

AYER BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 11, 1993
2ND FLOOR MEETING HALL
TOWN HALL, MAIN ST., AYER, MA.

7:30P.M. The Board met with Chairman Slarsky, Selectman Jones and Selectman Hamel.

Chairman Slarsky called for a motion to accept the Agenda. Selectman Jones moved the Board accept the Agenda of 5-11-93, seconded by Selectman Hamel. VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

Chairman Slarsky requested if there was anyone in the hall who wished to come before the Board under Public Input. No one stepped forward, or wished to be heard.

The Minutes of 4-13-93 were read and requested to be kept in obeyance due to the Board members unable to sign Meeting minutes of former Board.

The Minutes of 4-27-93 were read and accepted. Booth Bay Harbor, ME. to be inserted on Page 1-paragraph one.

The Weekly warrant was examined and approved in the following amount: P/R: \$329,075.74.

Chairman Slarsky went off the posted Agenda to comment on the recent Department of Public Works larceny. Chairman Slarsky stated all items stolen were recovered by the Ayer Police Department. The person responsible, a Town employee, resigned. Chairman Slarsky stated this larceny was no reflection on the D.P.W. if anything the department deserves accolades for the co-operation exhibited. Chairman Slarsky went on to thank Detective Mark Coulter of the Ayer Police Dept. and Chief Boisseau for an outstanding job as well as the Gardner Police Department.

The Board met with the Advisory Committee regarding a review of the final preparations for the Annual Town Meeting. Present for this meeting were: Chairman of the Advisory Committee-William Oelfke, Coleen Norstrom and Marion Smith and Town Accountant-Sharon Summers.

Mr. Oelfke reviewed with the Board department comparisons re: FY-94 Budget. Mr. Oelfke stated only a few budgets were in conflict with the Advisory Board and most had been settled.

Police Dept. Over Time Budget reduced by \$10,000.00. Mr. Oelfke stated both he and the Chief were in agreement with this reduction. Justification of the reduction was due to additional body budgeted for FY-94. Over Time was budgeted for \$86,000.00 for FY-94 the new revised over time is \$76,000.00.

Selectmen's Budget: The Advisory Board stated they were proposing no increases for officials/employees who received stipends. The Selectmen's budget is proposed for \$83,790.00 the Advisory Board's recommended budget is \$83,345.00

Registrations & Elections: Proposed FY-94 budget \$7,850.00
Advisory Board recommendation: \$7,415.00 reducing to reflect only 2 elections for 94.

Treasurer: Proposed FY-94 Budget: \$42,100.00 Advisory Board recommendation: \$41,540.00 Justification: The Advisory Board advocating only 5% raises for all Town Hall employees and the Treasurer's budget reflected a 10% increase for the Clerk.

FICA Medicare: Proposed FY-94 budget \$38,484.00
Advisory Board Recommendation: \$40,000.00 increased to reflect the unemployment estimates for FY-94.

Building Dept.: Proposed FY-94 Budget: \$23,600.00
Advisory Board Recommendation: \$15,600.00 encompasses 5% increase for clerk's position. The Selectmen increased this Budget line item to reflect the hiring of a part-time Building Inspector for the Town of Ayer to work weekdays and some weekends.

All other areas of the FY-94 Budget had been resolved. The Selectmen requested if the Public Works budget reflected the hiring of part-time summer help? The budget did reflect the hiring of 3-6 summer hire students/employees for 19 and 1/2 hours per week at \$5.00/hour. The Board requested the consideration of potential hiring of one more person for the Highway Dept. due to this department being understaffed. Mr Higgins to review this request with Acting Supt. Smith.

The Board reviewed Article #15 the replacing of Gas Tanks at the DPW and voted not to support this article instead go out to bid.

Chairman Slarsky requested at this time for a motion to accept the 1993 Town Warrant. Selectman Hamel moved to accept the 1993 Annual Town Meeting Warrant seconded by Selectman Jones. VOTE: unanimous, so moved. The Board endorsed three (3) copies of the 1993 Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT: (See Report dated 5-11-93)

Action Items:

1. The Board was advised to 1st meeting of the Search Com. being Thursday, May 13, 1993 re: Supt. of Public Works.
2. The Board was advised of deadline for responses for the

Economic Development Director's position being extended to May 31, 1993.

3. Mr. Higgins to contact the Board of Health re: potential grant for Hazardous Waste Collection.

4. The Board reviewed the Plowshop Pond-Grove Pond TRC report which addressed the posting of both ponds with "no fishing or swimming" whereas, currently catch & release fishing was allowed. The Board requested Mr. Higgins contact Fort Devens officials and DEP to attend the next Selectmen's Meeting re: liability of report and public safety issues.

