

AYER BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1991
2ND FLOOR MEETING HALL
TOWN HALL, MAIN ST., AYER, MA.

7:30P.M. OPEN SESSION

THE BOARD MET WITH CHAIRMAN SLARSKY, SELECTMAN JONES AND SELECTMAN MCKINNEY.

THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 4, WERE READ AND ACCEPTED.

THE WEEKLY WARRANT WAS EXAMINED AND APPROVED IN THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS:

PAYROLL:	\$345,872.91
BILLS:	\$87,711.16

The Board met with Geoff Hall, newly elected representative for District 2 in Ayer replacing John MacGovern. The Board congratulated Mr. Hall on his new position and also upon his new marriage.

The Board discussed with Rep. Hall areas of concern the Board have with the Fy-92 fiscal budget projections. The area of most concern being cuts to State Aid to cities & towns as well as community impacts, projects and services.

Rep. Hall stated that Gov. Wells have projected level funding for the rest of Fy-91, and Fy-92 early projections include a possible 10% cut in local aid. Chairman Slarsky advised Rep. Hall of the towns ongoing problem with the W. Main St. bridge disrepair. The bridge originally placed on 1990 list for repair now is not projected even in the near future. Chairman Slarsky requesting Rep. Hall's support to get this project back on target. Other areas discussed with Rep. Hall were:

Fort Devens possible closure
Funding available for water and solid waste.
Regionalization of schools in area.
Pl874-3d2b student ratio relative to taxing issue.
lottery funding

The Board thanked Rep. Hall for coming to the Selectmen's meeting and supporting the Town's concerns.

The Board met with Chief Connors re: continuing discussion regarding the new Police Station study.

Chairman Slarsky reviewed with the Chief the latest letter, dated 2/8/91 received from DiNisco Kretsch relative to the placement of the site, mass of building on the site and emergency use

pertaining to accessibility. Chairman Slarsky read paragraph three (3) into the record disclosing DiNisco Kretsch's analysis of the combination Police/Fire Station being inappropriate for the location.

Selectman McKinney requested at this time for the Chief's position regarding this analysis.

Chief Connors stated after meeting with the Ayer Fire Chief on numerous occasions that it was Chief Parker's strong opinion that the Park Street site was an inappropriate place for a fire station. The Chief elaborated that Chief Parker had requested only for expansion of the present location, on Washington St. and didn't see the need for a new station to be built.

The Chief stated he concurred with the analysis of DiNisco Kretsch and supported the need for a new police station to be built in the Town of Ayer.

Selectman Jones stated one of his problems with the design of the facility was the need for the physical separation of male and female cell areas specifically whether or not additional staffing would be required for monitoring of this area. Chief Connors stated that the design of the facility incorporated a long range purpose-for additional staffing should the need be, but for now no new staffing was necessary. The Board entered into a lengthy discussion re: authorizing the design of the Police station. Selectman Jones moved the Board accept the recommendation of Chief Connors, the UDAG Committee, and DiNisco Kretsch and authorize the design of the new Police Station. Chairman Slarsky seconded the motion for discussion purposes. Chairman Slarsky stated his concern regarding whether or not the citizens of Ayer would support this design and authorize the spending of \$200,000 and that he had a problem with approving the spending of \$200,000 for the design phase and the voters reject the building of a new Police Station. Chairman Slarsky suggested the Board put this proposal on the Town's Election Ballot as a non binding referendum question, Do citizens support the building of a new Police Station in the Town of Ayer and secondly requesting citizens vote re: financing this project either by a debt exclusion, or other means of borrowing. Chief Connors stated his concern regarding this project losing its momentum and getting set back if further delayed. Chief Connors requesting again to take the funds from the UDAG payback funds. The Board stated that the purpose of the UDAG payback funds were to support town activities for years to come and not just for one project. The Board stated it would be imperative that Chief Connors campaign very hard during the next few months to get support for this facility.

Selectman Jones after discussion moved the Board approve the design of the new Police Station in principal and include on the Election Ballot a non binding referendum question, Do citizens of the Town of Ayer support the building of a new police station in

the Town of Ayer and secondly a question to citizens electing financing of this project through choices to include a debt exclusion, borrowing or other. Selectman McKinney second the motion, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

Selectman Jones moved to hold a Public Hearing on April 1, 1991 at 7:30p.m. regarding the Building of a new Police Station in the Town of Ayer, seconded by Selectman McKinney, Vote: unanimous, so moved.

Chairman Slarsky requested Mr. Higgins contact the Assessors to have them develop a format of how a debt exclusion would effect taxpayers and the Treasurer's Office for possible sources of funding of the building of the new Police Station.

The Board met with Chief Connors regarding the implementation of a 911 line in the Town of Ayer.

Chairman Slarsky requested if the Chief had developed a cost breakout for this service?

