

**Selectmen Present:** Ralph S. Dormitzer  
Gary Vanderweil  
Frederick R. Koed  
Edwin G. Carr

**Selectman Absent:** Robert B. Spofford

**Others Present:** William R. Griffin, Town Manager  
Jennifer B. Oram, Recording Secretary  
Linda Elworthy  
Linda Litchfield, Treasurer/Collector

Chairman Ralph Dormitzer called the meeting to order at 7:00PM

**Town Manager’s Report**

Mr. Griffin announced the appointment of the new Director of Elder Affairs, Linda Elworthy. Mr. Griffin reviewed the interview process that was followed to hire a new Director and stated that after a lengthy interview process, it was obvious that Ms. Elworthy was the best candidate. Ms. Elworthy then addressed the Board and reviewed her background. **Selectman Koed moved to waive the 15-day waiting period to make the appointment and made a motion to appoint Ms. Elworthy as the new Director of Elder Affairs. Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

**Selectmen Comment Period**

Selectman Carr stated that he would like to plan an event for the merchants to celebrate the newly renovated village. Selectman Carr stated he would work with the merchants and the Greenbush team to see what could come to fruition.

Chairman Dormitzer reviewed the outcome of the Executive Session from the previous Board meeting where the Town Manager’s performance review was discussed. Chairman Dormitzer stated for the community that the Board is very pleased to have Mr. Griffin here in the office of Town Manager.

Chairman Dormitzer then went on to say that the Board, the Advisory Committee and the School Committee have a meeting tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss the budget. The meeting is tentative however, as they are waiting on information from the State about Chapter 70 money. Chairman Dormitzer also congratulated the Boys Lacrosse Team for winning the Division 3 State Championships.

Chairman Dormitzer then read a memo from the Police Department about seatbelt safety. **Selectman Koed made a motion to declare the week of June 18, 2006 “Buckle-Up week”, Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

Chairman Dormitzer suggested putting together a working group to work on the 5 year financial forecast for the Town. He stated that two people, Mr. Jack Keniley and Mr. Rick Swanborg, had both expressed interest in volunteering for this group. The Board agreed that this working group was a good idea. Chairman Dormitzer said he would draft a charge for the group. Chairman Dormitzer then reviewed the downtown revitalization project, beginning with where the project was currently, and then going back. He stated that the project was near completion, with the first of the new crosswalks going in this week, as well as trees, bricks in the pocket parks, the granite sets and the street lining. Chairman Dormitzer reviewed the Town's history with Waterfield Design Corp., and explained that \$300,000 had been spent with them, so when Mr. Griffin came in, they bid it out to other companies. When they did so, the prices came in too high, so they had reduce where they could do. He stated that they have done quite a bit with the \$1.2 million that was left of the grant, and that they had cut many items, including several of the bump-outs. Chairman Dormitzer also explained that the bump outs, and curb height that is left in the village area, are ADA requirements. He explained that the infrastructure (drainage etc.) was done, and that hopefully the Town would get more grant money in the future, and this would allow for more paving and even more improvements.

### **Public Comment Period**

Ronnie McMorris, of 89 Doane Street, stated that she had asked the Board for an accounting of the Downtown Revitalization project and asked when that would be forthcoming. She also stated that she felt the pavers and the pocket parks seemed to differ from the original plan. Chairman Dormitzer disagreed, and stated that Mrs. McMorris was on the committee that endorsed these changes, and that he had the minutes of the meetings.

Mr. Wayne Sawchuck, of 432 Beachwood Street, asked the Board about the parking spots in front of his property in the downtown village. He stated that before the revitalization, he had three spots, and now he will only have one. He said he measured everything, and talked with the Fire Chief, and he stated that they both felt there was room to have two spots. Chairman Dormitzer said he would ask the Greenbush team to look into the issue.

### **Bond Signing**

**Selectman Vanderweil moved that the Board authorize the sale of bond anticipation note totaling the sum of \$2,000,000.00 to fund \$1,800,000.00 in water system improvements and \$200,000.00 for sewer engineering. Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

**Selectman Vanderweil moved that the Board authorize the sale of a state aid anticipation note totaling the sum of \$125,000.00 to fund the Heather Drive Drainage project. Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

**Mike Cooper – National Grid – Distributed Antenna System**

Mr. Cooper addressed the Board and explained why he now works with the Carriers to bring in DAS systems into towns like Cohasset. He explained that the wireless carriers can not get towers zoned easily, and that his company, National Grid, works with the carriers and the towns to come up with a solution. To do this, they use a hub in a town, in Cohasset's case; they would most likely use a hub that has been built in Hull. They then place nodes on poles; they are estimating 13 for the Town of Cohasset. There is no revenue for the Town. What it really provides is better reception for the residents. The Board then had a lengthy conversation with Mr. Cooper about the DAS systems, and what other benefits could come from the relationship (i.e. wireless internet etc.). The Board thanked Mr. Cooper for his time, but stated they would need to review all of the information before any decision could be made.

