

Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, October 4, 1993
2nd Floor Meeting Hall
Town Hall-Main St., Ayer, Ma.

7:30p.m. Open Session

The Board met Selectman Jones and Selectman Hamel. Selectman Slarsky not present due to vacation plans.

The Minutes of September 28, 1993 and September 20, 1993 were read and accepted. The Minutes of September 7, 1993 were held due to Selectmen Slarsky not being present.

The Weekly Warrant was examined and approved in the following amounts: P/R: \$52,471.21
EXP: \$195,226.50

Selectman Jones called for a motion to accept the Agenda. Mr. Higgins advised the Board that the last item on the Agenda-NESCO had been postponed to a later date.

Selectman Jones requested if there was anyone present wishing to be heard by the Board.

Mr. Frank Maxant requested to meet with the Board re: the Pleasant Street School-3rd request for UDAG Funding.

Mr. William Oelfke requested to meet with the Board re: traffic sign request for Grove Street, Ayer, Ma.

Selectman Hamel moved the Board accept the Agenda of October 4, 1993 with amendments, 2nd by Selectman Jones, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

The Board met with Frank Maxant, Chairman, of the Ayer Historical Commission regarding the Commission's 3rd request for UDAG funding of \$15,000.00 for the rehabilitation of the first floor of the Pleasant Street School (Museum & Community Room). Mr. Maxant stated that this was the Historical Commission's third request re: UDAG funds for this restoration. Mr. Maxant stated he had spoken with Robert Hubbard the Town's new Economic Development Director re: this request and Mr. Hubbard stated that renovations were not part of his charge, UDAG is not under his authority. Mr. Higgins stated that the Economic Development loan program would be processed through Rob re: UDAG funding and at this juncture there was no commitment re: how much would be obligated. Mr. Higgins stated that Rob has not been approached as to his charge but that he and Rob would work together to prepare a concept paper re: use of UDAG funds. Selectman Jones apologized again for putting the Commission off but stated other uses for these funds have been brought forward such as a new police station, stand pipes, etc. The Board to get together with Rob Hubbard and prioritize requests for funding.

Selectman Hamel stated the Board established a committee to decide how to spend the UDAG funds perhaps they should be contacted. Selectman Hamel stated that the Building belongs to the Town of Ayer. The Commissions request for funding was to be in the form of a loan to be repaid through rental of two rooms presently rented by the Masons. Which will be quite substantial, she was informed. Selectman Hamel stated this Sunday was the 100th Birthday of the School. The Harvard Town Band was given permission by the Commission to hold rehearsals in the Pleasant St. School and as a thank you for allowing them this use, would be playing at the School on Sunday the 17th of October, in honor of the School's 100th Anniversary.

The Board met with William Oelfke re: his request for two (2) traffic signs be posted in his neighborhood. Residents have been complaining about excessive speed in the Grove St./Elm St. area and the Forest St./Elm St. area. The Board requested the Police Dept. investigate and make recommendation to signage.

The Board met with Maryanne Lucht-Librarian, and Library Trustees: Ida Narparstek, Neville Markham, Timothy Holland and Paul McGuane. Ms. Lucht opened the discussion by stating that Capital Fund Raising was underway re: the new addition. This fund raising being in conjunction with the \$200,000.00 Federal Grant Money awarded to the Ayer Library. Ms. Lucht stated she was here this evening to request the Board grant the Library \$500,000.00 in UDAG Funds to assist the funding of the Library's new addition. Mr. Holland stated that there would be no better birthday present for the Library and the Town then for the Library to celebrate its 100th year with a groundbreaking for this new addition. Mr. Holland stated he realized that there is a tremendous competition for UDAG funding, this is a authorized, appropriate use of UDAG Funds. Paul McGuane presented to the Board a conceptual design of the new library as well as a cost analysis for the construction. Mr McGuane stated this is a bare bones analysis which would be functional but without all the features built into the architects ideal plan. The essential plan could be done for a little over \$1 million. This version would not involve renovating the existing building, not placing the children's library in the basement, and leaving out books and furnishings yet would offer vast improvement on the present cramped conditions there now. The Board stated no one questioned the need for the Library to have an addition, stating an investment in the kids is an investment in the future. Ms. Lucht stated given the escalating construction costs and putting this project off would only make it more costly to do later. Selectman Jones again pondered the best use of the UDAG Funds. Selectman Hamel requested if the Trustees had contacted the Historical Register regarding getting a Grant for a Historical Building. Selectman Hamel also stated there might be a problem with applying for that much money under UDAG she had been informed by HUD officials that only 12% of UDAG funds can be

