitted to the Planning Board by Whitman & Bingham Associates on behalf of

LFB-USA, Inc. for approval to construct a 13,400 square foot biotechnology building with an accompanying 33 space parking lot, driveway and infrastructure on property located easterly off of Rt. 31/New Spencer Road (Assessors Map 3, Block B, Parcels 1, 1.3 & 1.2) This property is zoned Agriculture (A). The Board is asked to review the site plan and provide any comments that you may have, if any, to the Planning Board no later than Thursday, May 15, 2014. No comments.

2. Arbor Day Proclamation – Mrs. Craver stated that it's that time of year again when the Planning Board will be applying to the Mass. Urban and Community Forestry Program for the annual Tree City USA designation which is an award through the Mass Re-Leaf Grant program tree grant installation. There are four requirements needed when earning the Tree City USA recognition each year which are: A Tree Board or Department; A Tree Care Ordinance; A Community Forestry Program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita and An Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation. As the Planning Board submits this yearly, the request to proclaim Arbor Day must be met. A Proclamation is permanent, but as this grant requests, it must be observed every year. The particular day for this proclamation is not important, it is just significant to honor the concept with an honoring proclamation. The Planning Board would appreciate the Board's consideration of this request as you have in the past. Should the Board approve this request, an Arbor Day Proclamation has been prepared and is in your sign folder. We will just need to add the date the board declares as Arbor Day Observance. A recommendation for the day was Sunday, May 25, 2014. **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to proclaim May 25, 2014 as Arbor Day, seconded by Mr. McGrath, motion carries unanimously.**
3. Request for Common Victualler License – Douglas Donuts, LLC, d/b/a Dunkin Donuts – Mrs. Craver stated that attached is a request for a common victualler license from Douglas Donuts, LLC, d/b/a Dunkin Donuts, Carollee Youssef, Manager, 52 North Main Street, Charlton MA. They have completed all the necessary paperwork needed and she would recommend the Board approve the license as requested. **Motion by Mr. Singer that we approve the request, seconded by Mr. McGrath, motion carries.**

VII. Old Business:

1. Replacing Trees on Town Common – Mrs. Craver stated that at the Board's last meeting, discussion came up about replacing the two trees that were taken down on the Town Common. It was recommended to make this an item on tonight's agenda to provide residents a chance to give their thoughts on how they would like to see the common replanted. We have not received any feedback as of writing this memo. She asked how the Board would like to proceed. She did speak with Todd Girard, our Conservation Agent who has made a recommendation. Mr. Girard recommends replanting two blue spruce trees that were removed but smaller. The cost is between \$400 to \$600 a piece to keep in with tradition with what we had. Mr. Singer asked if there was an opportunity to add more trees to the common. Mr. Girard stated that he hasn't looked at any of that yet but he doesn't know if the town wants it to look like a forest. Mrs. Craver stated that the other option is to replace one evergreen tree and we have a family that donated a tree in memory of one of their children that is on the side of the building. The future plan of the town hall is to redesign the driveway to loop around the building and we will have to move the tree and if we do that, we will be replacing that tree. The other thing she has heard from residents is the need for a shade tree. Chief Pervier is in line with Mr. Girard. He asked if the Board doesn't replace both trees as recommended to please at least replace one. Those trees are used for the Christmas Tree Lighting which he is involved in. Mr. Singer stated that he asked because it wasn't to replace the spruce with the cherry blossom but to make that in addition to. Chairman Swensen stated that he has heard a lot about the trees and he would recommend replacing with the two blue spruce trees in the same spots. **Motion by Mr. Singer to replace the two blue spruce trees with two new blue spruce trees in the same location as the old ones, seconded by Mrs. Cooper. Mr.**

Szafarowicz said when we replace the trees it would be nice to have a Charlton Historical Day and ask the Historical Commission to give some sort of presentation or maybe some sort of ceremony celebrating another 100 years for these trees. **Motion carries unanimously.** Mr. Singer would make a request to have Mrs. Craver work with Mr. Girard to investigate now instead of down the road, to see if we can get more cherry blossoms. These could be in addition to the spruces.

