

Ayer Board of Selectmen Meeting
January 30, 2001
Notes of Jane Witherow

With BP suggested edits

All members present.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Sullivan

Selectman Witherow motion to amend the agenda Aadd: to enter into executive session under M.G.L. chptr. 39, S.23B, exemption #3"; seconded Selectman Pena. Motion carries 5-0

Chairman Sullivan motion to amend the agenda Aadd: Shaun Suhowski to discuss the Council on Aging director position; Town Administrator to update board on Kopelman & Paige response on idling trains and Moore Army airfield; seconded _____. Motion carries 5-0

Selectman Pena motion to pass on minutes of 2/01; seconded Selectman Bresnahan. Motion carries 5-0

Public Input: Bill Oelfke: Consultant bylaw agreement
Larry Thomas: invitation to visit Deer Island
Mary Spinner: read hours of town clerk for registration to vote

Bill Oelfke: Selectman Fay recused himself. Consultant agreement with Sandy Pond Sub Division III not to exceed \$3,500. Selectman Bresnahan moved to approve agreement; seconded by Selectman Witherow. Motion carries 4-0

Larry Thomas: Works for MWRA and invited the board to visit the facility at Deer Island.

#1: Introduction of Ed McCann; interim Executive Secretary; brief discussion of his qualifications; willing to work 3 days per week. Selectman Pena Amoved to approve the agreement between the Town of Ayer and Ed McCann; seconded Selectman Bresnahan. Motion carries 5-0

#2 Patrick Hughes and Tom Hogan (Assessors Office). Mr. Hughes read an introduction to the Community Preservation Act and requesting the Board to add it to the special town meeting warrant for Feb. 15, 2001. Lengthy discussion on exemptions, procedure required, percentage of surcharge. Selectmen Pena and Witherow preferring it should be added with a lower surcharge percentage (1%) Selectman Bresnahan Amoved to accept draft warrant as currently worded as an article on the warrant; seconded Selectman Fay. Selectmen Fay, Sullivan, Bresnahan aye - Selectmen Pena, Witherow nay. Motion carries 3-2

#3 Economic Director: CDBG Grant application discussion. Selectman Bresnahan motion That the Ayer Board of Selectmen authorize the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to

execute and submit the FY01 CDBG application to the state Department of Housing & Community Development to continue its housing rehabilitation program and implement infrastructure improvements in the West Main Street neighborhood together with general administration of such activities. The Board further allocates UDAG interest of up to 10% of the project cost be utilized as a contingency for the West Main Street Improvement project not-to-exceed \$25,000"; Selectman Pena seconded. Motion carries 5-0.

Owners match waiver request - Ayer Housing Rehabilitation Program - Case #99-170. Selectman Pena motion Amove that the Ayer board of Selectmen grant an owners match waiver for Case No.99-170 in the amount of \$3,950 subject to the owner providing a \$1,000 contribution towards the total project costs as detailed above.≡ Selectman Fay seconded. Motion carries 5-0.

Discussion of Clerk-of-the-Works for town hall renovations. Selectman Bresnahan motion To approve an amendment to the contract between the Town of Ayer and J. Stewart Roberts Associates, Inc. dated June 8, 2000 in the amount not-to-exceed \$13,500 for provisions of additional services during the construction phase as detailed in the proposal dated January 26, 2001; said amendment to be executed by Board Chairman.≡ Selectman Pena seconded. Motion carries 5-0.

RE: West Main Street Improvements: Request to use UDAG funds for payment to Tata & Howard until Chapter 90 funds become available. Selectman Fay motion Aapprove the advancement of UDAG interest funds in the amount of \$40,000 to fulfill the Tata & Howard contract in anticipation of future receipt of Chapter 90 assistance for this purpose.≡ Selectman Bresnahan seconded. Selectman Bresnahan amended motion to include AChapter 90 funds would be used to replenish interest to UDAG funds.≡ Selectman _____ seconded. Motion carries 5-0

- #4 Discussion on the Special Town Meeting warrant on the WWTF. Selectman Bresnahan suggested that each option be listed briefly. Three options are: (1) Ayer Alone with SIU=s pretreat and flow to Ayer. (2) Regional - all flow to Devens. (3) Hybrid - addition flow over 1.6mgd sent to Devens. Selectmen gave their preference: Selectman Bresnahan #3; Selectman Witherow #1; Selectman Fay #3; Selectman Pena #3; Selectman Sullivan #3.

Selectman Bresnahan motion Athat the warrant would have a brief paragraph on final three options. Second paragraph recommendation from the Board for the WW option.≡ Selectman Pena seconded. Motion carries 5-0. Town administrator to prepare warrant, have legal review, selectmen would review and sign.

Selectman Bresnahan motion Aas part of the warrant the hybrid solution would be the Board of Selectmen=s recommendation.≡ Selectman Fay seconded. Motion carries 5-0

Board agreed they would meet on 2/6/01 at office for a working session to prepare for Town Meeting on the 2/15/01.

Discussion was held with DPW Superintendent Madigan on the removal of snow from the East Main Street bridge sidewalk.

#5 Town Administrator=s Report: Discussion of unpaid bills that needed approval at town meeting. Selectman Witherow motion Ato place FY00 unpaid invoices totaling \$86,232.61 on warrant for February 15th town meeting.≡ Selectman Fay seconded. Motion carries 5-0

Selectman Witherow motion Athat the Town Administrator=s report on the screening committees be tabled until after the executive session.≡ Selectman Pena seconded. Motion carries 5-0.

Only one bid received for printing of the town report. Selectman Fay motion Athe Board accept bid from Athol Press in the amount of \$4,933.40.≡ Selectman Bresnahan seconded. Motion carries 5-0

The RFP for cell towers was revised to include other town owned parcels. Will be in the Central Register on _____.

Shaun Suhoski coordinated screening committee for Director of Council on Aging. The council will serve as screening committee and will meet next Tuesday. Ten applications have been received.

Discussion on bids to do appraisal of the property considered for the new fire station. Lowest bid was awarded at \$1,900. Selectman Sullivan motion Athat the Board have a second appraisal done by the next lowest bidder of \$4,500.≡ Selectman Fay seconded. Selectman Fay, Sullivan, aye Selectman Pena, Bresnahan, Witherow nay. Motion fails 2-3.

Selectman Pena motion Ato enter into executive session under M.G.L. chptr. 39, S.23B, exemption #3"; seconded Selectman Bresnahan. Motion carries 5-0.

Executive Session: Discussion on the reinstatement of town accountant Lisa Gabree. Selectman Witherow motion Ato reinstate Lisa Gabree as Town Accountant.≡ Selectman Pena seconded. Motion carries 5-0. Discussion was held and the board agreed support for addition 5-10 hour support person; support part time MIS staff person (MIS stipend subject to review with hire of MIS person); accountant=s ability to go directly to the Board with important issues; increase vacation by one week.

Reconvened to open session: Discussion on the screening committee for the Town Administrator=s position and possible members.

Adjourned: 10:15 p.m.

Minutes of Jane Witherow