

## MINUTES

### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mr. Weiss at 6:31 p.m.

### ATTENDANCE

Present: Gerry Weiss, Anne Awad, Alisa Brewer, Stephanie O’Keeffe, Diana Stein

Absent: (None)

Town Manager Larry Shaffer

Planning Director Jonathan Tucker, DPW Superintendent Guilford Mooring

Amherst College Capital Projects Manager Mark Andrews

### OPENING REMARKS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Stein announced a benefit concert by Charlie King and Karen Brandow in support of health care reform to be held June 13th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Northampton’s Senior Center, with featured speakers Mayor Clare Higgins, John Bonifaz and Ms. Stein.

Mr. Weiss announced the return of the downtown flower pots, and thanked the efforts and donations of Jackie and Andy Cowls of Andrew’s Greenhouse, Bill Elsasser and “Promoting Downtown Amherst.” Mr. Weiss said that more donations would be appreciated, and said that cash or checks made out to Andrew’s Greenhouse could be given to Mr. Weiss directly or left for him at the Select Board office.

Ms. Brewer announced that a public hearing on the Atkins Corner Project would be held June 16 at 7:00 p.m. at Hampshire College’s Red Barn.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

No one from the public offered comment.

### SELECT BOARD’S ACTION

#### **Amherst College request to install conduits under a public way**

Mark Andrews of Amherst College requested permission to install plastic conduits under Sellen Street to run emergency wiring and fiber optics between buildings, as part of a dorm renovation project.

Arrangements for the Town to repave Sellen Street when work is complete, in return for the College having installed a water line connecting South Pleasant and South Prospect streets of a size larger than needed for its own project in order to benefit the Town, were objected to by Ms. Awad and Mr. Weiss.

They said that as keepers of the public way, the Select Board should determine the priority of which roads to pave each year, and that the Select Board should have been consulted on this plan. Mr. Shaffer said that such proposed arrangements would be brought to the Select Board in the future, and that a comprehensive plan for dealing with the Town’s road paving needs would be forthcoming.

**VOTED** 3-2 to approve the following motion (Brewer, Stein, O’Keeffe supporting; Awad and Weiss opposing): That the Trustees of Amherst College be and it is hereby granted permission to install plastic conduits under the public way cross Sellen Street along with low voltage copper, fiber optic and emergency power wiring within these conduits as requested in petition of said institution dated 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 2008. All construction under this order shall be in accordance with the following conditions:

Work will be in conformance with the Town of Amherst Department of Public Works specifications for conduits under roadways, construction substantially as per the locations indicated upon the plans marked

“Amherst College Mayo-Smith and Charles Drew” by BVH engineers, dated 16<sup>th</sup> day of August 2007 filed and made a part of said petition.

**Procedural Motion – Article 20, Part B; CPA Historic Preservation Main Street Hills Mansion Lots**

Mr. Weiss explained the procedural motion planned for tonight’s Town Meeting to postpone Article 20, Part B to June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008, when appraisal information would be available, and said the postponement was desired by the Historical Commission. The majority of Town Meeting members responding to Chairman Weiss also supported postponing this article to June 11<sup>th</sup>. Jonathan Tucker said that the draft Donation Agreement, describing the historical preservation restrictions, would be made available to Town Meeting members tonight, and explained that it required the exterior appearance of the houses and the grounds of the abutting parcels (the Hills mansion and the first house on Gray Street, Lot #3) to remain in substantially original condition and appearance once their restoration work is complete. The sense of the Select Board was that the body supported the procedural motion to postpone.

**No action taken.**

**Approval of Minutes**

**VOTED** 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstaining (Weiss, Awad supporting; Brewer, Stein, O’Keeffe abstaining) to approve the minutes of the March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting as amended.

**VOTED** 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstaining (Weiss, Awad supporting; Brewer, Stein, O’Keeffe abstaining) to approve the minutes of the March 17<sup>th</sup> meeting as amended.

**VOTED** 3 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstaining (Weiss, Awad, Brewer supporting; Stein, O’Keeffe abstaining) to approve the minutes of the March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting as amended.

**VOTED** 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining (Weiss, Awad, Stein, O’Keeffe supporting; Brewer abstaining) to approve the minutes of the April 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting as amended.

**VOTED** unanimously to approve the minutes of the April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting as amended.

**VOTED** unanimously to approve the minutes of the April 30<sup>th</sup> meeting as amended.

**VOTED** unanimously to approve the minutes of the May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting as amended.

**VOTED** 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent (Ms. Awad had stepped out of the room) to approve the minutes of the May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting as amended.

**VOTED** unanimously to approve the minutes of the May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting as amended.

**COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

**VOTED** unanimously to reappoint Edward Rising to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an associate member for a term to expire June 30, 2009. It was noted that he is completing work on an active panel.

**VOTED** unanimously to reappoint Thomas Simpson to the Zoning Board of Appeals as a full member for a term to expire June 30, 2009. It was noted that his reappointment was to aid in the workload and transition of the next six months.

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

**VOTED** unanimously to reappoint Sylvia Cuomo to the Public Art Commission for a term to expire June 30, 2011.

**VOTED** unanimously to rescind the May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008 reappointment of Frank Wells to the Public Transportation and Bicycle Committee for a term to expire June 30, 2010, and voted unanimously to reappoint Frank Wells to the Public Transportation and Bicycle Committee for a term to expire June 30, 2011.

**VOTED** unanimously to appoint Paul Peelle to the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2009.

**VOTED** unanimously to approve the following motion: “The Select Board consistent with The General Laws of Massachusetts Chapter 51: Section 15, hereby appoints Joyce Crouch of 95 Pulpit Hill Road to the Amherst Registrar of Voter for a term to begin July 1, 2008 and expire June 30, 2011.

#### **LICENSES AND PERMITS**

##### **Special Wine and Malt Liquor License – R & P Liquors**

**VOTED** unanimously to approve a Special Wine and Malt liquor license for R & P Liquors for June 8, 2008 from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Hampshire College on the Robert Crown Center Lawn.

##### **Special Wine and Malt Liquor License – Amendment – R & P Liquors**

**VOTED** unanimously to amend the date of the Special Wine and Malt liquor license approved on March 10, 2008 for R & P Liquors to June 19, 2008 from 4:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Dining Commons at Hampshire College. (Changed from June 18.)

#### **TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT**

Mr. Shaffer reported that members of the Public Shade Tree Committee and Kendrick Park Committee had visited Keene, New Hampshire on Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, to tour the downtown treescape and a recently-created urban park. He thanked Keene’s City Manager, Public Works Director and Director of Parks and Recreation for spending time with the delegation from Amherst, and said that the group had gathered good ideas and information.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**VOTED** unanimously to adjourn at 7:43 p.m.