

## Stoneham Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting of March 27, 2012

Chairman R. Paul Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Selectmen John F. DePinto, Richard S. Gregorio, Robert W. Sweeney, Frank Vallarelli, Town Administrator David Ragucci, and Town Counsel William H. Solomon.

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Citation Award for Gino Millerick

Chief Rolli said Gino Millerick evacuated the building before firefighters arrived. He said he saved all the residents and saved the firefighters because they didn't have to go in the building. He presented Gino with a Stoneham patch pin. Selectman Sweeney said the fire occurred at 4:30 a.m. on 10/10/11. Selectman Sweeney said Gino and his family are personal friends of his. He said Gino was a victim of a fire in July and spent time in Mass General. He said this was over the top for him to do after what he had experienced. Selectman Sweeney said Gino helps him out with all the dinners for the homeless. He said he is the first one to volunteer. Chairman Rotondi told Mr. Millerick that it is people like him who make Stoneham great.

### Worldwide Day of Autism Speaks

Jeanne Craigie said they will light up the Common blue on Saturday morning. She thanked the Selectmen. She said DPW workers volunteered to help. She said on Sunday they will have a raffle and games for kids and food. Selectman Sweeney said that, as a Town, they can donate a golf foursome.

### Senior Citizen Property Tax Work-Off Abatement/Council on Aging/Continued

Town Administrator Ragucci said the Senior Citizen Property Tax Work-Off Abatement is on target to be implemented for the next cycle of taxes. He said there are 28 jobs for \$500 off taxes.

### Call Special Town Meeting within the Annual Town Meeting on 5/7/12 and Set Dates for Opening and Closing of Warrant

Selectman Vallarelli moved to hold a special town meeting within the annual town meeting on 5/7/12 at 7:30 p.m. and to open the warrant on 3/29/12 and close it on 4/9/12 at 4:00 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Sweeney and **unanimously voted**.

### Reappoint Town Counsel

Selectman Sweeney moved to reappoint Bill Solomon as Town Counsel. He said he had a nice letter from a citizen a week ago. He said Bill has been doing a good job. Motion was seconded by Selectman DePinto and **unanimously voted**.

### Article Recommendations/Annual Town Meeting

Chairman Rotondi asked for a point of personal order on Question one. He said there has been a lot of misunderstanding on what the article means. He said voters will be voting on a specific plan that was approved by the MSB Authority. He said if it does not pass they need to go through the whole process that they just went through and it will be 5 to 6 years before they have a new Middle School.

Article 7 – Selectman Vallarelli moved **Favorable Action**. Motion was seconded and **unanimously voted**. Article 16 – Selectman Vallarelli moved **Favorable Action**, seconded by Selectman DePinto. **Motion was unanimously voted**. Article 19 – Selectman Gregorio moved **Favorable Action**, conditioned on it comes from the Overlay, in the motion. Motion was seconded and **unanimously voted**.

### GIC/Eligibility of Elected Officials/Selectman DePinto

Town Counsel Solomon said he spoke to the GIC General Counsel. He said they looked at the Town's arguments and they agreed with the Town that Section 19 doesn't change who makes the determination. He said it is the Town who makes the decision for under 20 hours and compensated. He said they are changing the law. Selectman DePinto said it reaffirms what the Board of Selectmen in Stoneham did in 1993. He said he would like to put it on the next meeting that GIC won't be offered to elected officials. He

said for fairness issue, none of the Town employees under 20 hours get it. Selectman Gregorio asked how they know if the person is working under 20 hours. The Board decided to have Town Counsel look into it for the next meeting.

**Request for New Common Victualler License/Red Plaza Donuts, LLC d/b/a Dunkin Donuts/65 Main St**

Selectman Vallarelli moved approval of the New Common Victualler License for Red Plaza Donuts, LLC d/b/a Dunkin Donuts/65 Main Street, pending approval of the paperwork. Motion was seconded and **unanimously voted.**

**Approve Class II License Renewal/Thomas O'Connor and Ronald Penkethman d/b/a Pine Street Motors/45 Pine St**

Selectman Sweeney moved approval of the Class II License for Thomas O'Connor d/b/a Pine Street Motors/45 Pine Street, pending all paperwork. Motion was seconded by Selectman DePinto and **unanimously voted.** Selectman Sweeney said the only change in the license is taking Ron Penkethman off it.