In the course of discussion regarding the status of a request by the Ayer Historical Commission for UDAG funding, it was mentioned that it had not been clear that the Historical Commission's request was in the form of a loan and if this were true, what would be the nature of the repayment of the loan. Pauline Hamel then pointed out that there was a section in the lease between the Masons and the Ayer Historical Commission in which the Masons had agreed to pay the Lessor an annual sum for maintenance of the buildings, grounds, etc. This money from the Masons, as well as other Lessors, should there be any, would be used to repay the loan. Selectman Hamel also stated a sizable amount of money had been accumulating and owed to the Town of Ayer/Historical Commission since June 1989 when the lease was signed. However, the AHC had always felt that this sum or a portion thereof would be paid by the Masonic Association and therefore there was no reason to bill or press the Association for these funds.

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This is the statement that
showed replace the first paragraph
page 2 of the minutes of
OCT - 4th ending - the statement
about the town Jan party
Pauline

used for a single project.

Another concern the Board had was the Town's Library was a private trust even though public money sustained the operation, staff and building. The Board agreed to support the endeavor but could make no guarantee of the UDAG request. The Board would look into what they could do. (see attached documentation presented by Librarian and Trustees)

8:00P.M. PUBLIC HEARING-Class II License, Joyce Benoit, Pepperell, Ma. Legacy Auto Sales, 63 Fitchburg Rd., Ayer, Ma.

The Board met with Ms. Benoit. Selectman Jones read the legal notice into the record. The Board reviewed with Ms. Benoit her reasoning for the Class II License. The Board reviewed with Ms. Benoit the restrictions at the 63 Fitchburg Rd. property. The License allowed only twenty five (25) automotive vehicles on the property, no repairs or body work done on premise. Ms. Benoit agreed to these restrictions. Selectman Jones requested if there was anyone present who wished to speak for or against the license. No one stepped forward. Selectman Hamel requested hours of operation. Ms. Benoit stated Monday through Saturday from 9:00a.m. to 6:00p.m. with Thursday evening open until 8:00p.m. Selectman Hamel moved to approve the Class II License for Joyce Benoit/Legacy Auto Sales to be located at 63 Fitchburg Rd., Ayer, Ma. with restrictions so stated, 2nd by Selectman Jones, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

SUPT. OUELLETTE'S REPORT: (SEE REPORT DATED 10-4-93)

1. The Board was advised to Highway Dept's activities re: areas of Town problems being worked on: Catch Basins: 27 Fletcher St., 11 Myrick St., Groton Harvard Road, 121 Central Ave. cleared 300' of pipe run front and 200' rear-new catch basin to be installed midway through plugs. MCI-Shirley brush and weed control. Phase I of road work/crack sealed & full depth patching.
2. Selectman Hamel moved the Board award Bardon Trimount Company, the lowest bidder, the bid for the resurfacing of Willow Rd. for the Bid Award of \$159,520.00, 2nd by Selectman Jones, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.
3. Selectman Hamel moved the Board award the Bid for the Front End Loader to Casey & Dupris of Watertown, Ma., the low bidder, for the Bid award of \$82,646.00, 2nd by Selectman Jones, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.
4. Selectman Hamel moved the Board award the bid for replacement of the filter media at Spectacle Pond for the bid award of \$85,000.00, 2nd by Selectman Jones, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.
4. The Board met with Tom McShane, Katherine Starbuck of MODELL

