

## **Stoneham Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting of April 10, 2012**

Vice Chairman Frank Vallarelli called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Selectmen Thomas Boussy, John F. DePinto, Richard S. Gregorio, Robert W. Sweeney, Town Administrator David Ragucci, and Town Counsel William H. Solomon.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Reorganization**

Selectman Sweeney nominated Frank Vallarelli for Chairman, seconded by Selectman Boussy. Selectman DePinto moved to close nominations. **Motion was unanimously voted.** Selectman Gregorio nominated Robert Sweeney as Vice Chairman. Motion was seconded. Selectman DePinto moved to close nominations, **unanimously voted.** Main motion was **unanimously voted.** Selectman Sweeney nominated Thomas Boussy as Secretary, seconded by Selectman DePinto. Selectman DePinto moved to close nominations, **unanimously voted.** Main motion was **unanimously voted.**

### **Appoint Member to Board of Registrars**

Selectman Sweeney moved to reappoint Paul Means to the Board of Registrars, seconded by Selectman DePinto. **Motion was unanimously voted.**

### **Appoint Members to Committees**

#### **Board of Appeals**

**One appointment for a three-year term effective until 4/30/15**

**Two appointments for one-year terms effective until 4/30/13**

Selectman Sweeney moved to appoint Robert Saltzman to the three-year term. Motion was seconded and **unanimously voted.**

Selectman Sweeney nominated all three candidates for Associate Members. Motion was seconded and **unanimously voted.** Voting was as follows:

Selectman Sweeney – Gerard Cunningham and Harry Sampson  
Selectman Boussy – Gerard Cunningham and Harry Sampson  
Selectman DePinto – Gerard Cunningham and Harry Sampson  
Selectman Gregorio – Gerard Cunningham and Tobin Shulman  
Chairman Vallarelli – Gerard Cunningham and Tobin Shulman

Gerard Cunningham and Harry Sampson were appointed as Associate Members.

### **Conservation Commission**

**Two appointments for three-year terms effective until 4/30/15**

Selectman Sweeney moved to appoint Dan Towse and Robert Conway to three-year terms. Motion was seconded and **unanimously voted.**

### **Council on Aging**

**Three appointments for three-year terms effective until 4/30/15**

**One appointment for an unexpired term effective until 4/30/13**

Selectman Gregorio moved to reappoint Gene Ferullo and Carol Covill to three-year terms, seconded by Selectman Sweeney. **Motion was unanimously voted.**

### **Historical Commission**

**Two appointments for three-year terms effective until 4/30/15**

Selectman DePinto moved to reappoint Paul Foley and Marcia Wengen to three-year terms, seconded by Selectman Sweeney. **Motion was unanimously voted.**

### **Capital Plan/Capital Committee**

Selectman Gregorio said the Capital Committee has been working with different groups and department heads to come up with a wish list. He said they met with the Finance Board, they will get the Selectmen's comments, and then the School Committee. He said they are proposing to spend \$135,000, with \$125,000 from the Capital Account and \$10,000 from Perpetual Care for the cemetery.

He reviewed the list for this May. He mentioned investing in the High School from the General Fund in two years. He said the Chief is buying enough tasers for a shift. He said \$10,000 seemed to be a wise investment for safety.

### **Accept and Number Warrant Articles and Sign Special Town Meeting Warrant**

Selectman Gregorio moved to accept Article 6. Motion was seconded and **unanimously voted.** Selectman DePinto moved to accept Article 7 as the Selectmen's article. Motion was seconded and **unanimously voted.**

Selectman Gregorio moved to accept all the articles and include them as numbered.

Selectman Sweeney moved to move up the Town Administrator's Report. Motion was seconded and **unanimously voted.** Town Administrator Ragucci said there was one bidder for North School - Mr. Collins. He said the Committee voted to recommend to the Selectmen to accept the bid. He said it was for \$700,000. He said he thinks the dollar amount is insufficient. He said the Committee voted 3-2-2 to recommend the bid to the Board. He said that, subsequent to that meeting, he and Atty. Vaughan had a discussion and Atty. Vaughan agreed to increase the bid on the two front lots by \$10,000 each, bringing the total bid to \$720,000. He said it was appraised at \$850,000, based on 10 house lots. Selectman Sweeney thanked Chairman Vallarelli, who he said was also involved with getting the \$20,000.

Town Counsel Solomon said it would save dollars if they vote for the replacement Article 1. He said no replacement is needed on the second article as it is all set as he submitted it. Selectman Sweeney moved to accept the replacement Article 1, seconded by Selectman Boussy. Voting was 3-2 in favor, with Selectmen Gregorio and DePinto opposed. **Motion carried.** It was decided to put the vote to accept the school and the vote to accept the bid from Mr. Collins on the 5/1 agenda. Chairman Vallarelli said it will be two votes, a vote to accept the school from the School Committee and a vote to accept the proposal submitted from Mr. Collins for \$720,000, based on his scenario of keeping the school and three house lots. Selectman Gregorio stated, for the record, that he believes they should vote in favor of Article 2 but not in favor of the bid. Selectman Sweeney moved to accept Article 2, seconded by Selectman Boussy. **Motion was unanimously voted.** Mark Drew then said he would like to go with those articles and withdraw their own articles. Jim Brunini also said he would like to withdraw their own articles and go with the Board's articles.

