

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mr. Seppala at 6:15 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Seppala, Schiffer, Jolly, Awad, Hubley
Del Castilho, Tucker, B. Roberts, Carson, Parent

QUESTION PERIOD

1. Would the Select Board consider whether asserting rights of legislative privilege might save money by reducing appearances at depositions.
2. Why did special counsel not bring to the Select Board the issue of legislative privilege?
3. Why not a more rigorous attack on the lawsuit on legislative privilege grounds?
4. Should litigation be on value of property under eminent domain?
5. Is it possible that there be established a depository of hard copies of all emails to and from Select Board members?

SELECT BOARD'S ACTION

Public Hearing – WMECO and Verizon New England, Inc.

- Public hearing called to order at 6:27 p.m.
- Closed the public hearing at 6:28 p.m.
- VOTED unanimously to approve, pending permit from the Department of Public Works, the petition from Western Massachusetts Electric Company and Verizon New England, Inc. to install two (2) jointly owned poles on Potwine Lane, the poles to be located approximately 761 feet and 964 feet westerly of Middle Street and to construct and maintain a line of poles, wires and cables in accordance with plan 6A310397 to improve clearance over the roadway and between cables on the existing poles.

Permit Process

VOTED unanimously to direct the Town/Commercial Relations Committee to examine the permitting process in Amherst and work on developing recommendations for its improvement.

Massachusetts Municipal Association Business Meeting

VOTED unanimously that Carl Seppala, Chair of the Select Board, authorize Barry L. Del Castilho to vote in the Select Board Chair's absence at the Massachusetts Municipal Association Annual Business Meeting.

Committee Appointment

VOTED unanimously to appoint Bob Saul, Amherst Farm Committee, for a term to expire June 30, 2006.

Committee Reappointment

VOTED unanimously to reappoint Elisa Campbell, Community Preservation Act Committee, for a term to expire June 30, 2007.

VOTED unanimously to reappoint Pamela Rooney, as the Planning Board Representative to the Community Preservation Act Committee, for a term to expire June 30, 2005.

Approve Minutes

VOTED unanimously to approve the Select Board minutes of December 8, 2003, as amended.

VOTED unanimously to approve, and not release, the Select Board Executive Session minutes of December 8, 2003.

LICENSES AND PERMITS

Annual Renewal of Licenses

No action taken on the following licenses:

Mohamed Amzil
SeeMo Taxi, LLC
d/b/a: Amherst Cab
252 West Street, Apt. 15
Amherst, MA 01002
Taxi/Chauffeur Business

Mohamed Amzil
Amherst Cab
252 West Street, Apt 15
Amherst MA 01002
Taxi Driver Licenses

Caroline Nunn
Amherst Cab
152 Riverboat Village Road
Amherst MA 01002
Taxi Driver License

VOTED unanimously to renew the following licenses, for January 1, 2004 to January 27, 2004, subject to the conditions that are attached to the licenses being renewed:

Elwood Shular, Jr.
d/b/a: Shabazz Cab of Amherst, MA
40 Carriage Shops
Amherst MA 01002
Taxi/Chauffeur Business

Elwood Shular, Jr.
Shabazz Cab of Amherst, MA
40 Carriage Shops
Amherst MA 01002
Taxi Driver License

Persian, Inc.
d/b/a: Red Cab
38 Justice Drive
Amherst MA 01002
Taxi/Chauffeur Business

Veronique D. Carr
Red Cab
170 East Hadley Road
Amherst MA 01002

Taxi Driver License

Taxi Business – Additional Vehicles - Amherst Cab

No action taken

Taxi Driver License – Red Cab

VOTED unanimously to approve the Taxi Driver License for Chloe E. Soto, 203 Pine Street, Apt. 2R, Holyoke for Persian, Inc. d/b/a Red Cab.

Failure to Renew Licenses

VOTED unanimously not to renew the following licenses:

F.U.D.E, Inc.
d/b/a Cushman Village General Store
491 Pine Street

Wine and Malt Off Premise

CSB, LLP
d/b/a Atlantis
41 Boltwood Walk

All Alcoholic Restaurant
Common Victualler
Live Entertainment

One-Day Wine and Malt License

VOTED unanimously to approve the One-Day Wine and Malt License for Amherst College for January 17, 2004, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the Lewis-Sebring Dining Commons, Valentine Hall, for a retirement dinner for the Amherst Fire Department.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTED: Seppala, Schiffer, Jolly, Awad, Hubley voted “Aye”, to adjourn the open meeting at 9:01 p.m. and convene an Executive Session to discuss litigation and real property. The open meeting will not reconvene following the Executive Session.