

MEETING DATE:

Tuesday, October 27, 2008

MEETING PLACE:

Madison Room - Town Campus

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes

First Selectman Goldberg called the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were Selectmen Goldberg, Gladstone, Kokoruda, Traugh, and MacDougald.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to enter into Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the following.

1. Personnel
2. Litigation

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

MOVED by Selectman Gladstone and seconded by Selectman MacDougald to exit Executive Session at 7:36 p.m.

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

First Selectman Goldberg called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 7:44 p.m. Present were Selectmen Goldberg, Gladstone, Kokoruda, Traugh, and MacDougald.

3. Approval of minutes - October 14, 2008.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 14, 2008 as amended.

Item #9. last sentence should read:

Selectman Traugh presented and discussed in detail a handout entitled "Madison Senior and Disabled Tax Relief Program Policy Options and Recommendations for Discussion" (handout attached).

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

4. Citizen Comments.
None.

OLD BUSINESS

5. Discuss and take action on documents describing the **Nominating Process for Appointed Boards and Commissions (tabled 9/22/2008)**

MOVED by Selectman Gladstone and seconded by Selectman Traugh to untable this item.

VOTE: The motion to untable this item was approved unanimously.

MOVED by Selectman Gladstone and seconded by Selectman MacDougald to dispense this item.

VOTE: The motion to dispense this item was approved unanimously.

MOVED by Selectman Gladstone and seconded by Selectman MacDougald to add Item #9.A. as follows:

9.A. Discuss and take action to approve a job description for Coalition Coordinator.

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

6. Discuss and take action on the proposed new job description:

* **Director of Land Use Operations and Planning (tabled 9/22/2008)**

MOVED by Selectman MacDougald and seconded by Selectman Kokoruda to close this item.

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

7. Discuss bids for new tanker truck for Madison Hose Company #1.

DISCUSSION: Fire Chief Bob Gerard (Madison Hose Company #1) discussed the process they are going through to purchase a new tanker truck prior to January 1, 2009. They are requesting approval from the Board of Selectmen to allow Madison Hose Company #1 to temporarily cross exchange money from North Madison Volunteer Fire Company in order to sign for the new tanker. The Board of Selectmen expressed their agreement.

8. Discuss and take action on transfer of Laina Piscitelli to the position of Technical Engineering Assistant.

MOVED by Selectman Traugh and seconded by Selectman Kokoruda to approve transfer of Laina Piscitelli to the position of Technical Engineering Assistant.

DISCUSSION: Manager of Human Resources Rita Umile stated this new position is the result of restructuring in this department.

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

9.A. Discuss and take action on hiring Ms. Angela Ahern - Part-time Drug and Alcohol Counselor, Human Services - \$23.00/hour - 28 hours/week - start date October 28, 2008. (Contingent upon successful completion of a complete background investigation and a post-offer drug test.)

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman MacDougald to hire Ms. Angela Ahern - Part-time Drug and Alcohol Counselor, Human Services - \$23.00/hour - 28 hours/week - start date October 28, 2008. (Contingent upon successful completion of a complete background investigation and a post-offer drug test.)

DISCUSSION: Director of Youth and Family Services David Melillo stated this hiring is to maintain our level of service which the Town has provided for years; it is the replacement for an employee who departed in June.

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

9.B. Discuss and take action to approve a job description for Coalition Coordinator.

MOVED by Selectman Gladstone and seconded by Selectman MacDougald to approve a job description for a Coalition Coordinator.

DISCUSSION: Director of Youth and Family Services David Melillo stated this job description has been reworked; the funds will come from a grant that the Town of Madison received (\$125,000 per year for five years for salary and programs).

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

10. Discuss proposed changes to the **Senior Tax Relief Program**.

DISCUSSION: The question of residency has been referred to Town Council. Collector of Taxes Alma Carroll presented a 'tiered benefit program' which would incorporate fixed amounts - \$1,500, \$1,000, and \$500 - per income range (benefits based on income). Chairman of the Senior and Disabled Tax Relief 2008 Committee John Brady stated his committee's recommendation was to provide \$500 to the higher income households, then divide the remaining available funds by recipients. Board of Finance Chairman Kathy Rossini commented the Board of Finance will look at the budget side of this equation. The Board of Selectmen will review both plans and discuss again at their next meeting.

11. Discuss fiscal actions that should be considered in response to **changes in the economic climate**.

DISCUSSION: First Selectman Goldberg noted the changes in the economic climate. Even though the Town is in good shape fiscally, it is time to take steps to reduce our expenditures now. He asked the Board of Selectmen to think of ways to reduce expenditures. He recently queried the Senior Staff to obtain their recommendations; then handed out a summary of their recommendations for review. With regards to the proposed position of Director of Land Use Operations and Planning, it was agreed to continue considering/refining the job description and getting input from affected Town boards. This will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

12. The following line transfers are designated as routine and appropriate for approval as a single action by the Board of Selectmen, if so desired. A Board member may request removal of any line transfer item from the consent agenda for review and discussion.

MOVED by Selectman Gladstone and seconded by Selectman Kokoruda to approve **line transfers totaling \$80,000**.

DISCUSSION: Lieutenant Bob Stimpson stated these line item transfers address the increase in overtime, reduction from three to one detective, and the consulting expenses for our acting police chief.

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

13. Tax Abatements/Refunds.

PRIOR YEAR REFUNDS

John E. Lee	\$ 9,244.92
DCFS Trust	\$ 100.22
H John and Madelyn Kilgora	\$ 64.33
VW Credit Leasing	\$ 230.75

TOTAL PRIOR YEAR REFUNDS \$9,640.22

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve refunds in the amount of \$9,640.22.

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

14. Liaison Reports/Selectmen Comments.

Selectman Traugh attended/chaired the Joint Task Force for Youth Substance Abuse - Policy Workgroup which is looking at the Board of Education and Town policies as they relate to substance abuse. At the recent Board of Education meeting, Director of Guidance Jean Baker presented a report summarizing trends from prior-year graduating classes. She attended the Library Board of Trustees meeting; the main conversation was on next Tuesday's referendum vote and getting the information out.

Selectmen Kokoruda attended the Senior Citizen's Commission meeting; they are preparing for their referendum vote next spring. At the Senior Center/Ambulance Center meeting, they are looking at the best numbers; they are committed to reduce the construction costs by \$1M.

Selectman Gladstone attended the 'Beginning of Democracy Week' at Brown Middle School. He thanked the senior and disabled tax relief committee members for their efforts.

Selectman MacDougald attended the Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) meeting; they are discussing regulations on larger community septic systems. He attended the subcommittee of the Conservation Commission; they attend all the wetlands hearings and are involved with cataloging reference materials.

First Selectman Goldberg stated the Madison Historical Society was honored for their exhibit of the construction of the Connecticut Turnpike with a visit by Governor Rell. On voting day, we are expecting approximately 10,000 voters - extra planning has been put in place - handicapped accessible parking, lighting, poll workers, check-in tables, redesigned flow of autos and pedestrians. He encourages voters to turn out to vote!

15. Adjournment.

MOVED by Selectman Gladstone and seconded by Selectman Kokoruda to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Palmer
Recording Secretary