5. Mr. Higgins advised the Board to Notice of Change of date for the 1993 Town Meeting being published in both of the Town's local papers as well as on Cable.

6. The Board was advised of ABCC suspension given to an establishment in Ayer. The Board reviewed the correspondence which listed violations. Chairman Slarsky requested if the Board wished to investigate this suspension and review their license. Selectman Jones moved the Board conduct a Public Hearing re: this establishment at the next Selectmen's Meeting, seconded by Selectman Hamel, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

ACTING SUPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

1. Mr. Smith submitted Water & Sewer applications for Nashoba Apple Storage located at 104 Central Ave. for the new business-Nashoba Express. Selectman Jones moved the Board authorize the Chairman to sign the permits, 2nd by Selectman Hamel. VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

2. Mr. Smith reviewed with the Board Water High Use Fee re: Condo Developments. Mr. Smith stated it has come to his attention that some condo developments and multiple residences using only one water meter have been charged the high use fee after using the first 10,000 cubic feet. Mr. Smith stated each single residence is allowed up to 10,000 cubic feet of water per billing period at a lower rate, and anything over 10,000 cubic feet at the high rate. Mr. Smith suggested that any condo development or multiple residence using only one (1) water meter should be charged as follows: number of single units x 10,000 cubic feet. The Board stated this is a complex problem stating the pros of having all the units install their own meter is not only costly to the multiple residence but also creates more work for the department in reading and billing these extra meters. The Board requested this issue be brought up at the next Water & Sewer Regulation Hearing.

3. The Board requested after review of correspondence submitted by CPF that the Ayer Board of Health inter into dialogue with the

Upper Blackstone Water Pollution Abatement District (UBWPAD) on behalf of the industries located in Ayer in order to enter into negotiations with the UBWPAD for treatment and disposal of high strength waste. This in an effort to keep all possible alternate locations for disposal of high strength waste viable and dialogue with sewage disposal districts and municipalities open. The UBWPAD has indicated that the Ayer Board of Health must petition the UBWPAD to begin negotiations. Chairman Slarsky called for a motion for dialogue to begin with the Ayer Board of Health, and UBWPAD, Selectman Hamel moved the Chairman of the Ayer Board of Health be requested to begin negotiations with the Upper Blackstone Water Pollution Abatement District (UBWPAD) on behalf of the Town of Ayer high strength industries for the treatment and disposal of high strength waste, 2nd by Selectman Jones, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

4. Acting Supt. Smith advised the Board he had sent a letter to the Mass. Highway Dept. requesting an extension for Chapter 90, Option B, applying C-133 Grant Funds for Groton Harvard Road resurfacing improvement program. Mass. Highway Dept. was advised of the ten (10) home subdivision that is being built on Groton Harvard Rd. and of the vote of the Selectmen not to allow the opening of trenches after the road has been resurfaced. Mr. Smith stated the work is going well with the contractor re: sewer but water main is on the opposite side of street which is creating problems. The Board stated they agreed to a detour/closing of the road for three (3) hours from 10:00A.M. to 1:00P.M. only and emergency vehicles be allowed to pass if necessary. The Board felt closing the road for longer periods is unreasonable and the interests of the residents of the Town of Ayer must be protected.

The Board met with the Ayer Board of Assessors re: FY-93 Tax Bills. Present for the discussion was Edward Cornellier, Chairman, James Wood and Denis Callahan. Mr. Cornellier opened the discussion by advising the Board to the Assessors requesting Town of Ayer taxpayers make voluntary payments equal to the first half payments in November. Mr. Cornellier stated the final real estate bills for Fiscal Year 93 will be delayed due to revaluation. The voluntary tax payments is an attempt to avoid borrowing in anticipation. Mr. Cornellier stated he anticipated the bills going out mid summer. Mr. Cornellier stated problems with the Tri-annual update, entering into the new computer system and having a new person on board complicated the process. Mr. Cornellier advised the Board that the Tax Collector is going to send out postcards to 2000 parcels, 1 residential and 1 industrial. The Board stated their concern re: potential for non-compliance and of home owners receiving double bills. The Board requested the Assessors keep them apprised of situation, and requested if their was anything the Selectmen could do to offer assistance to expedite things. The Selectmen requested the Assessors submit weekly updates.

BOSMIN5-11-93/PG.5

8:55P.M.

Chairman Slarsky requested a motion to adjourn from Open Session and enter into Executive Session.

Selectman Jones moved the Board of Selectmen adjourn from Open Session and enter into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 39 Section 23B re: Exemption #2.

9:00P.M. Open Session ended.

Accepted

Pauline J. Hamel *Acting Clerk*

Pauline J. Hamel, Acting Clerk June 1, 1993