

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Ms. Awad at 6:16 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Awad, Hubley, Weiss, Schiffer
Del Castilho, Mooring, Musante

SELECT BOARD'S ACTION

Water and Sewer Rates

VOTED unanimously to set the rate for reused water at 50 cents per 100 cubic feet and the sewer rate at \$2.40 per 100 cubic feet, both effective July 1, 2005.

Charter Mailing

VOTED: Awad, Hubley, Weiss voted "Aye", Schiffer "No", that a publication consisting of the texts of the Amherst Town Government Act, the March 29 ballot question and the optional charter be distributed to registered voters.

Charter Question and Summary – March 29, 2005 Election Ballot

VOTED unanimously to direct the Town Clerk to place the following Charter question and summary on the March 29, 2005 Election Ballot

Shall the town approve the new charter recommended by the charter commission, summarized below?

Summary:

The proposed charter would replace the representative town meeting with a nine member town council, and would replace the select board with a directly elected mayor. The mayor would be the town's chief executive officer, and would chair the council, have veto power over most council actions (subject to 2/3 override), appoint most committees, and provide overall policy leadership to the town. The town manager would remain the chief administrative officer, subject to policy decisions of the mayor and council. The school committee and board of library trustees would continue unchanged, and the mayor would be a non-voting member of each.

Consent Calendar

VOTED unanimously to approve the following item on the January 24, 2005 Consent Calendar:

Approve Minutes

VOTED unanimously to approve the Select Board minutes of January 18, 2005.

Committee Appointments

VOTED unanimously to appoint Bruce Griffin, Conservation Commission representative to the Comprehensive Planning Committee, for a term to expire June 30, 2006.

Set Select Board Meeting Schedule

VOTED unanimously to set the Select Board meeting schedule for the following dates in 2005:

- March 7, 14 and 21
- April 4, 11, 19 (Tuesday) and 25
- The Select Board meets prior to Town Meeting Sessions in the Music Room, Amherst Regional Middle School. The auditorium is reserved on the following dates: April 27, 28, May 2, 4, 9, 12, 16, 18, 19, 23, 25 and 26.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTED unanimously to adjourn at 8:25 p.m.