

Stoneham Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting of June 12, 2012

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Appointments to Housing Authority to Fill Unexpired Terms/Board of Selectmen/Housing Authority/Joint Meeting

Housing Authority Chairman Edward Pinato and Member Thomas Anderson were present. Selectman DePinto moved to appoint Thomas Anderson to fill the unexpired seat vacated by William Jordan. Motion was seconded by Selectman Gregorio, and a roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Selectman Gregorio
Selectman DePinto
Selectman Boussy
Thomas Anderson
Chairman Pinato
Chairman Vallarelli

Motion was unanimously voted (6-0).

Selectman DePinto moved to appoint Gerard Cunningham to fill the seat of Vincent Orsillo. Motion was seconded by Selectman Gregorio, and a roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Selectman Gregorio
Selectman DePinto
Selectman Boussy
Thomas Anderson
Chairman Pinato
Chairman Vallarelli

Motion was unanimously voted (6-0).

Selectman DePinto moved to adjourn the joint meeting. Motion was seconded and **unanimously voted.**

Request for Resolution in Support of Investing in our Communities/Martha Buckley

Martha Panther Buckley was present to represent Support our Stoneham. She read the proposed resolution. Selectman Gregorio said he strongly agrees the Governor has to pay more attention to Local Aid and, particularly, Chapter 70. He said Local Aid should be in bold and not just new revenues. Selectman DePinto agreed. He said Chapter 70 should be tweaked. He said our residents are paying more money to the State and getting less back. Selectmen Gregorio and DePinto wanted it to mention Chapter 70 and Local Aid. Selectman DePinto said our State Constitution is written so that there is a flat tax rate. He said there is no way to leave low income and middle class out. Selectman Boussy moved to add to the Resolution “prioritizing Chapter 70 and other Local Aid”

after the comma in the second to last paragraph. Motion was seconded by Selectman Gregorio. Selectman DePinto moved to amend it by adding that phrase to the last paragraph, after “Massachusetts residents”. Voting on the main motion was 3-0-1, with Selectman DePinto abstaining. **Motion carried.**

Stoneham Community Access/53 Central St and 18 Common St/Site Plan Hearing

Selectman Gregorio read the Notice of Hearing. Atty. Houghton was present to represent Stoneham Community Access, as President of Stoneham Community Access. He said they purchased the lot next door to create parking. He said the Town Administrator requested they pay taxes on that lot. Chairman Vallarelli asked if the Planning Board signed an ANR. Atty. Houghton said that is on for their next meeting. Atty. Houghton said this will make 24 conforming spaces. Selectman Gregorio read the department recommendations. Selectman DePinto moved approval, seconded by Selectman Gregorio.

Chairman Vallarelli opened the hearing to the public. The resident at 21 Common Street asked if it is a public parking space. Chairman Vallarelli said no, it is just for the Community Access TV station. He said no other business is there. Bob Davis, Commander of American Legion Post 115, said for the record that they have no problem with the parking. Selectman Boussy asked what type of lights. Atty. Houghton said they can't shine on abutting properties. Selectman DePinto asked how many years for completion. Atty. Houghton asked for two. Atty. Houghton added that they will work with the abutter, Billy Pollack, about screening. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Selectman Boussy
Selectman DePinto
Selectman Gregorio
Chairman Vallarelli

Motion was unanimously voted (4-0).

456 Main Street Stoneham LLC/456 Main St/Site Plan Hearing

Selectman Gregorio read the Notice of Hearing. Selectman Vallarelli asked if they got a variance. Atty. Houghton said yes. He said the parking was off by one foot for the landscaped area and the Board of Appeals allowed them to change the sign to say “Goodyear”. He said the Tidd gateposts will stay. Selectmen DePinto and Gregorio noted it does not say “agree” next to most of the items on the DPW recommendation. Atty. Houghton said they agreed to them. Selectman Gregorio read the department recommendations. Atty. Houghton agreed to them.

Chairman Vallarelli opened the hearing to the public. Mike Hardy, the abutter to the rear, asked if there is an exit to Hancock Street. Chairman Vallarelli said there is a curb cut on Hancock Street. He said there is only one opening on Main Street. Mr. Hardy's son-in-law said his concern is with the alley in back. Atty. Houghton said this building is a foot further from the lot line. Atty. Houghton said if they want a fence there, they will put a fence there. It was asked if there were going to be storage there. Atty. Houghton said it's a grass area on the plan. Atty. Houghton said a fence could be put along the back. He said they would need a little space for access. Joe Pandolfo, the general contractor,

suggested running the fence from the corner of the building along the lot line. He said he wouldn't want grass there. Mr. Hardy said he doesn't want kids in there. He asked how he could protect himself during construction. Mr. Pandolfo said he will talk to him about that.

Meeting recessed at 8:08 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 8:13 p.m.

Marcia Wengen, Historical Commission member, asked if the Tidd gates could be included in the motion. The Board said yes. Ms. Wengen said the owner agreed to put a sign in the area of the Tidd gate posts. She said they go back to 1860. She said he will split the cost and pay for the installation. She said the Commission hopes the Board would favorably approve this. Mr. Hardy said that, after they meet with the owner, there might be an item or two that they would like to have entered into the record. Chairman Vallarelli told Mr. Hardy if at any point he is not happy, he should call the Town Administrator or Building Inspector and they will inform the Selectmen. Atty. Houghton suggested calling Joe Pandolfo first. Selectman Boussy noted the fence could attract kids. Mr. Pandolfo said that, without a fence, the building could be the buffer. He said they could mulch that area. Mr. Hardy asked if they could go over that question when they get together. Selectman Gregorio moved approval of the site plan, with two years for completion, with the condition of keeping the gateposts, as well as constructing a fence along the rear area. Motion was seconded by Selectman DePinto, and a roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Selectman Boussy
Selectman DePinto
Selectman Gregorio
Chairman Vallarelli

Motion was unanimously voted (4-0).

