Board of Selectmen Meeting
Minutes

Date: Wednesday March 2, 2011

Time: 7:10 p.m.

Members present: Peter McMurray and Joe Casey

Representative Bastien and Senator Flanagan Discuss FY2012 Budget:

Sen. Flanagan listed committees she is a member of and says State’s numbers are way down. Tax collections are up as of this Month. Rep: Bastien spoke on Governor’s Budget being not the final budget. Picture is bleak though 2013. School Committee Member Ken Brown asked both not to cut education funding Rep. Bastien states this is going to be the most difficult budget this far and in the future. Multiple proposals for Health Care and Retirement Reform are being presented to the Legislature both at the State and Local level. Both state that they are not looking to raise taxes or have any fee increases. There is no proposal to do this. Senate is looking at Financial Aid Packages. Rep. Bastien strongly suggested that people make their comments in regards to Unitil’s rate increase by Friday March 4th. PM concerned as to timing of vote on State Budget and how it effects the timing of Town Meetings. Town Meetings are held before any determinations are made on State Budget and makes it very hard to try and do funding. Both Rep. B and Senator F both state that March and April are the critical months to obtain the figures for the budget. PM asked if there are other ways of cutting funding for Chapter 70 money. He considers this to be a top priority. Senator F states that Chapter 70 funds and local aid are their top priority. PM questions Regionalization and the lack of support from government on this issue ie: funding and guidance. JC questioned where the Stimulus Funds went. Ashby has not seen any of that money. Money all went to larger cities and towns. Questioned the number of Representatives and Senator representing this area. Suggested changing budget cycle times to coincide with Town Meetings. Resident asked about the new Open Meeting Law and why Senate and House are exempt. Sen. F states all sessions are posted and are available on line for viewing. She tried to explain how discussing things with their counterparts is sometimes necessary to get things done. Citizen’s feel this is a double standard. Citizen asked both guests why they don’t try to help citizens of cities and towns and not work on how to spend their money. PM thanked both for their time and for all they have done to help the town (Left at 8:30)

PM reminded everyone of deadline for nomination papers.

2) Motion to approve minutes of February 16, 2011 as recorded.

Motion: Joe Casey Seconded: Peter McMurray Vote: Unan

3) Warrant #: W35P approve and sign Payroll Warrant in the amount of $43,094.38 subject to further review.

Motion: Joe Casey Seconded: Peter McMurray Vote: Unan
4) Warrant #: W36B approve and sign Vendor Warrant in the amount of $86,804.00.11 subject to further review.

Motion: Joe Casey  Seconded: Peter McMurray  Vote: Unan

5) Warrant #: W36B1 approve and sign Vendor Warrant in the amount of $19,447.85 subject to further review.

Motion: Joe Casey  Seconded: Peter McMurray  Vote: Unan

6) Motion to approve and sign on Request for Reserve Fund Transfer #11-27 in the amount of $200.00 to the Police Expense Account.

Motion: Joe Casey  Seconded: Peter McMurray  Vote: Unan

Selectmen Discuss USDA Community Programs Direct Loan (Treasurer): Meeting held to help figure out how to fund Town’s portion of SBA grant. Town must meet eligibility requirements. She thinks Town’s portion will probably be around $600,000 and how do we plan to pay this? PM will know more about this on Friday. Reimbursement should be around 52% and should start to move quickly after Friday’s meeting. PM will get in touch with Treasurer and give her info on how everything is layed out and how to proceed.

7) Motion to approve and sign on Amendment #1 for Ashby CDBG FY10 Housing Rehabilitation Program for Jack McCarthy DBA Home Tech, contract for Housing Rehabilitation Specialist.

Motion: Joe Casey  Seconded: Peter McMurray  Vote: Unan

8) Motion to approve and sign on Amendment #1 for Ashby CDBG FY10 Housing Rehabilitation and Infrastructure Programs for Montachusett Regional Planning Commission, contract for Grants Management Services.

Motion: Joe Casey  Seconded: Peter McMurray  Vote: Unan

9) Motion to approve and sign on Amendment #1 for Ashby CDBG FY10 Housing Rehabilitation Program for Thomas C. Gustafson, Esquire contract for Title Rundown and Recording Services.

