

SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1991  
AYER TOWN HALL, SECOND FLOOR MEETING HALL  
AYER, MA. 01432

7:30P.M. OPEN SESSION

THE BOARD MET WITH CHAIRMAN SLARSKY AND SELECTMAN JONES.  
SELECTMAN MCKINNEY ABSENT DUE TO ILLNESS.

THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 22, 1991 WERE READ AND ACCEPTED.

THE WEEKLY WARRANT WAS EXAMINED AND SIGNED IN THE FOLLOWING  
AMOUNTS: PAYROLL: \$334,898.95  
BILLS: \$ 54,399.10

CHAIRMAN SLARSKY OPENED THE MEETING BY EXPRESSING THE BOARD'S  
SUPPORT FOR THE BANNER BEING DISPLAYED ON MAIN ST. SUPPORTING THE  
U.S. MILITARY TROOPS IN THE GULF. SELECTMAN JONES MOVED THE  
BOARD'S OFFICAL SUPPORT OF THE TROOPS AND THEIR EFFORTS, SECONDED  
BY CHAIRMAN SLARSKY, SO MOVED.

THE BOARD THANKED THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR DISPLAYING THE  
BANNER ON MAIN STREET.

THE BOARD MET WITH TOWN TREASURER, THOMAS CALLAHAN, RE: HIS  
LETTER OF RESIGNATION DATED JANUARY 24, 1991. CHAIRMAN SLARSKY  
EXPRESSED HIS SURPRISE UPON RECEIVING MR. CALLAHAN'S RESIGNATION.  
MR. CALLAHAN STATED HIS RESIGNATION WOULD BE EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY  
4, 1991, AND THAT HE WOULD STAY ON AS TREASURER UNTIL THE NEXT  
ELECTION. CHAIRMAN SLARSKY EXPLAINED THE TOWNS OPTIONS UNDER  
CHAPTER 41 SECTION 40 REGARDING APPOINTING A TEMPORARY TREASURER  
UNTIL THE ELECTION. MR. CALLAHAN STATED THAT HE WOULD NOT SEEK  
ADDITIONAL MONEY AND WOULD STAY WITH THE TOWN'S BUDGET OF  
\$5,000.00 DURING THIS ADDITIONAL TIME. THE BOARD NOTED MR.  
CALLAHAN'S YEARS OF SERVICE AS TOWN TREASURER BEING 12 YEARS,  
FOLLOWING DOLORES BOWLER, AS TOWN TREASURER.

MR. HIGGINS EXPRESSED HIS DESIRE FOR THE BOARD TO TAKE A FEW  
MINUTES AND REQUEST PERSONS INTERESTED IN THIS POSITION TO APPLY  
TO THE TOWN CLERK AND TAKE OUT PAPERS PRIOR TO MARCH 11, 1991.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:

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1. THE BOARD WAS ADVISED OF A MEETING BEING SCHEDULED WITH MR. JIM ANDERSON OF THE DEPT. OF EDUCATION TO REVIEW THE COMPARABLE DISTRICTING RELATIVE TO 3D2B. THE MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991.

2. THE BOARD ENDORSED A LETTER TO GOV. WELD REGARDING THE GOVERNOR'S ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO REDUCE THE FY-92 LOCAL AID. CHAIRMAN SLARSKY READ THE LETTER INTO THE RECORD AND COMPLIMENTED MR. HIGGINS ON HIS MESSAGE, REMINDING THE GOVERNOR OF THE VOTE OF THE PEOPLE.

3. THE BOARD WAS ADVISED OF THE CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS BEING DUE IN BY FEBRUARY 15, 1991 BY ALL TOWN DEPTS, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES.

4. THE BOARD WAS ADVISED OF IBPO LOCAL 346A SUBMITTING NEW PROPOSALS FOR NEGOTIATIONS RE: THE NEW CONTRACT EFFECTIVE 7/1/91. SELECTMAN JONES MOVED THE BOARD ALLOW MR. HIGGINS TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS WITH LOCAL #346 FOLLOWING A STRATEGY MEETING TO BE CONDUCTED AT 7:00P.M. ON 2/19/91 PRIOR TO THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING.

