

Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Tuesday, September 29, 1992
2nd Floor Meeting Hall, Town Hall
Main Street, Ayer, Ma.

7:30P.M. Open Session

The Board met with Chairman Jones and Selectman McKinney. Selectman Slarsky, absent due to Meeting in Washington D.C. re: Fort Devens Students/educational concerns, and Bureau of Prisons.

The Weekly Warrant was examined and approved in the following amounts: P/R: \$ 312,924.43
Exp: \$ 328,651.27

The Minutes of September 15, 1992 were read and approved.
The Minutes of September 1, 1992 were read and approved.

The Board met with Donald Leistikow and Edward Kelley re: the Regional Recycling Grant Application.

The Board reviewed with Mr. Leistikow and Mr. Kelley the grant application that the Recycling Group is submitting to create a brokerage service for marketing recyclables.

Mr. Higgins advised the Board that this program would in no way interfere with the DPW's oversight of the Transfer Station. The Board was advised that Supt. Redfield is in full support of the regional brokerage service, as it will allow the Town access through the markets.

Mr. Higgins presented a letter of support addressed to Mary L. Padula, Secretary, Executive Office of Communities and Development stating the Town of Ayer's participation in an innovative venture creating the brokerage service for identifying and coordinating the disposal or sale of recyclable material. The letter stated the Town of Ayer has joined with ten (10) area communities in preparing an Incentive Aid application which would allow this effort to proceed. The Town of Ayer does not generate enough quantities of materials to be a meaningful player in the market. Collectively the eleven communities possess enough buying power to maximize the potential savings of recycling.

The Board moved and seconded to endorse the application and requested the letter to Mrs. Padula be submitted as soon as possible supporting the Town of Ayer in this regional initiative. Selectman McKinney moved this motion, seconded by Chairman Jones, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

SUPT. REDFIELD'S REPORT: (see Supt. Redfield's report 9/29/92)

1. The Board approved a Water permit for a single family house (4 BR) equalling 480/gal. per day, located at 14 Groton-Shirley Rd. Ayer issued to Patrick & Kimberly Griffin.

2. The Board moved to release \$15,000.00 of the \$20,000.00 bond issued by GAC Homes Inc. of Groton, Ma., for installation of the sewer main along Wright Rd. Supt. Redfield stated cost to repave the Wright Rd & Sandy Pond Rd. with 3" bituminous concrete for full width repaving where it was disturbed during the construction. The \$5,000 remaining in the bond will cover repaving costs. Supt. Redfield stated the Board had walked the area prior to this coming on the Agenda. Selectman McKinney moved the Board release \$15,000 of the \$20,000 bond issued to GAC Homes of Groton, Ma. seconded by Selectman Slarsky, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.
3. Supt. Redfield requested of the Board information re: mock signs of a street crossing guard for use on Main St. Supt. Redfield to pursue contact with surrounding communities.
4. The Board was advised of correspondence from DEP to Carol Howard, Installation Management Office of Fort Devens advising of DEP conducting a sampling program on Grove Pond in relation to the Fort Devens Superfund Program. The Dept. of the Army is going to conduct the work per DEP's proposal. Supt. Redfield stated he complimented DEP for their quick response for taking the initiative to perform these Grove Pond samplings and analyses addressing all health risks re: Fort Devens's contamination.

8:00P.M. PUBLIC HEARING: EDA GRANT-NASHOBA VALLEY EXPRESS CO.

Chairman Jones opened the Hearing by reading the legal notice which appeared in the Nashoba Publications the weeks of September 9th and 16th, 1992.

The Board met with Rick Lefferts, Consultant, Commonwheel Collaborative, Leominster, Ma. and Robert Hebb, owner of Nashoba Valley Express Co., Inc. re: the Economic Development Set Aside Application. Mr. Lefferts reviewed with the Board the Economic Development Set-Aside Program (EDSA) administered through the Executive Office of Communities & Development (EOCD). Mr. Lefferts stated the program supplied "Gap Financing" for job creating economic development projects. EDSA awards grants to communities that then lend the funds to the business undertaking the project. EDSA funds cannot exceed 33% of the total project costs. The loans can be subordinated to other lenders and require the personal guarantees of all principals and major stockholders.