### **Policy Regarding Eligibility of Elected Officials Whose Duties Regularly Require Less Than 20 Hours Per Week/GIC**

Selectman Gregorio said that he clearly does not want the insurance, but he asked what would happen if he sent a letter notifying the Town Administrator that he considers himself working 21 hours a week for the work that he does for this town. Town Counsel Solomon said his sense is that a reasonable standard for the position would apply. He said the question of whether the duties of that position reasonably require a minimum of 20 hours is an open question. He said if it comes up it will be determined by this Board. Selectman DePinto moved to accept this policy and, if it passes, that the Town Administrator send it out by mail. Town Counsel said the GIC says that they continue to receive it to 6/30. Motion was seconded by Selectman Boussy. Voting was 4-1 in favor, with Selectman Gregorio opposed. **Motion carried.**

### **Old Burving Ground Preservation Restriction Approval**

Selectman Sweeney said that it was asked that this be postponed.

**Accept Gifts**

Selectman Sweeney moved to accept the following donations for the A.P. Rounds Playground: Domenico Colucci (Soccer) \$300; Natl Coalition for Early Childhood Professionals \$100; Patricia & Christopher Quinn \$10; Kathleen Danieli \$50; Jennifer & Andrew Black \$30; Michael & Diane Catricala \$50; Joshua M. Wong \$600; Filip Swirski & Kaley Joyes \$15; Angelika Paul & Joshua Downer \$188; Wincrest Properties, LLC \$1,000; cash donations (money order) \$100.55; Ezra Walsh \$27. Motion was seconded and so voted.

**Use \$10,000 of Board of Selectmen Gift Account/Fellsway Development for Appraisal of Stoneham Oaks and Brookbridge/Hall Rd Town Properties**

Mr. Ragucci said they are looking into other uses of Stoneham Oaks other than as a par three golf course. Selectman Sweeney said not necessarily to take the recreational aspect out of it. Mr. Ragucci said the first step would be to get an appraisal of Stoneham Oaks and the replacement land. He said Stoneham Oaks is under Article 97 and to reuse it they have to replace it with a property of equal or greater value. He said they've identified land on Brookbridge/Hall Road that the Town owns. Selectman Gregorio asked Town Counsel if, given his residence on Crystal Drive, he should abstain. Town Counsel said it depends on the financial interest. He recommended that he not participate tonight, since it is only a discussion. Selectman Sweeney moved to release \$10,000 out of the fund, seconded by Selectman Boussy. Voting was 4-0-1, with Selectman Gregorio abstaining. **Motion carried.**

**Approve Block Party/Citation Ave**

Selectman DePinto moved to accept the Block Party, subject to Police and Fire. Motion was seconded by Selectman Boussy and **unanimously voted.**

**Liquor Licensing Authority**

Selectman Gregorio moved to go into Liquor Licensing Authority. Motion was seconded, and a roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Selectman Sweeney  
Selectman Boussy  
Selectman Gregorio  
Selectman DePinto  
Chairman Vallarelli

**Motion was unanimously voted.**

**Meeting recessed at 8:39 p.m. to go into Liquor Licensing Authority.**

**Meeting reconvened at 8:42 p.m.**

**Miscellaneous Correspondence**

Selectman Sweeney said Autism Month had a fund raiser that was an unbelievable success. He said they made over \$7,000. He said every year they will improve on the blue lights. A resident of 61 Washington Ave said he is interested in the home at 12 Tremont Street. He asked if the Town can contact the holding company in India. Town Counsel said he has a contact and will call him with the information. The resident also said people are using the sidewalk at St. Patrick Church as a parking area. Chairman Vallarelli said the Police have been enforcing that. Selectman Sweeney said they will notify the Police to keep an eye on it.

**Town Administrator Reports**

Mr. Ragucci said he met with the DCR and they will implement the one-way on 5/5. He said they will do it for 6 months and assess it. Chairman Vallarelli asked if they can flyer the neighborhood. Town Counsel Solomon said DCR is doing a press release and he will do it through his office plus cable and internet. Mr. Ragucci asked if the Board would allow him to cross train his staff because when the Board's Office Manager was out he said it became a scramble to get things done. He said he would like to start this as a summer project in July. He said his staff is already cross-trained. Selectman Sweeney asked if there will be no raises involved with Mr. Ragucci's staff taking on more duties. Mr. Ragucci agreed. Mr. Ragucci

said the MBTA will not be cutting its one bus route in Stoneham, but unfortunately they will be paying substantially more. Selectman Sweeney said he had called the Governor concerning this. Selectman Gregorio said the other route, which he had mentioned, is on Montvale Ave in Woburn, and they are only cutting it for midday.

**Executive Session**

Motion was made and seconded to go into executive session and not return as the Board of Selectmen, for the purpose of discussing litigation. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Selectman Sweeney  
Selectman Boussy  
Selectman Gregorio  
Selectman DePinto  
Chairman Vallarelli

**Motion was unanimously voted.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel Doherty