

SELECT BOARD MEETING  
Monday May 3, 6:30 p.m.  
Music Room, Middle School  
MINUTES

**Attendance:**

Present: Stephanie O'Keeffe (Chair), Alisa Brewer, Aaron Hayden (Clerk pro-tem), Diana Stein, Jim Wald, Larry Shaffer (Town Manager)

Other presenting: Susan Waite (Town Recycling Coordinator), David Ziomek (Dir Conservation and Planning), Alexa Sade Quartararo, Briana Roy, Carly Tratton

**Call to order:**

Meeting was called to order by Ms. O'Keeffe at 6:30 p.m.

**Sign Deed Acceptance – Adriance Property (Water Supply Protection Acquisition)**

David Ziomek presented information on the acceptance and requested that the Select Board sign the deed to accept ownership of the property.

Diana Stein moved that the Town of Amherst, acting by and through its Select Board in its capacity as the Water Commission, hereby accepts the foregoing deed to the property located on Amherst Road, Pelham, for water supply protection purposes under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Sections 39, 41 and 15B and Article 19 of the November 2, 2009 Special Town Meeting as continued on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2010. Aaron Hayden seconded and the motion passed unanimously (4 -0, 1 absent.)

**Request for municipal Support of Expanded Bottle Bill**

Alexa Sade Quartararo, Briana Roy and Carly Tratton from MassPIRG presented: MassPIRG's goal is to get 176 towns in the State to support the expanded bottle bill legislation which seems crucial for getting it passed. The original act was put in place in 1972 with MassPIRG's help. It got a 68% return rate for soft drink bottles. 70% of bottles not yet included in the current bill get thrown out into the environment and land-fills – enough to fill Fenway to the Monster Seats. MassPIRG has 154 town endorsements so far and would like to get the entire pioneer Valley since it is a force that includes many students who should learn to recycle. The rule will shift the responsibility for collecting the bottles back to the manufacturer from the towns.

Susan Waite supports the bill since it will help the Town by reducing the effort to bring the bottles to the recycling center – they are light but bulky and are expensive to transport. In the past some of the deposits were moved to support recycling now they are sent to the general fund – this amendment will send some of the deposits back to solid waste reduction efforts.

Stephanie O'Keeffe noted Chamber of Commerce was contacted for their perspective and they support the bill.

Alisa Brewer should include the "Now, therefore it be resolved" sentence for clarity on our motion's goals.

Diana Stein moved to sign the proclamation in support of updating the bottle bill including the last paragraph. Jim Wald seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Warrant Articles, for 2010 ATM;**

Diana Stein suggested moving Article 16 to the end of Town Meeting to give it the time for discussion it really needs.

Stephanie O'Keefe suggested, alternately, to move them to a date certain – May 17<sup>th</sup>. It would be difficult if the article came up late in a regular meeting. Also there are many people who will want to be here for the discussion and picking a date will make it easier for them to be available.

Diana Stein felt the date should be the 24<sup>th</sup> to keep it from being in conflict with the demonstration of electronic voting.

Aaron Hayden felt it is important to have enough time for everyone to be ready to vote.

Diana Stein needs enough time to study the risks and benefits she may be able to do it 2 weeks.

Alisa Brewer noted that we lost a week since the material didn't get to us during the weekend and we haven't had the time to study them before this evening.

Larry Shaffer will be ready present the article on the 17<sup>th</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup> which ever is best for us. He commented that Amherst is late to the development game and the proposal is very commonly used elsewhere. It is a big step but a lot of the fears are not necessary.

Stephanie O'Keefe suggested reversing the order of articles 15 and 16.

Alisa Brewer agrees since it will help bring clarity to the issue.

Stephanie O'Keefe confirmed we will not meeting Wednesday May 5<sup>th</sup>, but maybe on the 12<sup>th</sup> to deal with Article 16.

Stephanie O'Keefe went on to note that there are many people who want to speak to Town Meeting and having a Town Meeting season instead of a day makes it difficult to schedule visitors. Also she noted that the BCG met last week, and decided to reject changes to the budget to keep faith with the collaborative process of making the budget.

Alisa Brewer would like to make this policy clear to Town Meeting.

Aaron Hayden feels this budget is a little different since it had been voted on as part of passing the override.

Alisa Brewer suggested stating the policy and the SB takes no position.

**Committee Appointments:**

Diana stein moved to appoint Diane Westfall to the Art Commission Alisa Brewer Seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Upcoming meetings:**

Alisa Brewer wanted to schedule time to discuss a letter from Vladimir Morales if it is requested.

5/03 Annual town Meeting Begins (other dates; May 3, 10, 12, 17, 24, 26, June 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, and 23

5/12 Chamber Breakfast on the Business Improvement District

5/17-5/21: Bike commuter week

**Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m. to join Town Meeting

Comments and corrections encouraged;

Respectfully submitted;

*Aaron Hayden*