5. THE BOARD WAS ADVISED TO THE DISABILITY HEARING ON JOHN BUSACK BEING CONDUCTED AND THE COUNTY RETIREMENT BOARD APPROVING JOHN BUSACK'S APPLICATION. THE COUNTY WILL BEGIN PROCESSING THE FUNDING WITHIN 30-60 DAYS.

6. THE BOARD APPROVED THE SELECTMEN'S ANNUAL REPORT SUBMITTED BY MR. HIGGINS.

7. THE BOARD WAS ADVISED THAT TOWN COUNSEL HAS NOT HAD SUFFICIENT TIME TO REVIEW MCCARTHY ASSOC. DRAFT AGREEMENT RECEIVED BY THE SELECTMEN'S OFFICE ON 1/29/91.

8. THE BOARD WAS ADVISED OF SEA BEING SCHEDULED ON THE SELECTMEN'S AGENDA FOR 2/19 TO REVIEW GROVE POND-FT. DEVENS SUPERFUND STATUS.

THE BOARD REQUESTED MR. HIGGINS FIND OUT FROM THE TOWN MODERATOR WHO IS ON THE REGIONALIZATION COMMITTEE AND TO GET AN UPDATE FROM THEM ON THE STATUS OF REGIONALIZATION.

THE BOARD MET WITH TOWN ACCOUNTANT, SHARON SUMMERS, SUPT. OF SCHOOLS, NEVILLE MARKHAM, CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY BOARD, CHARLES MILLER AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, TIMOTHY HIGGINS RE: RESOLUTION OF FY-90 SCHOOL BUDGET BALANCE.

MRS. SUMMERS OPENED THE DISCUSSION BY DISCLOSING ARTICLE 13, OF THE 1990 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING VOTE ACKNOWLEDGING THE TOWN'S ACCEPTANCE OF \$3.3 MILLION DOLLARS TO BE APPLIED TO THE OPERATING EXPENSES OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

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MRS. SUMMERS STATED THAT ACTUAL PL-874 FUNDS RECEIVED FOR FY-90 WAS \$3.588 MILLION. THE SCHOOL DEPT. REQUESTED \$2.985 MILLION OF THOSE FUNDS BE TRANSFERRED IN THAT SAME FISCAL YEAR.

MRS. SUMMERS WENT ON TO STATE THE TOWN DID SPEND THE \$3.3 MILLION AND MORE TO PROVIDE EDUCATION TO FEDERAL STUDENTS. MRS. SUMMERS STATED THAT IF THE \$2.985 TRANSFER IS APPROVED BY THE SELECTMEN THE SHORTFALL WILL BE OVER \$800,000, WHEREAS THE SHORTFALL CURRENTLY WITH THE TRANSFER OF \$3.3 IS \$314,000.

IN ORDER TO REMEDY THE ACCOUNTING PRACTICES TO SATISFY BOTH THE SCHOOL DEPT. AND TOWN MRS. SUMMERS HAD REQUESTED AN OPINION FROM THE DEPT. OF REVENUE WHO STATED THAT THE TOWN MAY TAKE INTO ACCOUNT SUCH YEAR END BALANCES BY ANTICIPATING IT AT TOWN MEETING, OR BY REDUCING THE SCHOOL DEPT. APPROPRIATION AT A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING HELD AFTER THE YEAR END BALANCE IS KNOWN.

CHARLES MILLER, CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY BOARD STATED THAT RETURNING THIS \$314,000 TO THE PL-874, AS THE SCHOOL DEPT. REQUESTED, MIGHT BE COUNTER PRODUCTIVE. AFTER A LENGTHY DISCUSSION THE BOARD REQUESTED A SATURDAY MORNING MEETING MIGHT BE IN ORDER TO PURSUE THIS AREA OF CONTENTION. CHAIRMAN SLARSKY REQUESTED THE SCHOOL DEPT., FINANCE BOARD AND SELECTMEN MEET ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1991 TO FOLLOW UP ON THIS MATTER.

