

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

* MINUTES *

March 3, 2008

6:45p.m. A special meeting of the Board of Selectmen was convened by Chairman Jerry Wasserman at 6:45 p.m. at the Newman Elementary School. Present were Mr. John Bulian, Mr. Jerry Wasserman, Mr. Jim Healy, Assistant Town Manager Christopher Coleman, and Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick.

6:45 p.m. **Warrant Articles**

Article 6 – Lease of Land

The Board discussed a proposed motion to refer from Alan Fanger and a proposed motion to amend (to require provisions for review of the annual rent) from Paul Alpert. The Board noted that they would hold another public hearing to receive input on the lease structure, including rent resetting provisions, if the article is adopted.

Motion: Mr. Cogswell moved that the Board oppose the motions to refer and amend. Mr. Healy seconded the motion. Unanimous: 5-0.

7:00 p.m. Citizen Survey

The Board discussed possible survey questions for inclusion in the pending customer satisfaction survey. Mr. Matthews proposed that the Board ask the Town Manager to include a survey question to understand the degree to which survey participants would support or oppose an increase in town taxes if it such were needed to maintain town services that they or their family use. Mr. Matthews said that he would like to better understand public opinion relative to the trade-off between services and taxes. Mr. Cogswell did not feel that the responses to the question would add any value. Mr. Bulian and Mr. Wasserman noted that the question lacks the specificity needed to get a meaningful answer. Mr. Healy said that he wants to know what the Town has to say on a number of factors – such as about the senior center.

Motion: Mr. Healy moved that the Board ask the Town Manager to include the question drafted by Mr. Matthews in the pending citizen survey. Mr. Matthews seconded the motion. The motion failed 2 – 2 – 1 with Mr. Bulian and Mr. Wasserman voting no and Mr. Cogswell abstaining.

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen adjourned with the conclusion of Town Meeting at 11:15 p.m.