DEVELOPMENT CORP. (MODEC) and Heather Archer from the Land Bank re: proposal for a super critical water oxidation pilot plant at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Supt. Ouellette stated he had spoken with State DEP official, Bob Kimble and Jim Small of CDM re: this proposal and both encouraged him to pursue this project. Supt. Ouellette ran through the advantages and disadvantages with the Board. Supt. Ouellette stated the project would be at no cost to the Town of Ayer while it would reduce the amount of sludge by a third. By allowing the pilot study the town of Ayer would be qualified for participation in a full sized plant. Supt. Ouellette stated the operation is cost effective. It is clean an odorless and one of the by products produced is clear water. MODEC is scheduled to bring in this project late fall.

Selectman Hamel moved the Board support the demonstration plant MODEC set up in the town of Ayer, 2nd by Selectman Jones, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

6. Supt. Ouellette stated the Grove Pond Study is complete and available in the Town Administrator's Office. The Landfill Phase 2 tasks 4-9 were reviewed by the Board.

7. The Board renewed the Hoyle Tanner & Assoc. pretreatment program for one (1) year at a cost of \$26,000.00 from UDAG and be reimbursed by the heavy industrial users.

TOWN ADMINISTRATORS REPORT (SEE REPORT DATED 10-4-93)

ACTION ITEMS:

Mr. Higgins requested the Board approve a One Day Request for Larry's Inc. D/B/A Karen's for October 16, 1993. Mr. Higgins stated this was for a private party. Mr. Higgins reported that there have been no violations at the establishment during July-through present. Selectman Hamel moved to allow the establishment Karen's to be open on October 16, 1993 from 9:00a.m. to 1:00a.m. 2nd by Selectman Jones, VOTE: unanimous.

2. Mr. Higgins advised the Board to Gab Valentte will begin his duties as Building Inspector October 12, 1993. Mr. Velentte schedule/hours will be posted. Hours: all day Tuesday and Thursdays.

3. Mr. Hubbard's new office at the Mass. Resource Center telephone # was relayed to the Board as well as areas he is currently pursuing: all new development prospects and also working with Brett to gain an understanding of issues/impacts for the Town as it relates to the development of Devens.

4. The Board approved a \$10,910.00 operating budget for Mr. Hubbard (see attached) Selectman Hamel moved to approve this

\$10,910.00 operating budget for Mr. Hubbard, funding to come from UDAG, 2nd Selectman Jones, Vote: unanimous, so moved.

The Board endorsed a letter submitted by Town Counsel requesting the Mass. Cable T.V. Commission regulate rates for basic service tier and equipment in the Town of Ayer consistent with rules & regulations promulgated by the FCC. Selectman Hamel moved the Board approve and endorse this letter to the FCC, 2nd Selectman Jones, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

The Board requested the Cable Commission in the Town of Ayer conduct a Public Hearing designed to assess the performance of Nashoba Cable in meeting its obligations to the Town.

Selectman Jones requested Congressman Markey be contacted, whose committee sought the changes in Cable T.V.

The Board was advised of ADESSA Corp. site Trip being planned for October 20, 1993 to Buffalo, N.Y.

The Board accepted the recommendation of Kathy Hebb, Co-Chairman of the Arts Cultural Council and appointed Betty Lewis to the Council.

The Board was advised of Special Town Meeting being readied for November 22, 1993 re: the Teachers Home Rule Petition for the State to fund completely a Early Retirement Incentive Plan.

The Board was updated to a controversy re: a stretch of roadway at the corner of Groton St. & Pleasant St. which had been constructed across private property. The owner now wishes to have his property back, which would require a whole new configuration for an intersection. The Town's safety officials to review area and report back to him.

The Board appointed John Paanenen Asst. Plumbing Inspector

Selectman Hamel moved the Board adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Selectman Jones, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

9:45p.m. meeting adjourned.

Pauline J. Hamel
Pauline Hamel, Clerk
AYER BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Date: 11/1/93