Mr. Lefferts elaborated on Nashoba Valley Express Co. operating a freight and warehouse operation in leased facilities in Shirley and seeks to relocate to self-contained independent facilities with rail service. The company seeks to relocate to expand its current operation and add rail service, in addition the firm hopes to participate with trucking services in the rail operation at Fort Devens.

Mr. Hebb stated he was a Town of Ayer resident for the past forty years and was anxious to relocate his business in the Town of Ayer. Mr. Hebb stated he had negotiated a agreement to purchase 104 and 105 Central Ave. in Ayer, the former Cold Storage Warehouse and the vacant adjacent parcel. The total project cost is estimated at \$330,000.00, which includes site acquisition, building rehabilitation and general development costs. It is Nashoba Valley Express Co., desire to apply for a EDSA loan of \$110,000.00. Additional funds, in the form of a direct grant will be requested for local costs of project administration. The grant may be up to 7% of the loan principal, or \$7700.00. There would be a single EDSA loan transaction, for the purpose of site acquisition occurring upon the completion of the building rehabilitation.

Chairman Jones requested if there was any one present to speak for or against the project, no one came forward. Mr. Raymond Farrar, a resident of Sandy Pond Road spoke against the truck traffic on Sandy Pond Road and requested what Mr. Hebb's intent would be regarding truck traffic on this road. Mr. Hebb stated he would route Nashoba Valley trucks onto the rotary to Rt. 2 and in from Rt.2. to the rotary. The Board stated their concern also with more truck traffic on an already heavily burdened road. The Board stated their pleasure with Nashoba Valley Express Co., relocating to Ayer and creating jobs in the area. The Board stated they would support the EDSA grant application. Chairman Jones moved to close the hearing, seconded by Selectman McKinney.

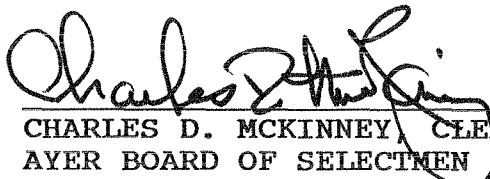
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT: (see report dated 9-29-92)

1. Mr. Higgins updated the Board on the Town Physician status Mr. Higgins gave the Board the names of two physicians contacted. The Board moved to appoint Dr. Foster, Harvard, Ma. as the Town Physician. Mr. Higgins advised the Board of draft re: pre-employment physical exam policy he is working on.
2. The Board was advised of Mr. Higgins and Town Accountant, Sharon Summers preparing an analysis of potential impact to the revenues of the Building Dept. This report to be submitted to the Board for the October 13, 1992 meeting.
3. Mr. Higgins advised the Board to the Town's Free Cash being

certified by DOR at \$742,416.00

This year's free cash was derived from two major sources:

1. Water & Sewer receipts- came in at \$250,000 reflecting 12 months of revenues.
 2. Dept. budgets unspent reflecting \$320,000.00, the largest being health & life insurance \$100,000.00.
 4. The Board was advised to the Town Treasurer and Mr. Higgins working with other members of the Minuteman Health Group to evaluate alternative health plans. The Board was advised to issues which have arisen causing the Town to re-examine the current plan.
 5. The Board was updated to the Ayer Planning Board being scheduled for the next Selectmen's Meeting to update the Board of their review re: the Earth Removal Permit for Bennetts Brook. The Planning Board will also be available to discuss with the Board the zoning of Fort Devens land.
 6. The Board was advised of Mass. Aeronautics Commission (MAC) conducting a Public Hearing on Wednesday September 30, 1992 at 7:00P.M. at 10 Park Plaza, Boston, Ma. re: study to evaluate the need for the second major airport. Mr. Maxant, the Boards representative on the airport issue, who was in the audience stated that he was preparing to attend this hearing on behalf of the Town. The Board requested Mr. Maxant to submit a report of his findings of the meeting.
 7. The Board was reminded to the next meeting of the Joint Boards being hosted by Ayer on Thursday, October 8, 1992 at 7:00P.M.
- 9:15P.M. Selectman McKinney moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chairman Jones, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.


CHARLES D. MCKINNEY, CLERK
AYER BOARD OF SELECTMEN

DATE:

