

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING OF MARCH 9, 2010  
HARMONY HALL

PRESENT – George A. Malliaros, Chairman, Joseph DiRocco, Jr., Vice-Chairman, John J. Zimini, Clerk, James M. O’Loughlin, Robert O. Cox, Glen Edwards, Asst. Manager/Town Planner and Barbara Souza, Recording Secretary.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Dennis E. Piendak, Town Manager, was recorded absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silence being observed for those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of this country as well as those currently serving in the military particularly in Iraq and Afghanistan. Mr. Malliaros said he would also like to honor the memory of Dennis Piendak’s brother George who passed away suddenly yesterday. Mr. O’Loughlin said he would also like to include former Veteran’s Agent for the Town of Dracut Mr. Maurice “Moe” Vigeant. Mr. Cox added PFC Eric Currier of the U.S. Marine Corp who was recently killed in Afghanistan. A moment of silence was observed.

WARRANT – Motion by Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. DiRocco **it was unanimously voted to approve the warrant.**

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT – Mr. Edwards reported that Dracut will receive an e-Government Award next Tuesday, March 16th at the State House; the receipt of this award is based upon providing improved access to the internet whereby people are able to review government documents. Federal Census – Households in Dracut received a letter yesterday announcing that the Federal Census will be in their mailboxes next week. He noted that there has been some confusion among residents because they just filled out their local census and explained how important it is; he encouraged all households to fill that Federal Census form out and return it. Flood Maps – People received letters from their insurance companies having to do with flood plain jurisdiction changes in Dracut; he said its true there are new maps coming out; the detail is better and are easier to read but they are basically the same. There are nine changes on them and all nine changes are only from property owners who hired an engineer that sent data into FEMA that proved they were not in the flood plain; FEMA made those changes and said in June there will be a Town Meeting article to bring our zoning bylaws into compliance with the new zoning maps. Lowell Sun Article/Buy-Down for Affordable Housing – Mr. Edwards said he wanted to clarify something that was in the article; the article explained and it’s true that officials are

concerned that we're losing affordable units that are zoning sacrificed and were told they would basically last forever. The reason being when you're out shopping for a house now in Dracut, often you can find a comparable market rate unrestricted house for about the same price, so if they can't sell the affordable house within 90-days, it turns market rate; DHCD suggested this buy-down program is a way to stall it. This has been presented to the Affordable Housing Partnership and Community Preservation Committee. He said everyone on those committees has strong reservations about that, that they want people to be aware that we are losing units and that this suggested solution be brought to the voters so they can decide. He said the article stated that town officials were in favor of taking community preservation funds and buying down lowering the prices on these houses; that he would say is untrue. There are reservations; they just want the people to realize what's going on and to have a voice in this. The Community Preservation has set up a subcommittee and they are preparing an article and hopefully it will be ready for this June and if not, it will be at the November Town Meeting. The Arlington Street Sewer Project is ongoing; the flushing and testing of the lines is going on. Road patching will be done and it is anticipated that mid to late summer people will receive written notification that they will be able to tie into sewer. The East Dracut Project is ongoing; they are working off street now and in early April the work crews will be back in the street. Dillon/McAnespie Park - now that the frost is out of the ground, the contractor is back to work.

Mr. Cox stated to Mr. Edwards that he liked the letter that he sent out to the 40B people and liked the fact that he was aggressive and just wanted to say that he (Edwards) did a great job.

Mr. O'Loughlin stated that he is glad Mr. Edwards brought that up as he had that listed to bring it up for clarification under new business; he is not surprised there were some inconsistencies or some errors in the story from the Lowell Sun because it seems that's become their norm. What he really found offensive was the headline for that story, "Cheap Houses"; whether or not they fall under affordable housing or not they actually showed pictures of people's homes and feels its offensive to the people living in these homes. They may not be three, four or five hundred thousand dollar homes but they are good homes and there are people working hard to maintain them and again said he found it to be a very offensive way to highlight that article and feels it was careless at best and insensitive. Mr. O'Loughlin continued to say that with regard to what Mr. Edwards was just talking about that DHCD thinks that maybe it's a good idea that the towns spend taxpayer money to buy down on some of these houses to make them once again affordable, he feels what DHCD

should be looking at instead, is a change in the State's rules and regulations that would preclude some of these towns from having to be put into this position in the first place. Following some additional comments, Mr. O'Loughlin said he feels DHCD and our State Representatives need to take a hard look at the laws that are on the books and to get rid of this because quite frankly, we all know the abuse a lot of these projects are and they just become more and more abusive and instead of at some point saying we have to take a hard look at this, they say "let's go back to the taxpayer again and tell them to subsidize this for the second time." He thinks it is crazy and said he is glad Mr. Edwards brought that up at this time.

