

BOS-DRAFT-5-3-2010

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes for May 4th, 2010

Selectmen Present: Jim Dresser, Curtis Rand and Bob Riva

The meeting was called to order by First Selectman, C. Rand at 4:00.

The Agenda was approved with the addition of the Minutes for the Selectman's Meeting of April 5th.

The Minutes of the following meetings were approved:

BOS Meeting, April 5th
BOS Special Meeting, April 12th
BOS Special Meeting, April 19th

First Selectman asked for Citizen's Comments, but there were none.

Jack Mahoney spoke on the **Science and Technology Center** update for Housatonic Valley Regional High School. The project to create a new science and technology center by renovating the old agricultural building has been in the planning stages since 2001. Working in partnership with Region One and the Berkshire Taconic Foundation, the Oversight Committee has completed the initial architectural design and has raised close to \$200,000. A state of the art Science and Technology Center as part of a regular high school has not been done anywhere else in the United States, as far as we know. Jack Mahoney noted that HVRHS has provided nationally ranked teams in both Robotics and Envirathon competitions in recent years. The Build Green Group will be presenting their proposal to the Oversight Committee on Thursday, April 6th. It is hoped that they will be able to begin construction this summer.

First Selectman, C. Rand noted that Salisbury is the lead town of the six Region One towns applying to the state for a Stimulus Grant for Energy Efficiency Projects. If the grant is awarded there will be an additional sum of \$175,000 to work with.

Selectman, B. Riva commented that HVRHS has done a wonderful job in the past with its Vocational Agriculture Program and with Future Farmers of America. This Science Center could have the same sort of positive impact on the towns in Region One by helping to launch local kids on home-based technology businesses.

J. Mahoney answered some citizen questions.

- The enrollment at HVRHS is currently at about 560. It is expected that that number will remain relatively constant for the next year.
- Once the Science Technology Center is in operation the plan is to make it available in as many ways as possible. A summer school program and classes and programs for adults are two ideas for extending its use.

Announcements

C. Rand announced that the recent deaths of Debbie Spaulding and Mary Lou Estabrook have saddened us all. Both women were active in town government and long-time supporters of Salisbury. Our sympathy, and thanks for their past service, is extended to their families.

C. Rand also expressed his appreciation on behalf of the Board of Selectman to Lisa McCauliff, Director of Community Recreation. Lisa keeps many programs going at the Grove and at Hotchkiss, and manages to keep everyone well-informed about these activities as well. Selectman, J. Dresser commented that on the side Lisa manages to squeeze in being an EMT for the Salisbury Ambulance Association as well.

May 19th is the Final Budget Meeting of the Board of Finance.

June 5th is Hazardous Waste Day at the Falls Village Garage.

C. Rand also announced that Selectman, Jim Dresser, has recently had a baseball field named after him at Wesleyan University. J. Dresser reported that the opening ceremony went well and that he managed to throw out the first pitch without bouncing the ball on the way to home plate.

Old Business

The work on **Grove Senior Center** is proceeding through the final stages. The fireplace has been completed, using many recycled stones from the old chimney and the sheet rock has been installed. It is anticipated that the building will be completed by early summer.

B. Riva reported on the new **Firehouse**. Recent work has included packing and grading inside the truck bay and the installation of the radiant heating. The electrical wiring is now being connected to the transformer.

C. Rand commented that a new water main is being installed to provide additional water for the Firehouse and the other industrial buildings in the complex. This new main will allow for water sprinklers for the new buildings and will accommodate the increase demand for water without affecting the surrounding residences.

The **TRAC and SSRA Committees** met recently with representatives from Anchor Engineering to discuss the long term plan for the development of the new Transfer Station. They will be responding to several questions posed by the two committees in preparation for a Town Meeting on this project.

New Business

Thursday, May 6th has been declared to be a national **Day of Prayer**. There will be a multi-faith gathering on the White Hart Green at 12:00 on the 6th for anyone interested in participating.

The **Affordable Housing Advisory Committee** is meeting later today to finalize their report. A Special Selectman's Meeting may be scheduled later in May to present the report to the community.

C. Rand announced that he has accepted with regret Heather Bartram's resignation as Animal Control Officer. He extended his thanks to Heather for several years of high quality service. The Town will now be looking for a new Animal Control Officer. Any local resident interested in applying should contact the First Selectman.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:30.

Submitted by Garrett Richardson
5/5/2010