

## MINUTES

### CALL TO ORDER

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

### ATTENDANCE

Select Board members Gerry Weiss, Anne Awad, Alisa Brewer, Stephanie O’Keeffe, Diana Stein; Town Manager Larry Shaffer; Finance Director John Musante; Patty Brandts, John Thibbitts, Bob Saul, Dolly Jolly

### OPENING REMARKS/AGENDA REVIEW

Ms. Stein requested revisiting the vote and discussion of Article 33 – LEED standards.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

No one from the public offered comment.

### SELECT BOARD’S ACTION

#### **Parking and Street Closing Request for “Taste of Amherst” Event**

Chamber Director Patty Brandts and Taste Committee Chair John Thibbitts requested:

- “No Parking” bags on parking meters around the perimeter of the Town Common, including the north and south sides of the Spring St. lot, for: Thursday, June 19, noon to 9:00 p.m.; Friday June 20, 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.; Saturday, June 21, noon to 10:00 p.m.; and Sunday, June 22, noon to 4:00 p.m., to accommodate Taste vendor parking.
- The closing of Boltwood Ave. Friday, June 20 and Saturday, June 21 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., peak pedestrian crossing times for the beer and wine tasting.
- Reserving the first 12 parking spaces on the east side of Boltwood Ave. for Lord Jeff guests.

**VOTED** unanimously to approve these requests.

#### **Letters Regarding Possible Budget Reconsiderations**

The Select Board received letters from the Human Rights Commission urging restoration of LSSE fee subsidies, and from Vince O’Connor recommending several budget alterations. There was discussion on whether or not the Select Board should take positions on possible budget reconsiderations.

**VOTED:** 2-3 to not recommend any motions to reconsider budgets already adopted, so the motion was defeated (Brewer and O’Keeffe supporting; Weiss, Stein and Awad opposing.) The default position, preferred by the majority, is that the Select Board would take no position on motions to reconsider budgets.

#### **Select Board Meeting Dates**

The following 2008 meeting dates were set: June 2, 9, 16 and 23; July 7, 21 and 28; August 11, 18 and 25; and September 8.

#### **Amherst in Bloom**

Dolly Jolly of the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee presented a plan to plant 10,000 daffodils this fall to bloom in May 2009, in celebration of that month’s “neighborhoods” theme. She requested permission to have them planted by local landscapers in the following parks and commons:

Sweetser Park, Kendrick Park, the Town Common, East Street Common, under the Katsura tree near the East Street Common, South Amherst Common and Cushman Common.

**VOTED:** unanimously to approve the request.

## **WARRANT ARTICLES**

### **Article 33 – Petition – Request Development of Zoning Bylaw Amendment Using LEED Standards**

Additional discussion occurred on this article, which had previously been addressed at the May 19<sup>th</sup> and May 12<sup>th</sup> meetings. Ms. Stein wanted the article’s language altered to more explicitly include consideration of standards and best practices beyond LEED standards. She recommended amending the motion by adding “and best practices as possible guidelines,” after “standards” and pluralizing “guidelines.” Ms. O’Keeffe expressed concerns about the article’s language and process. Mr. Weiss, Ms. Brewer and Ms. Awad expressed satisfaction with both the existing language and Ms. Stein’s amended language, citing the advisory nature of the article.

**VOTED** 4-1 to reconsider the vote of May 21<sup>st</sup> (Weiss, Brewer, O’Keeffe and Stein supporting; Awad opposing.)

**VOTED** 4-1 to recommend the article as amended (Weiss, Brewer, Stein and Awad supporting; O’Keeffe opposing.)

### **Article 37 – Free Cash**

Mr. Musante explained that the original balanced budget recommendation required an appropriation of \$400,000 from Free Cash, and that an additional \$25,000 would be required if Article 35, seeking that amount for Amherst’s 250<sup>th</sup> celebration, is approved.

**VOTED** unanimously to recommend appropriating \$425,000 from Free Cash to balance the FY09 budget.

### **Article 38 – Stabilization Fund**

Mr. Musante explained that no appropriation from the Stabilization Fund is being sought, and recommended dismissal of the article.

**VOTED** unanimously to recommend dismissal of Article 38.

### **Article 46 – Right to Farm Bylaw**

Bob Saul, Chair of the Agricultural Commission, reported that the language changes requested by the Select Board at the May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting had been addressed. Ms. Brewer suggested removing the Select Board from the proposed dispute resolution process. Inserting the Town Manager instead was acceptable to all, pending consultation with Town Counsel regarding the legality of doing so, and an assessment of the relative strength of a Town Manager or Select Board-backed process in potential future litigation.

**VOTE DEFERRED** until May 28<sup>th</sup>, for Town Counsel consultation.

## **LICENSES AND PERMITS**

### **Special Wine and Malt License – Taste of Amherst**

**VOTED** unanimously to approve a Special Wine and Malt license for the Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce for June 19, 2008, 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; June 20, 2008, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.; June 21, 2008, from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.; June 22, 2008, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., on Amherst College property on Boltwood Ave., directly across the street from the Town Common for the Taste of Amherst.

**Special All Alcohol License – Amherst College Reunion**

**VOTED** unanimously to approve a Special All Alcohol license for The Log Cabin Banquet and Meeting House, Inc. for May 30 and 31, 2008, 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., at Amherst College's Morris Pratt dorm quad for a class reunion.

**COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

**VOTED** unanimously to reappoint Frank Wells to the Public Transportation and Bicycle Committee, for a term to expire June 30, 2010.

**VOTED** unanimously to reappoint Hilda Greenbaum to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an associate member, for a term to expire June 30, 2009.

**VOTED** unanimously to reappoint Leslie Arriola to the Town Commercial Relations Committee, for a term to expire June 30, 2011.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

There was no Town Manager's report, but Ms. Brewer requested an update on the Single Room Occupancy (SRO) feasibility study in the next such report.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**VOTED** unanimously to adjourn at 7:35 p.m.

Approved at the June 11, 2008 Select Board Meeting