PUBLIC HEARING (CONTINUANCE) – T-MOBILE NORTHEAST, LLC/Special Permit Application/Wireless Communications Facility/25 K Street - Mr. Malliaros noted that a letter of request was received by the applicant requesting a continuance until the meeting of March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Motion by Mr. DiRocco, seconded by Mr. Cox **it was unanimously voted to grant the continuance until March 23, 2010 at 7:20 p.m.**

APPOINTMENT/Steve Coravos re: Elderly Housing Proposal/760 Nashua Road – Mr. Coravos stated that he brought Mr. Ed Marchand with him this evening; Mr. Marchand is their consultant. He explained that they purchased the site of the former Coq'Dor (was also Ronnie's Steak House) and said they would like to build two 30-unit buildings, rental units for over 62-years of age.

Mr. Marchand proceeded to explain the proposal. He said what is different about this is it is rental and said Steve's partner in this will be Campbell Real Estate; they are significant property owners and managers and own almost 4,000 units; the resources are there and that is the important note he would like to make. He said funding is available and said it is a relatively small development as far as developments go. There will be two 30-unit identical 3-story buildings; the majority of the units will be 2-bedroom units. In a 30-unit building there will be four 1-bedroom units, 2 on the first floor and on the second and third floor, just one 1-bedroom. The one bedroom units are about 600 sq. ft. and the two bedroom units range from 850 to 872 sq. ft. All the bathrooms will be handicapped accessible, the door entrances will be 36-inches and the height of the building will be approximately 40-feet, there will be an elevator and each unit will have a balcony. Mr. Marchand continued to explain the amount of parking spaces and indicated that there will still be a fair amount of open space left on the site. He said the reason they are before this board tonight is because the way they intend to develop

this site is through a "friendly" 40B which is done through the LIP program; it's a program designed where a developer and a town jointly submit a LIP application to DHCD. He said the first step in the process is to get a Project Eligibility Letter (PEL) which is the "ticket" needed in order to submit a 40B application to the ZBA.

Mr. Zimini interjected at this point and said he wanted to clarify if this 40B would be anyway involved with Mass Housing.

Mr. Marchand replied that they will go through DHCD.

Mr. Zimini asked if Mass Housing will have anything to do with this project to which Mr. Marchand replied "no".

Mr. Zimini said he just wanted to clarify that because he could have a conflict of interest being employed by Mass Housing so he therefore doesn't see any possible conflict with Mass Housing not being involved.

Mr. Marchand continued to say that the reason it is called a "friendly" 40B is that in order to submit to DHCD, they need to have a formal vote from the Board of Selectmen and therefore towns really control the leverage on projects like this. Following some additional comments, Mr. Marchand indicated that they intend to finance this with private financing and said once you get DHCD's blessing through the Project Eligibility Letter, you can get financing from any bank or from any source or you can finance it internally. He said the first step is to hopefully get the board's support; they need to prepare a LIP application and would submit it to Glen (Edwards) who would review it. The board would review it and he would then ask for the board to draft a letter, which is a LIP requirement, that the board supports this application; DHCD will review it and then issue a Project Eligibility Letter. Mr. Marchand continued explaining the process.

Mr. Cox indicated that he and Mr. DiRocco along with the Town Manager and Assistant Town Manager had a preliminary meeting with Mr. Coravos and said obviously their goal was to try and incorporate some kind of housing in for the elderly that could be used through the housing authority; directing his question to Mr. Coravos, Mr. Cox asked if anything has changed on that as far as getting Section 8 or anything like that for subsidized units.