2. Annual Town Meeting – Warrant/Motions; budget – Mrs. Craver stated that she provided the board with the draft warrant with motions in their dropbox. (also attached) The Board has reviewed and approved to recommend some of the motions. She would ask them to go through the warrant and vote their pleasure as we need to start printing the town meeting booklets this week after the Finance Committee meeting. Mrs. Craver stated that the Board already approved Articles 1 – 8. The following are the articles for discussion:

Article 9 – Appropriation of funds for unpaid bills of a prior fiscal year. **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to approve the motion for Article 9, seconded by Mr. Singer, motion carries unanimously.**

Article 10 – Inter/Intra Departmental Transfers for FY14. **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz that we approve the motion for Article 10, seconded by Mr. Singer, motion carries unanimously.**

Article 11 – Classification Plan Update – **Motion by Mr. Singer to support the motion and move that Article 11 be passed over indefinitely, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz, motion carries unanimously.**

Article 12 – Town Budget – No action yet

Article 13 – Water Department Budget (Enterprise Fund) – **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz that we approve the motion for Article 13, seconded by Mr. McGrath, motion carries.**

Article 14 – Sewer Department Budget (Enterprise Fund) – **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to approve the motion to Article 14, seconded by Mr. McGrath, motion carries.**

Article 15 – Transfer of Funds to and from Stabilization Fund Account – Mrs. Craver stated that there are two motion under this article. The first is to transfer \$80,000 from the Millennium Fund to the Stabilization Fund. **Motion by Mr. Singer to approve Motion 1, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz, motion carries unanimously.** Mrs. Craver stated that Motion 2 is to authorize the Selectmen to acquire, by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise a parcel of property located at 91 Masonic Home Road in the sum of \$150,000. **Motion by Mr. Singer to approve Motion 2, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz.** It was asked to give a brief explanation of what this is. Chairman Swensen stated that for a number of years, this town has had a fire station building committee who was charged with finding property that could be used for a Fire Station. This parcel would be able to be connected to the Police Station without going on the main road. The group feels that part of this property with the house on it could be sold to recoup some of the costs and the rest use for the Fire Station. Mr. Cooper, Sr. came forward and said that he is in favor of this but would ask the board to have a water test and house inspection like a private citizen would do so that we know the house could be sold so that we don't have any problems selling it further down the line. Chairman Swensen stated that this discussion was already had. **Vote on motion: motion carries unanimously.**

Article 16 – Capital Items and Related Contracts – Mrs. Craver stated that there are two motions under this article. The first is for Police Cruiser Replacements (2) in the amount of \$60,000 from Stabilization, Highway 4X4 Pick Up Truck in the amount of \$37,123 from Stabilization, Tech Committee for the Computer Network/Replacement in the amount of \$25,000 from Stabilization and the Town Hall Phone System in the amount of \$35,700 from the Cable Account. **Motion by Mr. McGrath that we approve Motion 1, seconded by Mr. Singer, motion carries.** Mrs. Craver stated that the second motion is for Debt Exclusion for Fire to replace and combine T-1 & E in the amount of \$321,840 and Highway for 2015 Freightliner Dump Truck in the amount of \$117,756. **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to approve**

this motion, seconded by Mr. Singer. Chairman Swensen stated to explain we are trying to move some of the large capital items that we need from coming out of our regular working capital funds to a debt exclusion. **Vote on motion: motion carries.**

Article 17 – Cemetery Perpetual Care – **Motion by Mr. Singer to approve, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz, motion carries.**

Article 18 – Reauthorization of Revolving Funds – **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to accept the motion for Article 18, seconded by Mr. Singer, motion carries.**

Article 19 – Land Acquisition – New Recreational Fields Complex – **Motion by Chairman Swensen to support this article, seconded by Mrs. Cooper.** Mr. Singer stated that the tax payers will be the ones to vote this. He still has questions. Mrs. Cooper stated that this article is just to purchase the land. It has a lot of possibilities. **Vote on motion: motion carries.**

Article 20 – Development Phase No. 1 – New Recreational Fields Complex – **Motion by Mr. Singer to not support this article, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz.** Mr. McGrath feels we should buy the land and see how it goes. Mr. Szafarowicz stated that there are a lot of capital needs. **Vote on motion: 4 ayes, Mr. McGrath – opposed.**

