

Selectmen's Meeting
Ayer Town Hall
February 27, 1990

7:30PM Open Session

Present: Chairman Jones, Selectman Sifakis and Tim Higgins,
Executive Secretary--Absent: Selectman Slarsky

The Selectman approved the minutes of 2/13/90, a motion to approve was made by Selectman Sifakis, 2nd by Chairman Jones and passed. It was agreed to waive approval of the minutes of 2/20/90, until the next meeting.

The Board signed the Weekly Warrant: Expenses: \$195,514.26 and Payroll \$34,311.54

Advisory Committee:

Present for the Meeting were Chairman Miller and Charles McKinney, Member.

Mr. Miller reported that with the exception of the School, all of the budgets had been reviewed and were approximately \$1.2 million higher than last year, even though most budgets were in compliance. The Board in discussion noted that even with level funding, there would still be cutbacks in personnel and services. An over-ride of proposition 2 1/2 was reviewed. Selectman Sifakis suggested that if the Town attempts the over-ride, it has to be specific and definite. Mr. McKenney agreed that the Town should be prepared and offer two scenarios, one with the over-ride and secondly without the over ride, he also suggested meeting with Treasurer, to discuss concerns about borrowing. It was agreed by both Boards that the Townspeople have to be fully behind an override. Mr Miller noted that his committee and the Selectmen would be meeting with Department Heads during early March, and that late in the month a Public Hearing would be scheduled then the override question would go on the Ballot. Mr. Higgins stated that he would ccheck on the total amount of debt for five years. It was also noted that a decision would have to be made on a date for the Annual Town Meeting. In conclusion Mr. Miller emphasised the importance of the over-ride.

Supt Redfield's Report

(See Report dated 2/27/90)

Chairman Jones asked Mr. Redfield about his budget, Supt Redfield replied that in December it was approximately \$9,000 dollars over, he noted that within a week's time he would know about the salary account. The Board asked that the Town Accountant submit a summary line on the budget reports. Mr Redfield requested permission to stop snow removal pickup on Main St., W. Main St., and the bridges on W. and E. Main Streets. This was agreed to by the Selectmen.

SEA Addendum re: Safe Water Impact Amendment Ref. No. 89169.IV

Mr. Redfield presented copies of the addendum to the Board for their review. (see copy on file in the Selectmen's office.) Chairman Jones stated that the Board would take this under advisement until the next meeting and asked about grant funding.

Request for Proposals for the Belt Filter Press

Mr Redfield noted that NE Hydro Transmission Electric Co., Inc had entered into an agreement with the Town concerning Use Impact. He noted that the agreement allowed NEH to connect into the Town's Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities in exchange for NEH providing \$250,000.00 for the design and installation of a belt filter press at the Town of Ayer's treatment facility. He noted that two sets of bidding documents will be prepared. One, for the furnishing and delivery of a belt press and appurtenant equipment and a second set of documents for the installation of the belt press. He noted that by entering into this agreement the Town realized a savings in electrical, chemical and manpower costs for treating wastewater and this would not affect other Town budgets.

Executive Secretary's Report (see report dated 2/27/90)

Mr Higgins noted that there had been two complaints by automobile owners concerning damages sustained by Pot Holes and that these people were asking restitution by the Town. Mr Higgins advised the Board that he had reviewed the matter with Atty Gardner and Mr. Redfield, and that the Town should not be liable, the Board asked him to draft letters to the owners advising them of the situation.

Mr. Higgins noted that Pete Rockwood had submitted a letter of resignation as Civil Defense Director. The Board accepted the letter with regrets, a motion to accept the resignation was made by Selectman Sifakis seconded by Chairman Jones. Chairman Jones read a letter of appreciation from the Board to be sent to Mr. Rockwood. Mr. Higgins suggested appointing the Fire Chief as

Civil Defense Director, if this would be acceptable.

Mr. Higgins noted that the rollins OT grievance is scheduled to be re-examined. He also submitted a Personnel Policy for the Board's Review and signature re: All Department Heads Reporting any leave time used to the Selectmen's Office. He continued that he and Chief Connors will be meeting with the newly organized Commuynication Workers of America Union for the initial negotiating session on March 21st, and added that Henry Stewart has been consulted and that they are working together to put together the Town's proposal.

Tim submitted a draft of the Selectmen's Report for the Annual Town Report for the Board's review. Tim noted that he had attended a MMA meeting in Boston regarding the return of 40% of revenue back to the Town.

Chief Connors - Dispatcher Position

Chief Connors noted that Susan Gould would be resigning as Telecommunicator in March. He noted that he had interviewed three candidates and that his first choice was Sharon McGee and introduced her to the Board. After an interview a motion to appoint Mrs McGee as Telecommunicator, step I and on 1 year probation and contingent on passing a physical was made by Selectman Sifakis, seconded by Chairman Jones and passed.

Chief Connors noted that he had a liquor license violation letter which just stated the hours of operation and suffggested that the Town incorporate or state "last call" that the language is to vague as stated on the license. Selectman Sifakis asked if the Police enforced the law , Chief Connors stated that in past years the department wqould notify the Selectmen. He noted also that Chapter 138 could be enforced. It was agreed that Chief Connors and Mr Higgins meet and get some guidelines on this problem.

9:30PM Selectman Sifakis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chairman Jones and passed.