Mr. Coravos replied that 25% will be available for people who qualify for those units; he said one of the things they are trying to do here is they are trying to bring these rental units in at \$975 a month (2 bedrooms)

and that includes the heat and hot water; the affordable section 8 monies are \$1,275, so they are actually below what the State requires for rentals. He said they are going to work with the Housing Authority and Mary Karabatsos and said Dracut people will have first preference on those 25%; he feels that figure is a very competitive figure. Mr. Coravos said they are also going to have walking trails and a grove area and will be a lifestyle geared to where both people have to be over 62 years of age. He noted that the Housing Authority will bring their buses there, he also contacted the Lowell Transit Authority and a schedule will be worked out to have a bus go there once or twice a day so that if people don't have cars, there will accessibility to get around town. Mr. Coravos said he thinks it's a perfect spot and they are kind of excited about getting going and said they are not doing this unless they do a "friendly" LIP; if the town works with them and they do it jointly as a friendly combined effort, they will do it otherwise they won't do this project, they won't do a hostile 40B. Mr. Coravos also noted that Dracut subcontractors will get first crack at all the jobs and they will put people back to work.

Discussion continued.

Mr. Zimini asked with regard to the affordable units what the rents would be based on.

Mr. Marchand said it's going to be confusing. Eligibility on 40B's is at 80% of medium household income; HUD defines that, however you have to set the rents so they're at 70% of medium household income and continued explaining the reasoning for that. Discussion continued.

Mr. Zimini asked Mr. Marchand if he had any idea of what this development will pay in taxes to the town. Mr. Marchand replied that the Assessor will take a look at the property and come up with a value. Mr. Zimini asked what he estimates the project will be worth in the end. Mr. Marchand said they are trying to bring it in at around six million dollars (or \$100,000 per unit) and said that's going to take some real discipline to do that. Mr. Zimini said he would just like to know, if we could get that figure, the estimated tax revenue the town would derive from this.

Mr. Cox asked Mr. Marchand if he was looking for conceptual approval from this board tonight to fill out the LIP application. Mr. Marchand replied "yes" and said they are looking for the "blinking yellow light" tonight that says "we think this concept makes sense", "how soon can you get us the LIP application for review by the town?" and said that is what they are looking for. He said they are simply looking for approval of

the concept so that they can go ahead and put together this LIP application. A lengthy discussion continued.

Mr. O'Loughlin asked what the total area is to which Mr. Coravos replied 3.8 acres. Mr. O'Loughlin indicated that he doesn't have any problem with the concept and feels it fills a niche; he applauds the efforts of the builders to actually come in and start building in this economy and feels its good for everybody that is employed in that field, as Mr. Coravos eluded to, the tradespeople and said he will have no problem supporting the LIP program. His only caveat to this is, anyone who's looking at this or reading about this, he doesn't want anyone to think that this takes care of our senior housing problem in the town of Dracut; it's good that there is a 62 year old age restriction on this and by keeping the cost down, he feels that will work well and also the 25% of affordable housing units that will come in under the 40B proposal is good. However, the people who are eligible for the senior housing in town are actually paying about 30% and that's not the case here; you're talking about an 80% eligibility requirement and then you're bumping that down a little bit if you will to a 70% medium income, but it is no where getting near a 30% of their gross income which would be the effect if someone was applying to get into 971 Mammoth Road or if someone was trying to get into what the town tried to do with Louisberg Square which would actually take people off a waiting list who are severely income restricted; this is not their project and just wants to make people aware that this is not what is going up there. He feels what's going up here is fine and does fill a need but it is not necessarily helping those people who have been languishing on that list for the past ten years; this is a rental unit. Mr. Marchand agreed and said this is sometime referred to as "workforce housing", not for an elderly housing project but moderate income housing. Discussion continued.

Mr. DiRocco said he heard tonight that they were going to try and keep that number at \$975; the first time they met, he thought they were going to keep it at that number and wondered how this was going to be written up and what if this is not a feasible number when it's built.

Mr. Coravos said they will know that when they do the proforma; when they do the proforma they will have a very good idea if that's the right number; if it doesn't come in at that number, they can't do the project. They don't feel comfortable charging more money then that because they don't think there is a demand for it. Mr. Marchand followed up with some additional comments.