THIS DISCUSSION LEAD INTO ANOTHER AREA OF CONCERN TO THE BOARD RE: 3D2B/CLAUSE, SEEKING JUSTIFICATION WHY THE SCHOOL EXPENDITURES FELL SHORT BY ONLY \$0.11 CENTS TO MEETING THE LOCAL TAX LEVY.

MR. HIGGINS STATED THAT A MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DEPT. OF EDUCATION WOULD BE COMING OUT THIS WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6, 1991 TO MEET WITH SCHOOL AND TOWN OFFICIALS PURSUANT TO COMPARABLE TOWNS EARMARKED WITH PL-874 FUNDING.

THE BOARD MET WITH JERRY DEXTER OF VANASSE HANGEN, RE: THE HIGHWAY PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, CONTINUING DISCUSSION RELEVANT TO THE REPAIRING OF TOWN OF AYER ROADS.

MR. DEXTER STATED AS A FOLLOW UP TO THE INITIAL MEETING HE HAD WITH THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN HE HAD PERFORMED AN ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS OF WHICH ROADS WOULD BE REHABILITATED GIVEN THE \$2.8 MILLION EXPENDITURE SCENARIO. THE BOARD REVIEWED THE PROJECT LISTING AND REQUESTED MR. DEXTERS PRESENCE SHOULD THE BOARD NEED IT FOR THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLE SHOULD THE BOARD ELECT TO PUT THIS PROJECT ON THE WARRANT. MR. DEXTER REQUESTED THE BOARD LOOK OVER THE LISTING PRESENTED AND HE WOULD MAKE HIMSELF AVAILABLE FOR THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING.

CHAIRMAN SLARSKY REQUESTING THE MODERATOR BE CONTACTED TO SEE IF MR. DEXTER WOULD BE ALLOWED TO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD, IN AN OFFICIAL CAPACITY.

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THE BOARD MET WITH POLICE CHIEF PHILIP CONNORS, FIRE CHIEF BOSWELLMAN PARKER, SUPT. REDFIELD AND FRANK BELINSKY OF THE GROTON CIVIL DEFENCE OFFICE, RE: THE CENTRALIZED COMMUNICATIONS CENTER (911)

CHIEF CONNORS OPENED THE DISCUSSION BY EXPLAINING AND DEMONSTRATING A TYPICAL 911 EMERGENCY AND CALL. CHIEF CONNORS STATED PRESENTLY A CALL ONLY TAKES 35 SECONDS TO BE SENT TO THE FIRE STATION AND TO IMPROVE UPON THAT WOULD BE BY THE USE OF AN ENCODER HOPEFULLY WITH MULTI CHANNEL CAPACITY. CHIEF CONNORS PRESENTED AN ACTUAL RECORDING FOR THE BOARD TO LISTEN TO REGARDING A CALL FOR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE BY A TOWN RESIDENT.

THE BOARD REQUESTED THE COST OF THIS ENCODER. CHIEF CONNORS STATED THEY RANGE FROM \$200.00 TO \$5,000.00. THE BOARD STATED THE FINANCIAL ECONOMY OF THE TOWN BEING RESTRICTED AND THAT THIS ARTICLE WOULD HAVE TO GO BEFORE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AS A TRANSFER FROM THE RESERVE FUND. CHIEF CONNORS REQUESTED MONTHLY MEETINGS BE INSTITUTED FOR ALL PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENTS.

MR. BELINSKY STATED THIS 911 CENTRALIED COMMUNICATIONS CENTER WOULD PROVE TO VERY BENEFICIAL SHOULD EMERGENCY SITUATIONS DEVELOP, I.E. TRAIN DE-RAILMENT, STORMS ETC. AND BY HAVING THIS NETWORK IN PLACE WOULD ELIMINATE CAOUSE BY DIRECTING EMERGENCY VEHICLES WHERE THEY ARE MOST NEEDED.

SUPT. REDFIELD STATED THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS COULD ALSO USE THIS SERVICE SHOULD IT BECOME AVAILABLE REGARDING EMERGENCY REPAIRS/CALLS THAT PRESENTLY ARE RUN THROUGH THE POLICE DISPATCHERS.