Accept Gifts

Chairman Vallarelli read the names of the donors to the A.P. Rounds Playground. Selectman DePinto moved to accept the gifts, totaling \$1,094, seconded by Selectman Gregorio. **Motion was unanimously voted (4-0).**

Approve Minutes

Selectman DePinto moved approval of the 5/22/12 minutes, seconded by Selectman Boussy. Voting was 3-0-1, with Selectman Gregorio abstaining. **Motion carried.** Selectman DePinto moved approval of the 5/22/12 executive session minutes, seconded by Selectman Boussy. Voting was 3-0-1, with Selectman Gregorio abstaining. **Motion carried.**

Boys and Girls Club of Stoneham/Request to Change Hours of Weekly Sunday Bingo Game to 12:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

Selectman DePinto moved approval of the request of the Boys and Girls Club of Stoneham to change the hours of their weekly Sunday Bingo game from 6:00 p.m. to

12:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Boussy, and a roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Selectman Boussy
Selectman DePinto
Selectman Gregorio
Chairman Vallarelli

Motion was unanimously voted (4-0).

Comcast License Renewal Including Preliminary Denial Written Statement/Town Counsel

Town Counsel Solomon said that no action is needed, for now.

Appoint Two Members of the Board of Selectmen as a Sub-Committee regarding “Comcast/Verizon/RCN Cable License Renewal/Extension and Enforcement”/Town Counsel

Town Counsel said the sub-committee will be subject to Open Meeting Law. Selectman DePinto moved to appoint Selectmen DePinto and Boussy to the sub-committee to assist Town Counsel. Motion was seconded by Selectman Boussy and **unanimously voted (4-0)**.

Miscellaneous Correspondence

Mr. Ragucci said the Town hired their own Veterans Agent, a local resident from Woburn, at the same cost, or less, as a merger with Melrose and Wakefield would have cost. Selectman Vallarelli asked about the petition from the neighbors of Wincrest Development. Mr. Ragucci said they are still only building homes in Stoneham. He said when they do the Wakefield portion he expects those trucks to go through Wakefield. Selectman DePinto asked if they can hose it down. Mr. Ragucci said the dust has been mitigated and there are large areas of grass. He said they do spray it down when they are going to excavate. Chairman Vallarelli asked Mr. Ragucci if he could speak to the developer. He asked if it is necessary to go down Greenview. He said that's not a cut-through street. He said he would think it would be MacArthur to Prospect Street. Selectman DePinto noted the letter about Ravine Road. Mr. Ragucci said Selectman Sweeney wants to speak to Mayor Dolan to see what other possible solutions to the problem are. Selectman DePinto moved to continue with the trial period of Ravine Road as a one-way, seconded by Selectman Boussy. **Motion was unanimously voted (4-0).**

Town Administrator Reports

Mr. Ragucci said he met with the MWRA about the tank and the construction of pipe through Stoneham. He said the route of the trucks carrying dirt from the tank construction will be Woodland Road to South Border Road to 93. He said very few residents will be impacted. He said then many more trucks will be delivering cement. Mr. Ragucci said he suggested putting a solar array panel on top of the tank to recover some of the lost tax dollars. He said Mr. Laskey said one issue was drainage. The second issue was the Friends of the Fells got them to agree to put walking paths on top of

the tank. Finally, he said, the Gutierrez Purchase and Sale does not allow anything to go on the tank but grass or walking paths.

Town Administrator Ragucci said the pipeline is years off. He said they are not even done with the preliminary designs. He said the winding path would allow Stoneham to replace older pipes. He said they need to do some borings on Stoneham's streets. Selectman DePinto asked if this will keep the Town from having to appropriate money at Town Meeting. Mr. Ragucci said yes. He said they would probably go a few years without appropriating \$400,000. Chairman Vallarelli said he would want DPW overseeing each location of the borings. Selectman DePinto asked what the solar panels would save the Town. Mr. Ragucci said \$50,000 a year and, if they do it quickly enough, they would save \$50,000 to \$75,000. He said the MWRA seems more interested in taking care of a non-public group than its ratepayers. Chairman Vallarelli asked if they will use Spring Lane as a laying down area. Mr. Ragucci said at the end of the project the Town would get a clean piece of land. He said they want a cap on the environmental exposure. He said the Town is looking at \$500,000 to \$800,000 in rental fees for the use of the land over the next two to three years. Mr. Ragucci said that the trial is completed in the Wantman suit against the Town and the neighbor. He said the Town of Stoneham was found not responsible for any of the issues that presently exist at Mr. Wantman's property. Selectman Gregorio asked about the article in the paper concerning the FY13 budget. Town Administrator Ragucci said they will be discussing the trash fee reduction that Selectman Sweeney had suggested. Mr. Ragucci said that, starting 7/1, they will be able to collect all recyclables in one barrel. They won't have to separate. Selectman Gregorio said that before they agree to change the budget he would like to have a tri-board meeting. Mr. Ragucci said they could do that sometime in July.

Executive Session

Selectman DePinto moved to go into executive session and not to return as the Board of Selectmen, pursuant to Chapter 30A, for medical privacy. Motion was seconded by Selectman Boussy, and a roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Selectman Boussy
Selectman DePinto
Selectman Gregorio
Chairman Vallarelli

Motion was unanimously voted (4-0).

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel Doherty