

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

March 4, 2008
Minutes

The Board of Selectmen met on Tuesday, March 4, 2008 in the Town Hall Clark Room. Those present were Selectmen William R. Tice, Jr., Alan Carpenito, John D. Williams, and Mr. Stevenson and Town Administrator Madonna J. McKenzie.

Community Input - Wind Turbines

Michael Hanauar spoke for the Carlisle Climate Action Committee. He said that while the Committee encourages the concept of another form of energy, they are concerned about the process the Town would go through to have wind turbines. They want it to be the 'right process'.

Nancy Weiss, resident and representative to the Minuteman Vocational High School spoke about 'green technology.'

Keith Therrion spoke about an article that appeared in the Boston Globe this past weekend. He said that wind turbines are the new 'thing' in Europe and that there have been about 19,000 wind turbine installations in Germany. He said he would like Carlisle to look at wind turbines as something that would benefit the community.

Bond Approval

Finance Director Larry Barton was present to ask the Board of Selectmen to approve the renewal of a Bond Anticipation Note for \$1million. The Fire truck, boilers at the Carlisle Public School and a cistern were included under this \$1million note. On a motion made by Mr. Stevenson and seconded by Mr. Williams, it was unanimously **VOTED** to authorize the Town Treasurer to establish a short term BAN for \$1million for the Fire truck, boilers and Cisterns for one year as discussed.

Budget Discussion

David Model from the Finance Committee was present to briefly go over what had occurred at the Monday, March 3, 2008 FinCom meeting. He started off by saying that the Finance Committee put out a levy limit guideline budget of approximately \$22,247,380. and the departments have actually submitted \$105,000.00 less than that in guideline requests. He said the Minuteman Vocational High School and the Conservation Commission were under the guideline budget.

David talked about the Regional High School's budget, which was over by \$251,000.00 and the Carlisle Public School's budget, which was over by \$481,000. He reminded everyone that the CPS had tiered their requests. He also reminded everyone that there is also a proposal to reallocate \$80,000, which was earmarked for school technology from LTCR, to teaching positions [FinCom supported that]. David said there was a request for \$45,000.00 of free cash for language arts. The Finance Committee supported this request because the instructor was most of the way through the program and it seemed in the best interest for all to continue same for one more year. He said the School will look at all parts of their budget tomorrow. He said on the

Board of Selectmen
March 4, 2008
Approved - May 27, 2008

Town side, money will be reallocated to the Police for fuel, mileage and electricity, totaling \$16,000.00. David said \$9,000.00 will go to the Communications department in order to stabilize their shift situation. David said \$95,000.00 of free cash will go for unemployment costs.

There was a discussion regarding an override for the High School. David said the FinCom took an informal vote, six to one in favor, of placing the entire amount for the Regional High School on an override. There was a discussion on what would happen if the override did not pass. David said they could still use some of the remaining free cash for the High School. Mrs. McKenzie explained the process that needs to be followed when an override of this kind fails. Mr. Tice thanked David Model and the Finance Committee for their continued work on the budget.

Annual Town Meeting Warrant (attached hereto)

The Board read through the Warrant Articles with Mrs. McKenzie.

Article 1. The Town Reports.

Article 2. 2008 Budget Transfers - Mrs. McKenzie explained that this was a transfer between line items.

Article 3. Mrs. McKenzie said this is a transfer from the Stabilization fund to pay for the Benfield Court Judgment. She said that Town Counsel would like all transfers from the Stabilization fund to come under one Warrant article. The Board did not agree with this recommendation.

Article 4. FY08 Free Cash Transfer for the above-referenced Judgment. There was a discussion over whether the money should come from the Stabilization fund or Free Cash (or the overlay account).

Article 5. This is a Free Cash Transfer for FY08 for CCHS for Special Education.

Article 6. Salaries for elected officials.

Article 7. Operating Budget

Article 8. Capital Equipment

Article 9. Ambulance - There was a discussion on this article and the Board decided that it was not necessary to have a warrant article for the purchase of the ambulance.