Article 21 – Amendments to Charlton General Bylaws – Town Owned Lakes and Ponds, Docks, Mooring & Berthing Bylaw and Non-Criminal Disposition Enforcement Procedure Bylaw as to same - **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz that we approve the motion for Article 21, seconded by Mr. Singer, motion carries.**

Article 22 – Amendments to Charlton General Bylaws – Solicitors Bylaw – **Motion by Mr. Singer to support, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz, motion carries.**

Article 23 – Amendment to Charlton General Bylaws – Article XXI: Removal of Snow and Ice from Sidewalks – **Motion by Mr. McGrath that we support Article 23, seconded by Mr. Singer, motion carries.**

Article 24 – Amendment to Charlton General Bylaws – Public Consumption of Marihuana – **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to approve the motion for Article 24, seconded by Mr. Singer, motion carries.**

Article 25 – Amendments to Charlton General Bylaws – Civil Fingerprinting License Bylaw – **Motion by Mr. Singer to support, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz, motion carries.**

Article 26 – Bylaw to require connection to public water line – Mr. Singer asked if the Board of Health agreed that a bylaw is what is needed and the answer was yes. **Motion by Mr. McGrath to approve the motion as amended, seconded by Mr. McGrath.** Chairman Swensen explained what the article meant. **Vote on motion: motion carries.**

Article 27 – Renumbering and Recaptioning of compiled General Bylaws

Article 28 – Global Revisions to Text of Compiled General Bylaws

Article 29 – Strikethrough/Underline Revisions to Text of Compiled General Bylaws – Mrs. Craver asked if the Board would approve these as a group as they deal with the recodification of the bylaws. **Motion by Mr. Singer to approve the motions for Articles 27, 28 and 29, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz, motion carries.**

Article 30 – Acceptance of MGL Chapter 43D Expedited Permitting and Priority Development Site – **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to approve the motion for Article 30, seconded by Mr. Singer, motion carries.** Chairman Swensen stated that Articles 31, 32 and 33 are Zoning Board articles that we generally don't take a position on. Mrs. Craver stated that it's part of the recodification and would ask the board to vote on them.

Article 31 – Renumbering, Re-captioning and Revision of Zoning Bylaw

Article 32 – Global Revisions to Text of Zoning Bylaw

Article 33 – Strikethrough/Underline Revisions to Text of Zoning Bylaw – **Motion by Mr. McGrath to approve Articles 31, 32 and 33, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz, motion carries.**

Budget Discussion: Mrs. Craver stated that cuts were made to the budget that basically level funded and ended up with a \$529,000 deficit. The Finance Committee asked for additional cuts and with those there is a deficit of \$425,000. Those cuts include eliminating the Assistant Dog Officer, reducing the Town Planner and EDC Director 4 hours, eliminating all seasonal cemetery help, eliminating the Board of Health Assistant 2, eliminating the Tree Warden expense of dangerous trees, reducing Treasurer's hours, reducing ZBA Assistant hours, reducing contract obligations, reducing environmental budget, reducing street lights, going from a 5 day work week to a 4 day work week, adding \$25,000 to the reserve fund and reducing Memorial and Old Home Day funds. The cuts that were already made were eliminating a police officer, eliminating a fire fighter and eliminating the Board of Health post closure monitoring. Mrs. Cooper asked about the Assistant Animal Control – if there isn't an Assistant, how can we have 24/7 coverage with one person? Mrs. Craver stated that this was discussed when the board met with staff that we cannot maintain the same services. She stated that most towns have a part time or one full time officer. This isn't what we want to do. She feels the Assistant does a great job. We looked at what kind of services can we still provide at a reduced or lower amount. Mrs. Craver said she spoke with the Animal Control Officer and her concern was that she would have no vacations, no time off, there's nobody to help. Mrs. Craver stated that maybe there's a policy where she doesn't go out from 10pm to 6am she doesn't go out and respond but at least pick up emergency calls. She would leave it up to them the same way she had the conversation with the Council on Aging if Fridays were closed they would have to decide which programs they would not do. Mr. McGrath asked how much revenue is generated by Animal Control. Mrs. Craver stated that the Town Clerk maintains the licenses and the reports and she is supposed to give that to the Animal Control so she can follow up with the licensing. Chief Pervier stated that several years ago, the Animal Control was put under his control. We've reigned in people that have failed to license their dogs for years because of the hours that were spent doing this. He said you can't expect one person to process fines, run to the courthouse, answer calls and all else. Mr. Singer stated that he can see keeping this position due to the duties. Mr. Szafarowicz understands that we are at a point that cuts could hurt people but he cannot support this position. Mr. McGrath feels they cover their salaries and expenses with the spreadsheet that he saw. **Motion by Mr. Singer to leave the Assistant Animal Control officer in the budget for \$5,537, seconded by Mr. McGrath.** Mr. Szafarowicz stated that this year is tough but next year will be tougher and this will probably be on the table again. Chairman Swensen stated that while going through this budget process in eliminating positions and changing hours, those people will come and defend their positions. He understands that. Lisa Westwell, Assistant Animal Control Officer came forward. She stated a few things that people might not be aware of. The FOCUS group has spent over \$1,500 to help with the new building and animal control for things that there was no money for. She feels that they put an enormous effort into the job. **Vote on motion: motion carries unanimously.** Chairman Swensen would like to discuss one item that people were here for which is closing the town hall on Fridays and re-assigning those hours. He stated that while going through this whole process, the attempt was to keep everyone whole. They did not want to have to lay off people. The thought is that by closing the Town Hall on Fridays, it would be closed from Thursday evenings through Monday morning as an energy savings and also to re-assign hours to keep people whole. The hope is also in re-assigning hours we would be able to give the community better service by not having the town hall closed at 3:30. We've also had discussions with the Library about the equal amount of time, we were told the Library would lose 25% of their state aid. Our hope with the town hall is to not have anyone lose any hours and to keep everyone whole. The downside to this that we have to be painfully aware of could cause some real hardship for employees that have child care issues and family issues that have

