

Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, June 30, 1997
Ayer Library-lower level conference room
East Main Street, Ayer, MA 01432

7:30p.m. Open Session

The Board met with Chairman Norstrom, Selectmen Bresnahan and Hamel.

Chairman Norstrom requested if there was anyone present wishing to be heard.

The following people requested to speak who were not on the Agenda:

Frank Maxant, re: Land Bank, Walter Razziboni, Aide to Rep. Robert Hargraves.

Chairman Norstrom opened the meeting by advising residents to the Town Report being available at the Town Hall and Library for residents to pick up.

The Board met with Diana Vita regarding the 4th of July Celebration. Ms. Vita advised the Board to activities going along well and reviewed with the Board the parade line-up, floats, entertainment, booths and fireworks. Ms. Vita thanked the Board for their support and apologized to some of the past vendors for receiving conflicting letters re: booth fees stating former committee mailings confused vendors this year with booth fees and doubling up services for the same product. Ms. Vita explained the 4th of July Com./97 had no idea that other letters had gone out. The Board congratulated Ms. Vita and her Committee for the fabulous itinerary of events and requested Ms. Vita and her Committee honor the town again by Chairing the 1998 4th of July Celebration. Ms. Vita thanked the Board and accepted the request to Chair the 1998 4th of July Celebration.

The Board met with Richard Linde, Foreman of the Water/Sewer Dept. Mr. Linde stated the "Voluntary Water Ban" was not working. Water use had actually moved upward a little bit. CPF has begun its summer production schedule with work extending to Saturdays and Sundays. Mr. Linde stated the main failure was due to residents taking on the philosophy that a neighbor was watering his lawn so why practice conservation measures complicated with drought conditions -- June only receiving 1.5 inches of rain compared with last years average of 2.5. Mr. Linde requested the Board make outside watering a mandatory restriction; with fines or water shut off be considered as appropriate actions. The Board set Thursday, July 3, 1997 at 8:30A.M. to meet regarding considering a "Mandatory Water Ban Policy", when it will go into effect and mailings to be sent out to residents alerting them to a possible Mandatory Water Ban.

The Board reviewed a request re: closing the Transfer Station at 11:00a.m. on Saturday, July 5, 1997, for Town DPW employees to be able to attend the 4th of July Parade & Celebration. Selectman Hamel moved to close the Transfer Station at 11:00a.m. on Saturday, July 5, 1997 for Town employees to enjoy the Celebration, 2nd by Selectman Bresnahan, contingent proper notification be given to residents. VOTE: Selectman Hamel, yes, Selectman Norstrom yes, Selectman Bresnahan, no. 2-1 motion passes.

The Board met with Frank Maxant re: the Land Banks commitment to the Town of Ayer's parking space problem. Mr. Maxant referenced the Comp. II Plan of 10/3/95 in which the Land Bank contributed \$16,000.00 for the development of parking spaces for Main St. Mr. Maxant's concern being it was Land Banks attitude they paid for 20 parking spaces. This concern being placed before the Board due to the Fire at the corner of West Main & Park Sts. and the redevelopment of Main St. The Board thanked Mr. Maxant for bringing his concerns to the Board for their consideration of the future of that area.

The Board met with Walter Razziboni the new intern for Representative Robert Hargraves. Mr. Barbarazzi stated Diane Trauber has retired after many years of

dedicated service to Rep's. Hornblower and Hargraves. Mr. Razziboni stated the Representative will be conducting office hours in August at the Selectmen's Meeting scheduled for 8-11-97 in an adjacent area of the Library to meet with constituents. Mr. Razziboni also gave the numbers to Rep. Hargraves District & State offices: (617) 722-2072, 433-0875, and 448-5456 for constituents to call with their concerns or questions.

The Board met with Supt. of Schools Dr. Kevin O'Malley, School Committee Chairman Viola Barnes and Committee members Kathleen Kidder and Daniel Sallet, re: the School Dept's. Strategic Plan and joint meetings being scheduled with Town officials re: long and short term planning addressing the school departments needs for the future. Financial and Educational resources available, enrollment and program dialog being made available to the Selectmen through these meetings. Supt. O'Malley invited the Selectmen to the next strategic meeting to be held at the Page School Professional Development Room on July 9, 1997 at 7:00p.m. The Board thanked Supt. O'Malley for coming in to meet with the Board and updating the Board to the School's strategic planning meetings.