Motion: Joe Casey  Seconded: Peter McMurray  Vote: Unan

10) Motion to approve and sign on Amendment #2 for Ashby CDBG FY09 Joint Housing Rehabilitation Program for Thomas C. Gustafson, Esquire contract for Housing Rehabilitation Specialist.

Motion: Joe Casey  Seconded: Peter McMurray  Vote: Unan
11) Motion to approve and sign on Amendment #2 for Ashby CDBG FY09 Joint Housing Rehabilitation Program and Financial Literacy Training Program for Greater Gardner Community Development Corporation contract for Financial Literacy Consultant.

Motion: Joe Casey  
Seconded: Peter McMurray  
Vote: Unan

12) Motion to approve and sign on Amendment #2 for Ashby CDBG FY09 Joint Housing Rehabilitation Program for Montachusett Regional Planning Commission contract for Grants Management Services.

Motion: Joe Casey  
Seconded: Peter McMurray  
Vote: Unan

13) Motion to approve and sign on Amendment #2 for Ashby CDBG FY09 Joint Housing Rehabilitation Program for Jack McCarthy DBA Home Tech contract for Housing Rehabilitation Specialist.

Motion: Joe Casey  
Seconded: Peter McMurray  
Vote: Unan

14) Motion to approve and sign on Amendment #1 for Ashby CDBG FY09 Joint Housing Rehabilitation Program for Jack McCarthy DBA Home Tech contract for Housing Rehabilitation Specialist.

Motion: Joe Casey  
Seconded: Peter McMurray  
Vote: Unan

15) Motion to approve and sign on Amendment #1 for Ashby CDBG FY09 Joint Housing Rehabilitation Program for Thomas C. Gustafson, Esquire contract for Title Rundown and Recording Services.

Motion: Joe Casey  
Seconded: Peter McMurray  
Vote: Unan

16) Motion to approve and sign on Amendment #1 for Ashby CDBG FY09 Joint Housing Rehabilitation Program for Montachusett Regional Planning Commission contract for Grant Management Services.

Motion: Joe Casey  
Seconded: Peter McMurray  
Vote: Unan

17) Motion to approve and sign on Amendment #1 for Ashby CDBG FY09 Joint Housing Rehabilitation Program and Financial Literacy Training Program for Greater Gardner Community Development Corporation contract for Financial Literacy Consultant.

Motion: Joe Casey  
Seconded: Peter McMurray  
Vote: Unan

Request for Selectmen to appoint Mary Kraph to the Economic Development Plan Committee (Alan Pease)

Motion: Joe Casey  
Seconded: Peter McMurray  
Vote: Unan
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Request for Selectmen to designate representatives for Group Solor RFP Evaluations or vote to have separate evaluations at working session (Alan Pease): This is a technical evaluation only. After working this up they will go with the best technical bid. Mr. Pease is asking for a member of the BOS and himself to be appointed to this committee. JC will do it if Mr. Hubert cannot.

18) Motion to approve and vote their intent to lay out the road known as Daily Drive as a public way and to refer this matter to the Planning Board.

Motion: Joe Casey  Seconded: Peter McMurray  Vote: Unan

19) Motion for the Selectmen to accept the resignation of George Beauegard as Municipal Grounds Keeper effective March 1, 2011.

Motion: Joe Casey  Seconded: Peter McMurray  Vote: Unan

20) Motion granting Selectmen’s Permission to Hold 5k Benefit Road Race on April 9, 2011. PM states Fitchburg High School is asking for permission to turn around at Old Northfield Rd.

Motion: Joe Casey  Seconded: Peter McMurray  Vote: Unan

21) Motion granting Selectmen’s Permission to hold Annual Girl Scout 5k Benefit Road Race and use of Allen Field on June 4, 2011.

Motion: Joe Casey  Seconded: Peter McMurray  Vote: Unan

Assistant to the Board of Selectmen’s Report.

Public Comments (if any): Sally Bauman remarked on idea of sharing Town Administrator. Would like to know what happened to Collins Center recommendation. Discussion then continued on other shared positions. Next BOS Meeting March 16th, 2011

Assistant to the Board of Selectmen’s Report.

22) Motion to adjourn at 9:45 p.m.

Motion: Joe Casey  Seconded: Peter McMurray  Vote: Unan

Signed by: ____________________________

Joe Casey

Date: ____________

Date Minutes Approved by Board of Selectmen: _________________________