to be dealt with additionally. He stated that closing on Fridays is in the budget but he would like to have discussions with the people here. Chairman Swensen stated that whatever we do, it's going to impact people. Mr. Szafarowicz stated that before we get to the town hall, he doesn't think it would behoove us to close the Library for three consecutive days but he thinks we should move towards closing the Library for two consecutive days. He feels Sunday and Mondays would be a good for them to close. Mr. Sage asked when would people actually have a budget in their hand to study it? Chairman Swensen stated that it is our hope that we will have these ready on Thursday. Mr. Cooper from the Finance Committee came forward and said this isn't fun to go through a \$23,000,000 budget. When people's lives are involved, the townspeople should understand. We don't have a state budget yet. Cheryl Hansen, Library Director came forward and stated that her board of Library Trustees have not met. She will be recommending to them that during the summer months, the Library be closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday and then from Labor Day to Memorial Day, close on Sundays and Mondays. She said they can close on Saturdays in the summer with no repercussions from the state. They would lose 25% of state aid if they were closed three days during the school year. Mrs. Craver stated that there has been more bad news in the last two days. She said that four years ago, she negotiated our contract for electricity for 7 cents all inclusive. The contract is up in December and the numbers she is now seeing is 10 cents. Chief Pervier came forward and asked the board to consider making some concessions for Chip In and the Senior Center. Chip In comes in on a Friday to hand out the food on a Saturday. He also stated that there are different events that take place in the Senior Center over the course of the year. Chairman Swensen stated that they have already had discussions on these issues. **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz that the Town Hall closes on Fridays, seconded by Mr. Singer.** Janet Crockett came forward and asked if the Board has made a decision on hours yet. Chairman Swensen stated that not yet. Mrs. Crockett asked if the Board could meet with employees to discuss the possibility of working with all because of issues such as day care. He asked that we don't read into that we can accommodate everybody. Mrs. Crockett asked if the issue with the lunches still on the table because that would add ½ to the day. Chairman Swensen stated that at this point, everything is open for discussion at this point. Mr. McGrath believes that everybody in the town hall should have a say in this. **Vote on motion: motion carries unanimously.** Chairman Swensen stated that the last issue he had to discuss was that there has been discussions of separating the positions of Town Planner and EDC Director. The Board met with the EDC Commission to discuss the impact and function. He said what he got out of the discussions is that both positions go hand in hand. To try to separate out those duties would be very problematic. A suggestion was made by an EDC Member instead of looking at separating them, look at lowering the amount of hours each week. The discussion seemed to settle on reducing the hours 10% which is 4 hours which would save the town around \$8,900. His opinion was that he was hoping for more savings, it's better than no savings. He asked the Board how they want to proceed on this. Mr. McGrath stated that there was a meeting with the Chairman of the Finance, EDC Chairman and members and three members of the Board of Selectmen. He believes it's an equitable solution. **Mr. Singer** would support it to start to see where it goes and **would move to support to reduce the hours of the director by four hours, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz, motion carries.** Mrs. Craver stated that she had a conversation with the Cemetery Superintendent regarding eliminating his seasonal help. He stated that he has enough funds in his revolving account to keep one of his cemetery helpers. Mrs. Craver was asked to read what was eliminated. (attached) She explained the process of requesting funds for unforeseen issues. Questions and answers were provided regarding the balance of the budget. Mrs. Cooper questioned the American Legion and use of the grange. Why are we paying? Mrs. Craver stated that they needed help a few years back and the town agreed to help them. There is a law that towns can

