

of the proposed work. The Board wishes to get all involved parties together to explain the proposed project to the abutters and allow them to voice their concerns.

Work is currently on hold until everyone has a chance to meet to fully understand the project. The abutters, as well as Park and Rec, School Building Committee members, School Principal and Selectmen will be notified that their input is welcome at the meeting.

Propose meeting date of the 27th or 28th of April so the project may move forward. The Board of Selectmen is facilitating communications but the ultimate responsibility lies with the School Building Committee.

7:30 pm Andrea Bertheaud – Green Meadows Playplace Installation:
Phase II of the playplace installation at Green Meadows is pending. The fundraising group, Hampden Cares, needs to speak with Park and Rec about the exact location of the playplace that is designed for 2-5 year olds. The project cost was \$22,000 and is ready for installation.

This office will ask Highway for their help in getting the equipment off the truck when needed.

Hampden Cares will also need help in recycling packing materials.

Andrea Bertheaud will get us information when the fundraising group Hampden Cares will gift it over to the Town as well.

8:00 pm Cable Committee - Dave Lalond: Dave came before the Board to discuss the Public Ascertainment Hearing which needs to be scheduled to inform residents of the particulars of the cable contract extension process.

Dave Lalond will contact Brian Merrick from the State Cable Commission and Bob Spain from Charter Cable to determine the process that needs to be followed. The Cable Commission is looking for additional members to serve on the board as well. Dave will be on the agenda for the 5/3 Selectmen's meeting and attempt to schedule an early June hearing.

Hearing date will need to be posted as a legal notice once the date is set.

James Smith mentioned the information that is posted on the Web page, Mass Live and the fact that it contains some erroneous information. He would like the facts stated so those reading Mass Live will have the facts available to them.

Duane Mosier and James Smith thanked Mark Barba for his dedication and commitment to the position of Chairman of the Board of Selectmen.

1. Minutes of March 15 were reviewed and approved as corrected. Motion by James Smith to approve, second by Duane Mosier. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Minutes of March 31 were reviewed and approved as corrected. Motion by James Smith to approve, second by Duane. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Executive Session minutes of March 31 were reviewed and approved as corrected. Motion by Duane Mosier, second by James Smith. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Minutes of April 5 were reviewed and approved as corrected. Motion by Duane Mosier, second by James Smith. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

2. Law Seminar proposal from Dave Martel, Esq. The Town received an invitation from Town Counsel to sponsor a seminar about the Open Meeting Law as well as other issues pertinent to appointed and elected officials in Town. Date set for June 8th. Notify appointed/elected officials.
3. Unemployment Hearing Notice: The Board received a notice from the Division of Unemployment. The Board will receive a hearing date for a former employee to contest his right to unemployment.
4. Transfer Station Use Proposal: The Board received a letter from Highway Superintendent regarding a proposed use of the Transfer Station. A group of people who fly radio controlled planes wish to rent the site at the transfer station so they may have some open space in which to fly their planes. There are noise concerns as well as other issues. We will invite abutters in for the May 17th meeting to meet with Mr. North, the representative from the group to hear all of the details.
5. Street Sweeper Proposal: The Board received a letter from the Highway Superintendent, Dana Pixley regarding an opportunity to purchase a used street sweeper from the Town of Somers. This will allow the Highway Department to save money in the Street Sweeping account by doing some of the work itself. The Board was in favor of the purchase and made the following motion:

Motion made by James Smith to authorize Dana Pixley, Highway Superintendent. to purchase a used street sweeper (1987 Athey Sweeper, Model H-10) from the Town of Somers, CT for 3,500 to be taken out of the FY05 Street Sweeping/Catch Basin Cleaning Account as described in his letter of request dated April 11, 2005. Second by Duane Mosier. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.
6. Conservation Commission Response: Request that Dave Martel review question posed to the Board, and response drafted by Duane Mosier regarding Minnechaug Mountain and the Conservation Commission's responsibilities in the matter.
7. Send letter drafted by Stan Weinberg to three unions and their representatives in Town regarding possible staff reductions as a result of the Town Election on May 16th and possible budget reductions.

8. Motions Review: Final motions reviewed by the Board in anticipation of the Town Meeting on April 25th.
9. Correspondence: The Board received an impassioned letter from resident, Scott McComas regarding the possibility of the library closing in Town due to the financial constraints in Town.

The Board received a notice from Chief Farnsworth regarding reserve officer, Tawrin Seega whose appointment was due to expire. A motion was made by Duane Mosier to extend Tawrin Seega's reserve officer position until June 30, 2005. Second by Mark Barba. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

The Board received a letter from Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School District regarding a financial obligation they stated was owed by Hampden. After hours of research by Duane Mosier and various discussions with representatives from the School District and the Town, it was determined that an audit showing Hampden owing \$101,000 is incorrect. We received a copy of a letter from Attorney James Toomey to Dr. Paul Gagliarducci, School Superintendent stating that in his opinion, this is not Hampden's debt and no payment is due.

A motion was made at 10:45 pm by James Smith to enter into Executive Session to discuss IBPO negotiations without return to Open Session. Second by Duane Mosier. VOTE: James Smith yes, Duane Mosier yes, Mark Barba yes.

Respectfully submitted:

Pamela B. Courtney
Administrative Assistant

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