The Board met with the Council on Aging Chairman-Julia McKinney, and members Ida Naparstek, John Hoffman, Ruth Coke and Edith Jones. Ms. McKinney advised the Board to the Council having seven (7) members: not present this evening were: Connie Lind, Susan Sullivan. Ms. McKinney advised the Board to the **COUNCIL SERVICES**: MART Van which provides bus service for the elderly by calling (772-8261) 24 hour notice is required and a fee of \$0.50 each way for shopping, visiting ect.,-- medical appointments would take precedence over other requests. **Home meals** are provided to sick elderly by calling the center, (772-8260). **Congregate meals** are served at 12:00 noon at the center by calling (772-8260) to reserve a meal. **Clinics** also are provided to seniors on the third Wednesday of each month from 1-3p.m. at Nashoba Health Services, Central Ave., Ayer, MA, **Programs** offered are SHARE, Card Players meet each Monday from 1-3 at the center. **Parties** are conducted throughout the year i.e. Christmas, Valentine, etc. **Trips** are taken also through out the year, Yokems, foliage trip etc. Ms. McKinney stated the Council has a new director Ruth Coke who oversees the activities. The Council invited the Board of Selectmen to the Council's Luau which is going to be held at the Center on Pond Street on Wednesday, July 16, 1997 at 12:00 noon. Ms. McKinney advised the Board to the work of Timothy Henzy who helped secure the new MOC grant and funding for this years programs. The Board thanked the Council for coming in and updating the Board to the Services being supplied to Town of Ayer senior citizens.

The Board met with Building Commissioner Gabriel Vellante, re: Plumbing & Electrical Inspectors salaries. Mr. Vellante opened the discussion by stating the Inspectors were appointed four (4) years ago in June 93 and are classified as Town sub-contractors with their salaries derived as a percentage of the Permit fees collected. Mr. Vellante stated this arrangement is equitable for the Town in that the salaries paid to the inspectors come from permit fees. In no instance does the Town pay the inspectors from the general fund. Mr. Vellante stated over the past four years town employees have received yearly cost of living increases, however, the plumbing and electrical inspectors salaries have not increased. During this time regulations have increased, requiring greater time in performing plan reviews and inspections. Mr. Vellante stated he feels it is time the Town review this permit structure and adjust fees to the inspectors accordingly. Mr. Vellante requested the Board consider paying the Inspectors a "stipend" of 10% of their yearly salary but not to exceed \$600.00 per fiscal year. This funding Mr. Vellante would come from the office budget/secretarial services. The Board requested this request be run by the Personal Board for their review and comments back to the Selectmen prior to the Board's decision.

The Board met with Police Chief Donald Haapakoski. Chief Haapakoski presented to the Board a request for Change Order #2 from AMG for the new Police Station:

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| 1. Additional lockers for the evidence room: | \$1,153.00 |
| 2. Change bituminous sidewalks to concrete: | 3,680.00 |
| 3. Addition to trench plate: | 1,508.00 |
| 4. Change 3 5/8 wall to 6" between day room/roll call | .00 |

5. Delete galv. angles at sallyport doors:	-468.00
6. Change bond beam at gable end to continuous:	.00
7. Relocate existing communication outlets:	243.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FUNDS:	\$6,116.00

Chief Haapakoski also presented the Skagg Communications: approval for new police station communications console furniture system -Specification Section 12628 at a bid price of \$16,871.00 to include a bid security of 10% \$1,687.10-Chief Haapakoski stated Skaggs will furnish, deliver and set in place all materials outlined in bid package.

Chief Haapakoski also presented the Merlin Communication System & Premise Cabling Bid award for the new police station in the amount of \$35,622.22 in accordance with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts state bid award quote.