help American Legions. The American Legion rents the grange which is owned by a private entity. Mrs. Cooper asked if we could recommend the American Legion not use the grange for a savings. Chairman Swensen asked if the law requires that we find a meeting space for the American Legion. Mrs. Craver does not think so but will check on it. She also mentioned the use of 4 Dresser Hill Road. The Board has allowed the Activities Council to use it but that is not a definite in moving forward. Mrs. Craver was asked if she had an updated deficit amount with all these decreases and she said it was \$430,545 and that's with restoring the Assistant Animal Control Officer. Chairman Swensen asked if the Board would **support the budget as defined this evening pending any modifications made by the Finance Committee at their meeting tomorrow night, so moved by Mr. Szafarowicz, seconded by Mr. Singer.** Discussion of what is being requested from stabilization and debt exclusion. Mrs. Craver stated that over the years the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen have worked very hard to maintain the help of the Town of Charlton. They have made hard decisions and have tried to get input from the staff. She stated that she has tried to maintain stabilization at \$1,000,000 and if she were asked, she would lean towards finding more cuts. **Vote on motion: motion carries.** Mr. Sage still feels that there is not enough time for citizens to review the budget if it doesn't come out until Thursday or maybe Monday. He would encourage the Board to postpone town meeting to give people time to review the budget.

VIII. Committee Reports

IX. BOS Policy Review:

X. Student Selectperson Report – Emily Sprague reviewed her report.

XI. Town Administrator Report: Mrs. Craver reviewed her report.

XII. Other Business: (unknown at time of posting)

XIII. Next Meeting Announcement:

- Annual Town Meeting – May 19, 2014
- Next Regular Selectmen's Meeting – May 27, 2014

XIV. Adjourn/Executive Session:

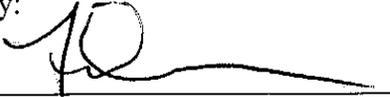
Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to enter into executive session at 9:28pm under M.G.L. c. 30a, sec. 21, #2 – to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non-union personnel, #3 – to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation and #6 – to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares, seconded by Mr. Singer. Roll call vote taken: Mr. Szafarowicz – aye, Mrs. Cooper – aye, Mr. McGrath – aye, Mr. Singer – aye and Chairman Swensen – aye. The Chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body and that the Board will reconvene to open session for the purpose of adjourning.

Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to adjourn at 9:57pm, seconded by Mr. McGrath, motion carries.

submitted by:

Mary C. Devlin
Administrative Assistant

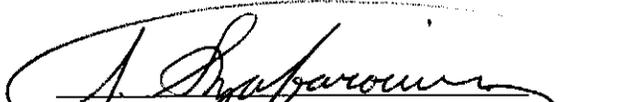
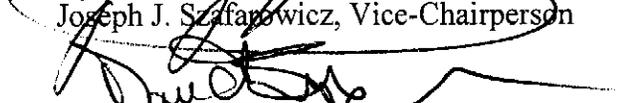
Accepted by:



Frederick C. Swensen, Chairman



Cynthia B. Cooper, Clerk

Joseph J. Szafarowicz, Vice-Chairperson

David M. Singer, Member

John P. McGrath, Member