Mr. Zimini commented that Mr. Marchand had stated that all of these units will be applied towards our affordable housing stock. Mr. Marchand replied in the affirmative. Mr. Zimini asked Mr. Edwards if that requires the builder and the owner to be in partnership with that and agree to that.

Mr. Edwards said "no", as long as you have 25% rental, automatically all 100% are counted. Mr. Zimini asked why Louisberg Square wasn't included in that figure when he asked that months ago; that wasn't accounted for in the affordable housing stock. Mr. Edwards said because it didn't have proper restriction or regulations on it until or if the town had purchased it, then it would have been 100% counted; it didn't meet the State's requirements for counting the units.

Mr. Marchand added that DHCD publishes the rules which determine whether or not a unit can be included in the subsidized housing inventory. As Mr. Edwards said, rents have to be affordable to households at 80% of the medium household income; there has to be a regulatory agreement, a formal recorded contract that says the units will remain affordable if they're new construction units for at least 30-years. And there has to be a fair housing process that is used to select tenants.

Mr. Zimini asked if those are all things that the developer has to agree to do. Mr. Marchand said it will be part of the comprehensive permit and proceeded to explain what some of the conditions will be.

**Mr. Cox moved to approve the conceptual plan to allow the LIP application to proceed. Mr. DiRocco seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

Michael Buxton, Public Works Director – Annual Storm Water Report –  
Mr. Buxton began by saying that it is his job to give the town's annual storm water report for the board and the residents to know what the town is going through to comply with the NPDES permit that we were required to file for five or six years ago; we are on our 6<sup>th</sup> year now. Mr. Buxton proceeded with his report (copy of said report attached).

Mr. O'Loughlin commended Mr. Buxton on a fine report and asked if the catch basins will be emptied this year. Mr. Buxton replied that they will be emptying them this year and said they didn't last year because of the budget but it has been funded; the bids will be opened tomorrow in the Town Manager's office.

Mr. O'Loughlin also noted that during one of the recent wind storms, some damage was caused and said last year it was very helpful and beneficial to people that the town was able to go around and pick up some of that waste; he asked if that was going to be done again. Mr. Buxton said he didn't plan it this year as there is not that much out there. There are branches that came down and maybe about a dozen trees came down and caused damage to wires which caused detours in town; those were all addressed and cleaned up and also some damaged trees that didn't come down were cleaned up. He said they have been allowing residents to bring debris into the Dillon Center and the compost site will officially be open April 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Buxton said if people call and if there is something they can help them with, they will help them but just can't go around and pick stuff up as they did the last time; if they have something oversized, they can't go on private property but if they could drag it to the street, he would be more than willing to help.

AGENDA ITEMS - KEVIN RICHARDSON, CHIEF OF POLICE – Request for approval of traffic sign locations/2 new stop signs & posts - Huron Street @ Morris Street (north) and Huron Street @ Morris Street (south) – Motion by Mr. O'Loughlin seconded by Mr. Cox **it was unanimously voted to approve the stop sign locations.**

PETER BRUNO D/B/A PETE'S BBQ PIT – Request for Common Victualler License for premises located 1595 Lakeview Avenue, Unit 2 – Motion by Mr. DiRocco and seconded by Mr. O'Loughlin, **it was unanimously voted to approve.**

OWEN & OLLIE'S RESTAURANT & PUB, INC., 91 MILL STREET – Request for a Mega Touch Video Game Permit – Motion by Mr. Cox and seconded by Mr. DiRocco, **it was unanimously voted to approve.**

GLEN EDWARDS/TOWN PLANNER – Re: Acceptance of checks from T-Mobile for Peer Review/25 K Street, Telecommunications Facility –

1. \$3,500 for the payment of services of an independent telecommunications facility review consultant; and
2. \$3,200 for the payment of services of an independent appraisal/property value impact consultant –

Motion by Mr. Zimini and seconded by Mr. O'Loughlin, **it was unanimously voted to accept.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Meeting of February 9, 2010 – Motion by Mr. Cox and seconded by Mr. DiRocco, **it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes.**

OLD BUSINESS – Cable Advisory Committee – The secretary informed the board that to date, a total of two applications have been received.

List of Criteria/Square Dedications – Mr. O’Loughlin indicated he would be meeting with Mr. Zounes (Veteran’s Director) regarding this.