Article 10. Revaluation

Article 11. Actuarial

Article 12. 2009 Transfers from Reserve Fund

Article 13. Stabilization Account Transfer for FY09 for Debt Service on Wang Coombs.

Article 14. This article is also the over ride question for the High School.

Article 15. Free Cash Transfer of \$148,000.00 to supplement the Budget previously discussed

Article 16. Department Revolving Funds Authorization 53E ½

Article 17. FY09 Chapter 90 Authorization [no one was sure what this amount was yet]

Article 18. Real Estate Tax Exemption

Article 19. FY09 Lease of Land for Wireless Facilities

Article 20. Community Preservation Committee Authorization

Article 21. Town Ways – Acceptance of Great Brook Path

Article 22. Town Way – Acceptance of Koning Farm Road

Article 23. Town of Carlisle Inter-Municipal Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Contract Agreement

Article 24. Community Septic Management Program

Article 25. Acceptance of Easements: Lowell Street, East Street, and Concord Street pathways.

Article 26. Carlisle Public School Bus Contract

Article 27. Revision to General Provision, General Bylaws Article 1

Article 28. Revision to Zoning Bylaws, 4.7 Intensity and Dimensional Requirements, Height Exceptions

The Board decided to close the Warrant at the next meeting and approve the articles at that same time.

Wind Turbine Discussion

Mr. Tice said the Board has heard from the Planning Board and has listened to community input on the wind turbine matter. He said we have heard options and recommendations and now we have to make a decision.

Mrs. McKenzie said the options were to withdraw the warrant article, or have a moratorium, which would also require a bylaw change, or go forward. Mr. Carpenito asked what would happen if the Board chose to do nothing right now? Mrs. McKenzie said if we do nothing, the Town is at risk of a lawsuit.

Board of Selectmen

March 4, 2008

Approved – May 27, 2008

Mr. Stevenson said the specific action is what to do immediately relative to how it relates to wind turbine application. He said the two options we have are: 1) taking no additional action and letting the building inspectors ruling prevail and hope that that decision holds up until we establish a bylaw; or, 2) modifying the bylaw.

Greg Peterson from the Planning Board said the Planning Board is indifferent on the subject of whether or not a moratorium is put in place. He said the Planning Board is in favor of the study of the subject. From a procedural perspective, Greg said, the Planning Board would like to have an appropriate amount of time so that people can get into this and develop some consensus. He spoke about other issues that need to be considered. He reminded everyone that turbines have an affect on property value. He said this would be the time to consider not just wind energy, but other forms of energy as well.

Mr. Tice said he liked the idea of not having a moratorium. Mr. Stevenson said he would be happy to withdraw the petition. The Board agreed him. It was agreed that the article would be taken off the warrant.

The next step was to establish a study committee. Mrs. McKenzie suggested the name - Alternative Energy Committee. Mr. Stevenson suggested that a small working group establish a mission statement or a charter. It was decided that Mr. Williams, Greg Peterson, Keith Therrien would work on the Charter. Mrs. McKenzie suggested Elizabeth Barnett would assist with the charter and on the committee. There was a brief discussion on the other types of energy that should be included besides wind.

Liaison Reports

Mr. Tice said CCTV will have a Board meeting on Thursday night [March 6th].

Mr. Williams said he will have a meeting with Village Court this week.

Mr. Tice commented that he will be meeting with the Wireless RFP Committee soon. Mrs. McKenzie said that the Wireless Committee will come to the Board's meeting in late April to give a report on their progress.

There was a brief discussion over contract negotiations with Comcast. It was noted that there is a real need for the revival of the Cable Communications Advisory Committee. Mrs. McKenzie said that the committee will need to meet and come up to speed on issues in the Town. Membership on the committee will be at least a two-year commitment.

Executive Session

At 8:42 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Carpenito to go into Executive Session, not to return to open Session, to discuss litigation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stevenson and the following affirmative roll call vote was taken: Williams – aye; Tice – aye; Carpenito – aye; and Stevenson – aye.

Respectfully submitted by Margaret deMare