The Board requested the status of the Police Design Committee with regard to approval of the above. Chief Haapakoski stated the Committee has not been meeting being that the design phase has been completed. The Board requested the Committee be kept together until completion of the station and to request their opinion in the future regarding change orders and bid awards. The Board approved the change Order #2 submitted by AMG in the amount of \$6, 116.00, Motion made by Selectman Hamel, 2nd by Selectman Bresnahan, VOTE: unanimous, so moved. The Board the Merlin Legend Communication System & Premise Cabling per the State Bid Award of \$35,622.22. Motion moved by Selectman Hamel 2nd by Selectman Bresnahan, VOTE: unanimous, so moved. The Board requested the Chief get the Committee's approval re: the Console Furniture System prior to their approval of this item. The Chief to get the Committee together the first of next week. The Chief proudly announced the station is three (3) weeks ahead of schedule with a Open date looking good for October 1, 1997. Chief Haapakoski advised the Board to \$35,917.00 being awarded to the Town through Block Grant for Community Policing, this funding to be utilized for video equipment inside of the cruisers.

The Board approved of a no parking request submitted by the Chief by the Business Community for Park St. from Brook St. to Main St. on both sides of the street. Motion approved by Selectman Hamel, 2nd by Selectman Bresnahan, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

Chief Haapakoski requested the Board's consideration to appoint two new patrolmen under the COPS UNIVERSAL Federal Grant. Chief Haapakoski stated made this request three months ago, the Selectmen took this matter under advisement pending the departments investigation. Chief Haapakoski stated the department is experiencing an increase in it's work load as call for service have risen 20% since 1996- proper staffing is needed and also the Town may be in jeopardy of loosing the \$150,000.00 COPS UNIVERSAL funding by not filling these positions. Chief Haapakoski stated the two candidates came before the Board. Selectman Hamel requested why current Reserve Officers were not being considered-it has always been a great source of potential candidates. Chief Haapakoski stated back ground checks were not passable. The Chief requested Austin Coty be appointed patrolman. Selectman Bresnahan stated he observed the Selectmen's Meeting when Mr. Coty was interviewed and moved to appoint Mr. Coty based upon the Chief's recommendation. No second to the motion, motion fails.

The Board moved to re-advertise the positions.

Town Administrator's Report: Action Items:

1.The Board approved Reserve Fund Transfer for the following accounts:

1. Postage: \$2,600.00
2. ZBA: \$500.00
3. Legal: \$18,334.00

2. The Board was updated to Recruitment of Personal re: Police Chief & DPW Supt. positions:

DPW Supt. 9 applications received to date. Screen Committee established, William Oelfke of the Town's Personnel Board to serve, Joseph Sampson of Cains, High Volume user, David Ross and Curt Balchunas and himself have been sent all resumes a meeting to be scheduled with the Committee the first week in July to screen applicants.

Police Chief: Classified Ads have been placed in the BEACON, Boston Globe, Lowell Sun and Noshoba Publications newspapers with a closing date of July 25, 1997.

3. The Board approved the Town Administrator's recommendation re: IBPO Grievance submitted by Union re: Personal days.

4. The Board approved MSCP request submitted by Timothy Henzy for Case #94-130 for a Lien Sub-Ordination in the amount of \$14,980.00 with condition that outstanding Water & Sewer bills be incorporated into sub-ordination agreement financing. Motion moved by Selectman Hamel 2nd by Selectman Bresnahan, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

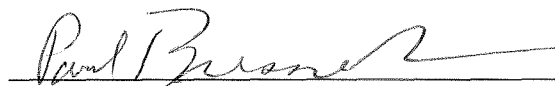
5. The Board met with Dennis McLaughlin Engineer from David Ross Assoc., Angus Bruce and Atty. Charles Kadison re: Bennetts Brook Sub-Division Water & Sewer Line Dedication and Easements. The Board based upon the recommendation of Town Counsel moved to approve the line dedication contingent upon as built from Bennetts Crossing to Hatch Street be completed within six weeks and submitted by Bruce Homes, and as approved by Town Counsel. The Board endorsed Water & Sewer permits for Bennetts Crossing as presented by DPW and approved by town Counsel.

Town Administrator advised the Board to no barricade being placed around Mrs. Yi's property and informed by Fire Dept and Building Dept. to erect immediately.

Selectmen Bresnahan requested correspondence from Ms. Conley be resolved/ended re: 4th of July business.

10:50P.M. Selectman Hamel moved the Board adjourn from Open Session to enter into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 39, Section 23B, Exemption #3 to adjourn to re-enter Open Session for the sole purpose of adjourning the meeting, 2nd by Selectman Bresnahan. VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

10:50 Open Session closed

 DATE: 7/17/97
Paul Bresnahan, Clerk
AYER BOARD OF SELECTMEN