Town Hall – Mr. Malliaros noted that we are still awaiting word for federal money; an application was made through Congresswoman Tsongas.

Drug Investigation Updates – Mr. Malliaros indicated that the board just received one. Mr. DiRocco commented that the last time they (Chief Richardson and Tewksbury Chief (Retired) Donovan) were in, they said they’d have everything for us in three weeks; the next meeting would approximately be five weeks so he would suggest that the board ask Mr. Richardson to come in and give us an update on that.

Littering Bylaw – Mr. O’Loughlin said that according to the Town Manager, it will be ready for June town meeting. Mr. Zimini requested that Mr. Edwards supply the board with a copy of the comments from the various departments, along with the draft of the bylaw.

Attorney Najjar/Letter - Mr. Malliaros said that at the last meeting, Selectman O’Loughlin had referenced a letter that we had received from Attorney Najjar on behalf of the Deputy Chief; he indicated that he had spoken with Town Counsel and found that no member of the board had defamed or slandered the Deputy Chief. He (Malliaros) had requested that Town Counsel review the January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting which was the subject of Attorney Najjar’s letter to determine if we had violated the open meeting law and he has received correspondence from our attorney, Jim Hall, that he finds that “no member violated the open meeting law” and as Mr. O’Loughlin had previously stated, “no member had defamed or slandered the Deputy Chief”. Mr. Malliaros stated that he would like to say on behalf of the board one last statement so that our position on this matter is perfectly clear: “by raising concerns over the departmental rift for the potential need for a clearer alcohol policy, we are always looking to future policy and in no way meant to espouse a belief that anyone acted wrongfully in the past.” Mr. Malliaros said he trusts that puts the matter to rest.

Tot Swings/Veteran’s Memorial Park - Mr. Cox asked what the status was regarding the installation of the tot swings at Veteran’s Park donated by Steve Beaudoin of the Parker House Grill in memory of his mother. Mr. Buxton said they poured the foundation today and the tot swing is being delivered Thursday; the bark mulch will go in Thursday afternoon and will then be available for use. A brief discussion continued.

Boys Basketball – Mr. O’Loughlin said, having attended the basketball game in Woburn, offered kudos to the boy’s basketball team for a great

game. Also impressive were all the kids that went to the game from Dracut High; they filled the gymnasium and said they represented themselves and the town very well and. Mr. Malliaros agreed and also added his comments.

NEW BUSINESS – Mr. Zimini offered congratulations to local attorney Tami Dristiliaros who recently received an award for being an outstanding woman attorney for excellence in her field.

Local Recreational Baseball League – Mr. Zimini noted that he had the occasion to attend the Local Recreational Baseball League’s annual fundraiser and auction at Lenzi’s Function Hall and said it was a tremendous outpouring for that particular league; a tremendous amount of money was raised and more importantly, the work they do for the kids in the community is tremendous. Mr. Zimini congratulated everyone involved as it was very well attended and very well run. Adult Basketball League – Mr. Zimini also mentioned the fine job the organizers are doing on having a successful adult league in basketball and especially thanks to Mr. Bob Gantz who runs that project.

Mr. Zimini also made mention of a letter received from a Junior High School student, Rachel Cocklin, regarding her science project concerning recycling. Following some discussion, it was agreed that Ms. Cocklin should be invited to attend the next Selectmen’s meeting to discuss her project.

Board’s Stipend – Mr. Zimini commented that recently the board was asked the question about the stipend they receive as members of the Board of Selectmen for auto mileage allowance. He was asked the question as he thinks other members were asked during a local inquiry and said he had made a comment that he believes that they should at this time take a leadership role and move to eliminate that particular stipend and will therefore make the following motion:

**Mr. Zimini moved to ask the Manager to remove that stipend from the budget and that we take that leadership role.** “I think Mr. Chairman we’ve asked and Mr. DiRocco and members of this board have asked all of our unions, all of our town employees to not take a pay raise last year and we’re certainly going to have that possibility again this year; I know that it’s not a lot of money but it is a lot of money when it comes down to perception and what have you and I think that I for one am willing to give up and I therefore make that motion.”