THE BOARD REQUESTED A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE AYER POLICE CHIEF, POLICE CHIEF CONNORS RECOMMENDED THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A 911 SYSTEM, THE BOARD REQUESTED A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FIRE CHIEF, THE FIRE CHIEF ALSO REQUESTED THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 911 SYSTEM FOR THE ENHANCED SAFETY OF ALL TOWN OF AYER RESIDENTS.

BASED UPON BOTH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRE AND POLICE CHIEF SELECTMAN JONES MOVED THE BOARD APPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TOWN'S 911 SYSTEM.

THE BOARD REQUESTED A "TASK FORCE" BE APPOINTED. THE BOARD REQUESTED THE FIRE CHIEF, POLICE CHIEF, SUPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS, AND MR. FRANK BELINSKY OF GROTON BE APPOINTED TO THIS COMMITTEE. MR. BELINSKY TO ACT AS AN ADVISOR TO THIS COMMITTEE, SELECTMAN JONES MOVED THE MOTION SECONDED BY CHAIRMAN SLARSKY, SO MOVED.

THE BOARD APPROVED A ONE DAY BEER AND WINE LICENSE FOR THE AYER GUN CLUB FOR THE FOLLOWING DATES: FEB. 9, 16 & 23, 1991.

THE BOARD APPROVED THE FINAL INSTALLMENT FOR CLOSING OUT THE BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE. CHAIRMAN SLARSKY

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UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF TOWN COUSEL ENDORSED THE CLOSING AGREEMENT.

SUPT. REDFIELD'S REPORT:

1. THE BOARD REVIEWED A COPY OF THE TOWN'S JAN. 17, 1991 RESPONSE TO DEP'S WATER SUPPLY SANITARY SURVEY DATED 2/4/91.
2. SUPT. REDFIELD ADVISED THE BOARD THAT HYDRO GROUP, INC. HAS COMPLETED THE CLEANING & REDEVELOPMENT OF SPEC. POND #2, WHICH IS REACTIVATED AND GROVE POND WELLS SHUT DOWN.
3. THE BOARD APPROVED SUPT. REDFIELD'S RECOMMENDATION AND APPOINTED JOSEPH O. SIDELINGER TO THE POSITION OF EQUIPMENT REPAIR DIV. MECHANIC.
4. THE BOARD MOVED AND SECONDED TO APPOINT DAVID B. JOHNSON TO THE POSITION OF WASTE WATER TREATMENT FOREMAN BASED UPON SUPT. REDFIELD'S RECOMMENDATION.
5. THE BOARD MOVED AND SECONDED TO APPOINT JOHN P. LOOMER TO THE POSITION OF WASTE WATER TREATMENT ASSISTANT FOREMEN, BASED UPON SUPT. REDFIELD'S RECOMMENDATION.
6. THE BOARD MOVED AND SECONDED TO APPOINT PAUL CURTIN TO THE POSITION OF WASTE WATER TREATMENT ATTENDANT, PER THE RECOMMENDATION OF SUPT. REDFIELD. SHOULD MR. CURTIN NOT BE INTERESTED IN THIS POSITION THE BOARD GAVE MR. REDFIELD PERMISSION TO ADVERTISE TO FILL THIS POSITION.

THE BOARD REVIEWED WITH SUPT. REDFIELD PROJECTS CURRENTLY BEING WORKED ON AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

9:40P.M. SELECTMEN JONES MOVED THE BOARD ADJOURN FROM OPEN SESSION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO M.G.L. CHAPTER 39 SECTION 23B RE: PENDING LITIGATION-BARNUM POINT, SECONDED BY CHAIRMAN SLARSKY SO MOVED.

9:40P.M. THE BOARD ENTERED EXECUTIVE SESSION.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

CHARLES H. JONES, CLERK  
AYER BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MIN2-4-91-JL  
AGREEMENT.

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THE POSITION OF WASTE WATER TREATMENT FOREMAN BASED UPON SUPT. REDFIELD'S RECOMMENDATION.

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CHARLES H. JONES, CLERK  
AYER BOARD OF SELECTMEN

DATE: 2-19-91