

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1996
2ND FLOOR MEETING ROOM
TOWN HALL, MAIN ST., AYER, MA.

7:30P.M. OPEN SESSION

The Board met with Chairman Miller, Selectman Hamel and Selectman Slarsky.

The Weekly Warrant was examined and signed in the following amount: \$361,994.68

Chairman Miller requested if there was anyone present who wished to be heard.

The Following people requested to speak:

- 1. Ravi Bhatka-Ayer Motor Inn*
- 2. Frank Maxant-Town of Ayer Nuisance By-law*
- 3. Mr. Luchessi-Groton/Harvard Rd.-drainage problem*
- 4. Selectman Slarsky, re: Board Vote to ratify Performance Standard/Ft. Devens
re: Police Dept. Budget Status, Town Administrator's Review*

Chairman Miller called for a motion to approve the Agenda as amended. Selectman Hamel moved to approve the Agenda of 1-3-96 as amended, 2nd by Selectman Slarsky.

TOWN CRIER

Chairman Miller made the following announcements:

- 1. Chairman Miller announced the Ecumenical Service opening the 125th Anniversary Celebration being conducted on Sunday, February 11, 1996 at 2:00P.M. at the Ayer High School with a social hour planned with refreshments following the service.*
- 2. Chairman Miller announced the next meeting of the 125th Anniversary Committee being scheduled for February 1, 1996 at 7:00p.m. at the Ayer Town Hall and invited any and all Town residents to join in the planning.*
- 3. Chairman Miller announced the Downtown Business Associations meeting to be held on 2-7-96 at 8:00A.M. at the Ayer Town Hall.*
- 4. Chairman Miller invited all Town residents to attend the Town's 125th Birthday Celebration to be held on 2-14-96 beginning at 12:00Noon to 6:30P.M at the Town Hall.
The Celebration to include a birthday cake, historical artifacts with other historic groups to be in attendance*
- 5. Chairman Miller expressed his and Selectman Hamels appreciation to Dot Kron, Dot Marino, Mildred Barclay, Leah Tooker , Ida Naparstek and Connie Lind for getting all the invitations out. and to Ruth Rhonamus for the design.*

The Board met with David Berry who presented the 125th Anniversary Committee a check for \$500.00 from the Berry Family. Chairman Miller expressed his appreciation on behalf of the Board.

The Board met with Steven Salka of the Ayer Library Trustees. Mr. Salka requested the Selectmen proclaim Feb. 4, 1996 to Feb. 10, 1996 Friends of the Library Week. The Board endorsed Mr. Salka's proclamation and requested Mr. Salka read the proclamation into the record.

The Board read into the record Ann Drapeau's resignation from the Park Commissioners effective immediately due to health reasons. Selectman Hamel moved to accept Mrs. Drapeaus resignation with regrets and to inform the Park Commissioners of the process to fill a vacancy until the next election.

The Board met with Ravi Bhakla of the Ayer Motor Inn re: the RFP for the new hotel on Fort Devens (former Guest Quarters) Mr. Bhakla expressed his displeasure with the Land Bank for not honoring their commitment to the local businesses re: not bringing in businesses which would compete with them. Mr. Bhakla expressed concern re: other hotel owners in the area also showing a decline in the market. Mr. Bhakla requested the Board's assistance to have a study conducted showing need for another hotel in this area. The Board expressed their concern as well and requested a letter be written to Mr. Joncas and Mr. Hogan expressing the Town's concern to commitments being made by former Land Bank officials and of Land Bank not honoring those commitments, and to hold off taking any further action re: the RFP.

The Board met with Frank Maxant re: what action if any the Board took re: the Nuisance By-law regarding snow removal by residents/businesses. The Board suggested Mr. Maxant come into the Selectmen's Office re: obtaining that information.

The Board met with Mr. Luchessi from Groton-Harvard Rd. re: problem created by run off by the new development located further up the road by developer. Mr. Luchessi advised the Board to seriousness of the situation caused by severe icing in front of his residence. Also present for this discussion was DPW Supt. Donald Ouellette who stated the water problem needs to be channeled from the side of the road. Mr. Luchessi stated there was never a problem there before prior to the new development, now the water stays in the middle of the road. Selectman Slarsky suggested the developer fix the problem the Town should not be responsible for problems created by developer.

The Board voted to ratify the Performance Standards which were presented at the JBoS Meeting of 1-25-96.

The Board set 2-13-96 at 6:30p.m. to meet with the James Kreidler re: his contract review.

Selectman Slarsky moved the Board request the Fire Dept and the Police Dept. submit status of their FY-96 budgets to Board of Selectmen and to be made available to the Board at their next meeting, 2nd by Selectman Hamel, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

The Board requested the Police Chief submit status of the new Police Station and Architect/Project Manager by the next Selectmen's Meeting as well as having a status report submitted each month to the Board.

Chairman Miller displayed the MMA award presented to the Joint Boards of Selectmen at the Annual Meeting.

The Board met with Mr. & Mrs. Richard Noll of 83 E. Main St. Ayer, Ma. re: barking dogs at 34 Fletcher St., Ayer, MA

Mr. Noll submitted copies of complaints taken out by him on numerous occasions re: barking dogs and of calls placed to the Police Station. The Board stated their concern re: leash law going unenforced and this and other complaints re: dogs. The Board offered their sympathy and were unsure of what action to take other than referring them to the Court House. The Board requested the Police Chief & Animal Control Officer meet with the Town Administrator to develop a policy to handle complaints.

The Board also requested a advertisement be prepared to hire a part time dog officer.

The Board authorized the Chairman to sign off a letter to the Harvard Zoning Board of Appeals extending the removal of the Ayer Police antenna to 12-31-96 and also advising them to antenna being moved to the Town of Ayer's new stand pipes which were to be completed by September 30, 1996 and that

The Board voted to conduct a Special Town Meeting on February 20, 1996 after meeting with Fire Chief and of emergency nature of Town having no ladder truck presently available and for repairs to be made at fire station to house new truck. The Board requested the Treasurer be contacted re: lease/purchase. David Ross Assoc. to be contacted re: rehabilitation of Fire Station.

The Board met with John Columbus, MSCP coordinator. The Board expressed their regret upon Mr. Columbus's resignation and wished him well upon his future endeavors.

Mr. Columbus advised the Board that Myrick St. could be added to change order if done before project ends. The project is scheduled to be completed by 6/30/96. Cost to fund Myrick St. would be \$111,455.00. Mr. Columbus also advised the Board to sewer project being shut down until spring. Mr. Columbus stated COG offered to help out during transition as well as Diane Sullivan. Mr. Columbus stated Martha Could keep things up and running until COG comes in due to only a few Housing Rehab projects ongoing.

The Board endorsed EOCD's letter re: amendment to Town's management plan for Fy-94 MSCP Grant. re: Diane Sullivan to paid \$2,000.00 from the Town's general administration fund..

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: (see report dated 1-30-96)

ACTION ITEM:

1. Mr. Kreidler advised the Board to Diane Sullivan needing office space and of possibility of utilizing the Civil Defense Office. Mr. Kreidler advised the Board to all other rooms/offices being explored re: office space before requesting this office. Selectman Hamel moved to approve this request, 2nd by Selectman Slarsky, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

SUPT. OUELLETTE'S REPORT: (See Report dated 1-30-96)

10:05p.m. Selectman Slarsky moved the Board adjourn from Open Session to enter into Executive Session pursuant to MGL Chapter 39 Section 23b Exemption 2, 2nd by Selectman Hamel VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

10:05P.M. Open Session ended.

Pauline J. Hamel
Pauline Hamel Clerk

DATE:

2/27/96