**Approve Minutes**

Selectman DePinto moved approval of the 3/13/12 minutes. Motion was seconded, and voting was 4-0-1, with Chairman Rotondi abstaining. **Motion carried.** Selectman DePinto moved approval of the 1/10/12 minutes. Motion was seconded and **unanimously voted.** Selectman DePinto moved approval of the 2/28/12 executive session minutes and not to publish, seconded by Selectman Vallarelli. **Motion was unanimously voted.**

**Comcast Cable License Renewal Process/Preliminary Denial**

Town Counsel Solomon explained this is a very friendly denial. He said they have a great relationship with Comcast. Selectman Vallarelli moved that the Board vote to approve the proposed "Preliminary Assessment That The Cable Television License of Comcast of Massachusetts I, Inc. and Comcast of Massachusetts/New Hampshire, LLC Should Not Be Renewed Pursuant To Section 626 (c) of the Cable Act" in order to protect the interests of all relevant parties and provide the best opportunity for the Town and Comcast to reach an agreement regarding a new cable television renewal license. Motion was seconded by Selectman Sweeney and **unanimously voted.**

**Liquor Licensing Authority**

Selectman Gregorio moved to go into Liquor Licensing Authority and return to Board of Selectmen, seconded by Selectman DePinto. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor: Selectman Gregorio  
Selectman DePinto  
Selectman Vallarelli  
Selectman Sweeney  
Chairman Rotondi

**Motion was unanimously voted.**

**Meeting recessed at 8:01 p.m. to go into Liquor Licensing Authority.  
Meeting reconvened at 8:03 p.m.**

**Miscellaneous Correspondence**

Selectman Sweeney said today was the deadline for proposals for North School. He passed on it at this time, because Mr. Ragucci will bring it up in his report.

Selectman Vallarelli said they had something from the Democratic Town Committee to reappoint a registrar. Chairman Rotondi said it wasn't on the agenda so they can't take it up. It was decided to put it on the next agenda.

Selectman Gregorio noted the letter from the Council on Aging regarding a person not accepting the appointment.

Selectman Gregorio referred to the letter from the Commonwealth of Mass about leased space. He asked Mr. Ragucci if he knew anything more about what the requirements are, because he thought maybe space at Redstone. Mr. Ragucci said he will make some calls.

Chairman Rotondi said that the mother of Muriel Doherty, Secretary to the Board of Selectmen, had passed away. The Board held a moment of silence for Muriel's mother.

### **Town Administrator Report**

Town Administrator Ragucci said that the option they have for the Veterans Agent are to join with other communities, which would be \$52,000 for the Town's share for one full-time director and a couple of office staff. He recommended they go it alone. He said it would be a couple of thousand more. He said he has negotiated a salary of \$35 to \$36,000. He recommended it be in the FY12 budget. Selectman Gregorio said he would be eligible for a pension. Selectman Gregorio said that with the tri-community they may pick up the pension. Mr. Ragucci said he will look into it.

Mr. Ragucci said they will meet on 4/4 to talk about implementation on Ravine Road. Mr. Ragucci said the Board of Assessors is releasing \$95,000 from Overlay. Chairman Rotondi said it flows to free cash and will go to the Stabilization Account.

Mr. Ragucci said he circulated a draft report on Fallon Road. Chairman Rotondi said people talk about a planner, but he said they didn't bring on an employee with benefits. He said they hired this consultant for a specific project, and the developer paid for it. Mr. Ragucci said they are looking to get a zoning change at the Special Town Meeting.

Chairman Rotondi recused himself, because of North School. Mr. Ragucci said there was one bid on all the parcels for North School. He said it was for \$175,000 on one lot and \$142,500 for each of the other two lots. He said they wanted to put single-family homes on those three parcels. He said he bid \$240,000 on the back lot to keep the existing building up and put 12 dwelling units in it. Mr. Ragucci said he will meet with the North School Selection Committee and will be kicking around the bid and come back to the Board with a recommendation on what to do with the property. Selectman Gregorio said it sounds like an undervalue to him. Mr. Ragucci said that, on the face of it, he would have to agree. Selectman Gregorio said he is not interested in selling property at undervalue. Selectman DePinto said no. Selectman Gregorio said the land will be there a lot longer than the Board will be.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. **Motion was unanimously voted.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel Doherty