Chief Connors submitted the following cost breakout:

3 lines for 3 months @ \$10.62/line	\$98.58
Order change for installation	37.41
Central Office work	154.44
labor & installation	350.00
training for 4 telecommunicators	249.37
multi track recorder	5,751.00
tone encoder for Fire Dept.	450.00
Cellphone	550.00
3 months rent for cellphone	<u>150.00</u>
total	\$7,787.80

Chief Connors stated this cost breakout was developed from the State bid list.

The Board moved to support the transfer of \$7,787.80 from the Reserve Fund for the implementation of a 911 emergency line.

Selectman Jones Moved the Board support the transfer from the Reserve Fund of \$7,787.80 for an emergency 911 line for the Town of Ayer, seconded by Selectman McKinney, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

On another matter the Chief presented the Board the eligibility list for the part-time telecommunicators positions. Chief Connors recommended the appointment of Joseph Dristilaris of Groton, Ma. and Christopher Kelley of Ayer, Ma. for the telecommunicators positions at the Ayer Police Department. Selectman Jones moved the Board accept Chief Connors recommendations and appoint Joseph Dristilaris and Christopher

Kelley part time telcommunicators at the Ayer Police Department, seconded by Selectman McKinney, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

Chairman Slarsky requested to go off the Agenda and meet with SEA Consultant's Douglas Reed and Richard Heeley, re: Grove Pond.

Mr. Reed opened the discussion by presenting SEA's analysis of possible influence of Fort Devens Landfill on Grove Pond Aquifer. After a lengthy discussion and presentation the Board was advised that the Fort Devens landfill may represent a water quality concern to wells surrounding Grove Pond, particularly in the vicinity of Plow Shop Pond, however, continued monitoring of groundwater quality at the landfill and careful siting of future wells surrounding Grove Pond should enable the Town to have an adequately protected water supply. (see report dated 2/12/91) The Board thanked SEA for their prompt response to the Board's concern.

SUPT. REDFIELD'S REPORT:

1. The Board was advised of Supt. Redfield presenting the Dept. of Public Works 1992 Budget, special articles and town report to Mr. Higgins on Friday, February 15, 1991.
2. The Board reviewed Supt. Redfield's authorization letter to proceed with the wastewater industrial pretreatment programs on site inspection.
3. Supt. Redfield advised the Board that DEP was in receipt of the Town's response to the 11/19/90 water survey, and thanked the Town for the timely submission.

Selectman Jones requested a moment at this time to state his desire to seek re-election, Selectmen Jones reflected on past and future projects he has worked on and of his desire to complete projects he has major concerns with specifically water, sewer and industrial development.

Both Chairman Slarsky and Selectman McKinney expressed their support and best wishes upon his re-election.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:

1. The Board was advised of the status of the Regionalization Committee members being: David Gardner, Irene Miller and Pat Cassavechia and that the committee not meeting since it's newest member was appointed.
2. The Board was advised of the deadline for submission of FY-92 budgets being Friday, February 15, 1991 and that all but a few had come in. Budget hearings to be scheduled.
3. The Board was advised of Reserve Fund Status being \$59,000.00 and of requests presently before the Advisory Board:

Fire Dept.	-	o.t. expenses	\$4,937
Fire Dept.	-	hazard/material	\$1,000
Town Clerk	-	Motor Veh. excise	\$2,640
Bldg. Dept.	-	Gas/Mileage	\$2,606
911	-	Police/Fire	\$7,788

4. The Board was advised of the Bid opening for the Town Report being conducted on 2/8/91 and of two (2) bids being received:

1. Marshall Cameron, Groton, Ma. - \$6,269.00
2. Brown Print. Co. Prov., R.I. - \$6,175.00

The Board reviewed with Mr. Higgins the low bidder being Brown Printing Co. however, being that the Town has had Marshall Cameron print the Town Report for many years and being that the difference was \$94.00 and going on past performance, ability to service and proximity to Ayer the Board moved to award the Bid for the printing of the Annual Town Report to Marshall Cameron. for the bid price of \$6,269.00. Motion moved by Selectman Jones, seconded by Selectman McKinney, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

5. The Board was advised of the meeting with School Committee members and the Supt. of Schools scheduled for 2/23/91 being rescheduled for 3/2/91 at 8:30a.m. at the Town Hall re: P.L. 874 dispute.

6. The Board was advised of No. Central Chamber of commerce reception scheduled for 2/26/91 at 7:30p.m. at the Holiday Inn. Leom., Ma.

7. The Board was advised of correspondence being received by the Board re: the presentation of the Boston Post Cane to be presented to Mr. Raymond McGuire on March 18, 1991 at the recipients home.

8. The Board endorsed a letter of appreciation to the Town Treasurer upon his resignation of 2/4/91 thanking him for his many years of service.