**Bia Bistro – Public Hearing on Extension of Licensed Premises**

Tristen and Brain Houlihan, Manager and Owner of Bia Bistro, addressed the Board and asked that they be allowed to extend their outdoor patio by approximately 140 square feet. Mr. and Mrs. Houlihan described the dimensions of the proposed extension, and stated that there was only one way that people could gain access. They stated that they would be adding about 6 tables, and would be serving lunch and a light Tapas menu for dinner. **Selectman Carr moved to grant the extension with approval from the ABCC, Selectman Vanderweil seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous (Selectman Carr, Selectman Vanderweil and Chairman Dormitzer). Selectman Koed recused himself from the vote.**

**Committee Appointments**

Harbor Health Committee – Mr. Frank Moody of 37 Rustic Drive explained that he had been attending Harbor Health Committee meetings for the past nine months and was eager to become a member. **Selectman Vanderweil moved to approve the appointment, Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

**Cable Advisory Committee** – Pat Martin, of 169 Linden Drive, and Host of “Our Town”, reviewed her background and explained why she wanted to be a member of this committee. Mr. Stephen Oronte, of 2 Bound Brook Lane, reviewed his background and explained that he understood the Telecomm industry very well. **Selectman Vanderweil moved to recommend both appointments, Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

**Building Department and Ambulance Fees**

**Building Department** – Mr. Griffin reviewed the four permitting functions of the Building Department – Building Permit Fees, Wiring Permit Fees, Plumbing/Gas Permit Fees and Sealer of Weights Fees. Mr. Griffin explained that in three of the four

categories, the Town is realizing, actually almost doubling, what the Town spends out. Therefore, his only suggestion would be to increase the Sealer of Weights Fees to bring that division into a full cost recovery. Selectman Vanderweil suggested that as the Board reviews fees for each department, it should be taken into account occupancy costs, fringe benefits etc. He stated he would fax Mr. Griffin a copy of such a breakdown from his company. **Selectman Vanderweil moved to raise the per scale fee from the current \$10.00 per scale, to \$25.00 per scale and the current pump fee of \$10.00 per pump to \$25.00 per pump. Selectman Carr seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

**Ambulance Fees** – Mr. Griffin reviewed the information from his memo that was provided by Comstar, the company that handles all of the Town's ambulance fees for billing and collections. Comstar recommends that the Town bill 30% over the Medicare allowed rates as they have discovered that the Medicare reimbursement rates are approximately 70% of the true cost. Currently, the Town charges approximately 24.5% above the Medicare allowed rate. Mr. Griffin also recommended that the Board authorize him to adjust the billing rates in the future, and that the Town contract with a third-party collection agency to pursue past due bills. **Selectman Vanderweil moved to approve the 30% above the Medicare allowed rate, and authorize Mr. Griffin to adjust the rates in the future. The Board did not wish to vote on a collection agency at this time. Selectman. Selectman Koed seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.**

### **School Budget Considerations**

Selectman Vanderweil had submitted a list of possible School Budget Considerations for the Board to review. Chairman of the School Committee, Adrienne McCarthy, submitted responses during the meeting. She addressed the Board, and thanked Mr. Griffin for cc: her on the item that Selectman Vanderweil had composed. She asked that in the future, that either the Chair, or the Co-chair, contact her directly as a sign of respect. Chairman Dormitzer explained that the list was something for the Board to review amongst themselves, and then, if need be, it would become an agenda item. There was then further discussion, after which, Chairman Dormitzer stated that the Board would review Ms. McCarthy's responses and place it on a future agenda.

### **Committee Reappointments**

**Chairman Dormitzer reviewed the list of committee reappointments. Selectman Vanderweil moved to approve them, Selectman Koed seconded it, and the vote was unanimous.**

### **Fire Services Task Force**

Mr. Griffin read the charge for this proposed Task Force. He stated that for the past year, there had been a considerable amount of debate regarding fire and emergency medical services from both an economic and service level perspective. This Task Force would

delve into many areas and complete a report to the Board by no later than December 30, 2006. Selectman Vanderweil suggested that the appointment of members to a Task Force be “phase 2” in the process, and that the first phase should actually be gathering data. Robert Silvia, of 65 Forest Avenue, and a member of the Fire Department, stated that the Town has done these analyses before, and what the Board needed to do was to go back to those committees and find out what questions they asked to gather their data. After further discussion amongst the Board, and members of the Fire Department who were present, it was decided to go about the Task Force in the following way: Phase 1 – gather the data, Phase 2 – put together the Task Force and Phase 3 – analyze the data and put together a report for the Board.

**Licenses**

**Selectman Koed moved to approve a junk collector’s license for Cohasset Jewelers, Selectman Carr seconded it, and the vote was unanimous.**

**Selectman Vanderweil moved to approve a one-day liquor license for a reception at the Paul Pratt Memorial Library on Friday, July 7, 2006 from 5-7PM, Selectman Koed seconded it, and the vote was unanimous.**

**Selectman Koed moved to adjourn the meeting, Selectman Carr seconded it, and the vote was unanimous.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:15PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph S. Dormitzer  
Chairman