

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

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

ATTENDANCE

Awad, Kusner, Weiss, Greeney, Hubley
Del Castilho, Musante, Hochman, Rosenblatt, Pacunas, Laus

QUESTION PERIOD

- Introduction by Constellation New Energy.
- Statement regarding school teachers and administration.
- Statement regarding balancing the budget.

SELECT BOARD'S ACTION

Special Municipal Employees

VOTED unanimously to designate the members of the following committees as “special municipal employees” under the terms and conditions of M.G.L. c. 268A, said designation to expire on September 11, 2006.

Aquifer Protection Committee	Housing Partnership/Fair Housing Committee
Board of Health	Human Services Funding Committee
Community Preservation Act Committee	LSSE Commission
Comprehensive Planning Committee	Planning Board
Conservation Commission	Public Works Committee
Design Review Board	Redevelopment Authority
Economic Development and Industrial Corporation	Town/Commercial Relations Committee
Fire Station Committee	Zoning Board of Appeals

Community Wireless Project

VOTED: Awad, Kusner, Weiss, Hubley voted “Aye”, Greeney “No”, to approve the installation of the Community Wireless Project equipment in the Town of Amherst, if grant funded.

Public Hearing – Community Development Block Grant

- Public hearing called to order at 7:00 p.m.
- Closed the public hearing at 8:10 p.m.
- VOTED: Awad, Kusner, Weiss, Hubley voted “Aye”, Greeney absent, to support the Town’s Community Development Strategy as presented and to include it in the Town’s FY 06 application for CDBG funding.
- VOTED: Awad, Kusner, Weiss, Hubley voted “Aye”, Greeney absent, to support the inclusion of social service activities in the Town’s FY 06 CDBG application for funding.
 1. \$350,000 for the Construction of 11 units of rental housing on Main St. in the East Amherst Village Center as presented.
 2. Approximately \$75,000 to continue providing childcare tuition assistance for low- and moderate-income Amherst residents

3. Approximately \$70,000 to contract with Family Outreach of Amherst to provide a Family Service Coordinator as presented
 4. Approximately \$100,000 for administration
 5. Approximately \$5,000 to contract with Tapestry Health Family Planning Services to provide family planning services.
- VOTED: Awad, Kusner, Weiss, Hubley voted “Aye”, Greeney absent, to approve the amended Tuition Assistance Activity as presented, to increase the amount of funds each family can receive and to expand eligibility to include low- and moderate-income families.

2003 Affordable Housing Plan

VOTED unanimously to reaffirm the goals in the 2003 Affordable Housing Plan.

CPA Warrant Article for Fall Ballot Question

VOTED: Kusner, Weiss, Hubley voted “Aye”, Awad, Greeney voted “No”, to place on the Preliminary List of Articles for the Annual Town Meeting an increase in the CPA surcharge to be placed on the ballot for the November 7, 2006 election.

Setting Select Board Agendas

VOTED unanimously to add an agenda section to the regular Select Board agenda.

Proposal to designate two Select Board members to host forum on economic development

VOTED unanimously to designate Gerry Weiss and Hwei-Ling Greeney to propose a task force on economic development.

Consent Calendar

VOTED unanimously to approve the following items on the March 13, 2006 Consent Calendar:

Approve Minutes

VOTED unanimously to approve the Select Board minutes of March 6, 2006.

VOTED unanimously to approve and not release the Executive Session Select Board minutes of March 6, 2006.

Common Victualler License – Zhang’s Kitchen

VOTED unanimously to approve the Common Victualler License for Zhang’s Kitchen, 460 West Street (Manager: Zhangwu Chen).

Committee Appointments

VOTED unanimously to appoint Mary McCarthy, Public Art Commission, for a term to expire June 30, 2009.

VOTED unanimously to appoint Helen MacMellon, Kanegasaki Sister City Committee, for a term to expire June 30, 2009.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTED unanimously to adjourn to executive session at 11:10 p.m. for the purpose of discussing non-union employee compensation. The open meeting will not reconvene following the Executive Session.