9. The Board reviewed a letter of thanks sent to the Chamber of Commerce in appreciation of the banner across Main St. supporting the troops in the Gulf Crisis.

The Board approved a One Day Beer & Wine License for The Ayer Gun & Sportsmens Club for the following dates: MARCH 9, 16, 23, 1991.

10:00p.m.

Selectman Jones moved the Board adjourn from Open Session to enter Executive Session pursuant to MGL Chapter 39, Section 23B re: labor strategy session Communication Workers Association. Seconded by Selectmen McKinney, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

10:00p.m. Open Meeting adjourned.

Charles H. Jones

DATE:

3/4/91

**CHARLES H. JONES, CLERK
AYER BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Fax Transmittal Sheet



SEA Consultants Inc.
Engineers/Architects

485 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, Massachusetts
02139

Telephone: (617) 497-7800
Fax: (617) 497-7709

☐ URGENT! HAND DELIVER IMMEDIATELY!

☒ Within 1/2 hour

☐ Via interoffice mail

Date: 2/15/91

To: Tim Higgins - Town Administrator, Ayer
From: Tony Buena

Recipient's Fax Number: 508-772-7344

No. of Pages: 3
(including transmittal sheet)

SEA Project Job No: _____

Project Name: _____

Comments:

As requested



SEA Consultants Inc.
Engineers/Architects

February 12, 1991

Mr. Timothy Higgins, Executive Secretary
Town Hall
Main Street
Ayer, MA 01432

Re: Possible Influence of Fort Devens
Landfill on Grove Pond Aquifer
Ref. No. 690-044V

Dear Mr. Higgins:

It was a pleasure to meet with you and with Selectmen Charles Jones and Charles Mckinney at the recent Massachusetts Municipal Association meeting. At your request, we have conducted a preliminary evaluation of possible interconnection between the Fort Devens landfill and the aquifer surrounding Grove Pond. Sources reviewed include an April, 1986 S E A report on The Fort Devens landfill and a November, 1987 report on the Ayer municipal landfill.

Our evaluation indicates that the exact location of wells surrounding Grove Pond will be an important consideration in future water development plans. The Town should be able to safely pursue additional wells if they are located properly. Groundwater from the northern portion of the landfill discharges into Plow Shop Pond, based on water level measurements in wells surrounding the landfill. Groundwater from the southern portion of the landfill flows toward Willow Brook, which presents no threat to wells surrounding Grove Pond.

The normal flow of water through the surface water system is from Grove Pond into Plow Shop Pond and then over the dam at Plow Shop Pond into Nonacoicus Brook. Thus, surface water contaminated by landfill leachate could be expected to impact Plow Shop Pond but not Grove Pond. The exception to this rule might occur under conditions of extreme drought and high withdrawal rates at the Grove Pond wells, which could temporarily reverse the normal flow direction. However, this reversed flow condition would not be expected to occur except on rare occasions, because the 20 square mile drainage area of Grove Pond should be sufficient to supply the water withdrawn by the Grove Pond wells.

Under high pumping of the wells surrounding Grove Pond, groundwater may be drawn underneath Plow Shop Pond and into wells located near the western edge of Grove Pond. Three industrial wells (the so-called Hartnett Tannery wells) are located

485 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139-4018
(617) 497-7800
FAX (617) 497-7709

Glastonbury, CT
Londonderry, NH



SEA Consultants Inc.
Engineers/Architects

Mr. Timothy Higgins
February 12, 1991
Page 2

at the western edge of Grove Pond, and one of these is located very close to Plow Shop Pond. The limited groundwater quality data at the landfill indicates that higher numbers of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are present in the deeper portions of the aquifer. Many VOCs are denser than water and can move in directions controlled more by bedrock topography than by the slope of the water table. This process could also contribute to VOC contamination of Grove Pond wells located near Plow Shop Pond.

In summary, the Fort Devens landfill may represent a water quality concern to wells surrounding Grove Pond, particularly in the vicinity of Plow Shop Pond. However, continued monitoring of groundwater quality at the landfill and careful siting of future wells surrounding Grove Pond should enable the Town to have an adequately protected water supply.

On Tuesday, February 19, 1991 Doug Reed and Mr. Richard Heeley, S E A's senior hydrogeologist who completed this preliminary evaluation will be meeting with the Board of Selectmen to more fully explain these preliminary findings.

In the interim, should you have questions on this matter please do not contact me at 497-7800.

Very truly yours,

S E A CONSULTANTS INC.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Anthony J. Zuena', followed by a small 'P.E.' monogram.

Anthony J. Zuena, P.E.

AJZ/jiw
ayer\tofwa101.ltr

cc: William G. Redfield, Director, Ayer DPW
Douglas F. Reed, S E A
Richard W. Heeley, S E A