

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

July 22, 2008
Minutes

The Board of Selectmen met on Tuesday, July 22, 2008 at the home of Selectman Bill Tice, on Audubon Lane, Carlisle. Those present together with Mr. Tice were Selectmen Douglas A. G. Stevenson, John D. Williams, Alan Carpenito, and Timothy F. Hult, and Town Administrator Madonna J. McKenzie.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Stevenson.

The Board discussed the memo they received from Fire Chief David Flannery relative to Emerson Hospital Advanced Life Support (ALS) Services. In the memo, Chief Flannery informed the Board that Emerson is running a \$271,000 annual deficit in providing ALS services to the area communities. A proposal was made by the hospital to eliminate the current ALS/BLS billing split payments and institute a fixed fee of \$300.00 for each Medicare patient who receives ALS intervention from the hospital. Chief Flannery said he attended another meeting on July 14th with nearby Fire Chiefs who discussed the aforementioned proposal and they voted to recommend to their respective communities that each Town increase its reimbursement to Emerson ALS {per Medicare patient} a flat fee of \$250.00. After further discussion on billing rates, these Fire Chiefs voted to recommend that the Towns increase the fee for both BLS and ALS ambulance service to the Medicare rate plus 40%. Carlisle is currently at the Medicare rate plus 34%.

On a motion made by Mr. Hult and seconded by Mr. Tice, it was unanimously **VOTED** to set the BLS ambulance rate for the Town of Carlisle at \$576.00 and the ALS ambulance rate at \$684.00 effective August 1, 2008 and authorize Chief Flannery to reimburse Emerson Hospital ALS \$250.00 for each ALS Medicare patient intervention in the Town of Carlisle. [Payments to be made from the ambulance receipts account.]

Minutes

The Minutes from the June 24, 2008 Board of Selectmen meeting, were approved as presented.

The Minutes from the July 8, 2008 Board of Selectmen meeting, were approved as presented.

Mrs. McKenzie presented a memo from the Conservation Commission relative to a Notice of Intent for work at 24 Bingham Road, Carlisle, which has already been completed. The Conservation Commission Administrator noted in the memo that some of the work appeared to be within the Town's right of way. A portion of this work was also within the buffer zone of a bordering vegetated wetland. The Conservation Commission is not able to issue an Order of Conditions under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Carlisle Wetlands Protection Bylaw, for work on any property, private or public, without the property owner's approval. The Conservation Commission is asking if the Board of Selectmen has granted permission to this resident to work in the Town's right of way. There was a brief discussion on this issue. No action was required on this matter at this time; however, Mrs. McKenzie noted that a Public Hearing has been scheduled by the Conservation Commission on July 31st at 8:45 p.m. on this matter.

Pathways Matter

On a motion made by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Hult, it was unanimously **VOTED** to give Chairman Douglas A. G. Stevenson authorization to sign the Historical Commission's Application for Pathways work on Church Street.

Goal and Objectives

Mr. Stevenson said he would like to open the discussion with what goals are important to the Town and the Board this coming year. He said after that, the Board could focus on some of the e-mails they have recently received.

Mr. Stevenson asked if the Board wished to stay with the initial eight categories or add on to the previous list of goals. The Board was agreeable with the former. The Board talked broadly about items that needed to be accomplished.

Mr. Tice talked about some comments he heard relative to Nstar.

Mr. Stevenson said he had received e-mails from Marlene Fine, David Freedman and John Ballantine. Marlene and John are both members of the Carlisle Livable Community Group. Mr. Tice questioned what role the Board of Selectmen played with this group. Mr. Hult said he could see 'connective-ness'. The Board of Selectmen should stay connected with this group. He said the best way to stay connected is through the Council on Aging. They talked briefly about the Councils on Aging upcoming survey. Mr. Hult said it seemed that the issues with the seniors will turn more to how they provide services. Mr. Carpenito spoke about the Council on Aging. He said the committee could be broken down to three groups of seniors. They are the newly retired seniors, the seniors who are very active with the programs, and then, the group that is basically homebound. Mr. Williams spoke briefly about the Council on Aging survey. He said Bert Williams, who is working on the survey wanted to make sure that there were enough questions on the survey relative to 'housing'. It was noted that Jim Elgin from the Council on Aging is also working on the Council on Aging survey with the Livable Carlisle Committee.

Mr. Hult spoke about the School Building Committee meetings and the interaction with MSBA. He said the School Building Committee has been meeting almost every week. He said presently, they are focusing on the OPM. They have two applicants for this position. Mr. Hult said the second focus is on the 'needs' they are trying to fulfill at the school. The range for the cost is approximately 20 to 22 million dollars. Mr. Hult said they do not need anymore classrooms. However, they do need to replace the ones they have. He talked about the science labs and rooms for special education. He said in regard to music, there would be a new space for chorus and band. Mr. Hult said the net cost for all of this is approximately \$14million and about \$4½ million for the rest of the buildings. Mr. Hult said he thought this was a good foundation to provide to the townspeople, with hope that they will understand the detailed design.

Mr. Carpenito mentioned the upcoming Teachers contract. Mr. Stevenson said the Board will need to have a representative on the negotiating team.

Mr. Carpenito spoke about a generator that he and several others have been working at trying to have installed at the school.

The next item for discussion was a letter the Board received from Planning Board member David Freedman. David expressed some concerns over items that had not been posted on the Town's website and with communication in Town Hall, and Town services. The Board discussed David's letter and made a few suggestions.

The Board discussed the Leadership Responsibility Chart for 2009.

After considerable discussion the Selectmen made the following choices:

Financial Management - Mr. Williams and Mr. Stevenson

Education - Mr. Stevenson and Mr. Tice

Town Services Mr. Tice and Mr. Hult

Utilities - Mr. Tice and Mr. Carpenito

Recreation and Community – Mr. Hult and Mr. Carpenito

Affordable Housing – Mr. Williams and Mr. Hult

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Conservation Land – Mr. Williams and Mr. Carpenito

Safety and Security – Mr. Hult and Mr. Carpenito

Mr. Stevenson said the next step is the preparation of a set of goals for each category by the two selectmen that have been assigned to each category. These goals will be presented at a future meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Margaret deMare