Mr. Cox said he doesn’t have a problem supporting that concept; he would prefer to see it in a suspension mode rather than elimination

mode. The reason being is to make a decision like that is going to affect boards for years to come. Mr. Cox said he understands the concept and would agree with the concept but would almost like to see it in a suspension mode until the economy turns around; this whole board may not be here at the time and will affect future boards. He said those are just his thoughts.

Mr. Zimini asked if his motion had been seconded. Mr. Malliaros commented that Mr. Zimini's motion was to eliminate the stipend and Mr. Cox's was to suspend it for an indefinite period of time. Mr. Cox indicated that he did not second the motion, he was just making a comment.

Mr. Malliaros said he feels it might be wise to see what other towns in the area are doing. He noted that we have 1.8 million dollars in a stabilization fund for fire, DPW and police equipment; we have approximately 1.2 million dollars in free cash; we have \$300,000 in a stabilization account for future indebtedness for a town hall so we are not in the bad shape that other neighboring cities and towns are. Following some additional comments, he said he would be interested in seeing what other city and towns are doing before he makes a decision.

Mr. DiRocco said he tried to find out today when that actually began; he went back to the sixties and mileage was being received at that time. He questions how this really got brought about; it's not like it's a monumental amount of money and said he certainly wouldn't miss it but feels sometimes these things are done just to make the board look bad.

Mr. Malliaros said that according to the Lowell Sun reporter this started at the Finance Committee meeting. Mr. DiRocco agreed that the board should look around and see what the other towns are doing and then take it from there.

Mr. Zimini said he knows that there is always a conspiracy theory or feeling to anything that's been brought up and comments are made like "someone is trying to make the board look bad" and said he doesn't believe that's the case. He had the theory and the thought last year around this time when Mr. DiRocco made the motion to ask all of the unions, which he supported, to not take a pay raise; to their credit, they stepped up to the plate. Mr. Zimini said he doesn't think it's a bad thing for this board and any elected official in this town to take a leadership role and to say to those members, before one more person is thought to be laid off whether it be a teacher, a janitor, a DPW worker, a police officer or a fire fighter that we are willing to not get paid. He realizes that

the amount of stipend and travel the board receives is certainly not enough to cover the expenses that we all incur in terms of donations and giving to worthy causes but can't sit here for another year and listen to the Chairman of Ways and Means, Senator Steve Panagiotakos, saying that we are going to endure a 3% decrease in possibly local aide as well as Chapter 70 while we and other elected officials are taking this salary. Following some additional comments, Mr. Zimini said he does believe that the board needs to take a leadership role and that's what he is trying to do here. Mr. Zimini said he also does not know if this board is aware of the morale problem in both the fire and police department; they have a low morale because we haven't been able to hire. The Manager, in his budget, has not filled certain positions and we all know that, so he just doesn't feel comfortable at this point going forward and taking these stipends so he therefore did make that motion, if it doesn't get seconded it's all well and good and we'll move on to the next subject.

Mr. Malliaros said that while he understands that the police, fire fighters, town hall personnel and DPW didn't get a raise last year, we are not asking for any raises and there probably hasn't been one in many years and certainly feels it would be outrages to propose any kind of increase; that is different then taking away what currently exists because as Mr. Zimini pointed out, he too has always given very generously to various causes and said again, the board is not looking for raises.

Mr. Malliaros asked if there was a second to Mr. Zimini's motion. **The motion failed for lack of a second.**

**Mr. Zimini moved that the board support elimination of the yearly stipend that elected officials in the Town of Dracut receive and that we instruct the town manager to take that out of the budget as well as supporting the elimination at town meeting.**

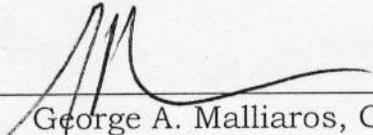
**Motion died for lack of a second.**

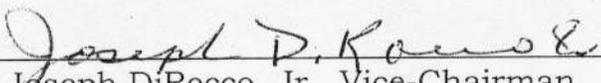
Mr. O'Loughlin commented that he will be glad to discuss this or any other budgetary item in a budgetary workshop where normally this is the type of discussion that's held; he would rather not discuss it through the Lowell Sun which he said is the want of some people and said he is also not looking for headlines. He said any ideas that we have to save this town money; he made a motion at the last meeting to set up some budgetary workshops with the Manager. We had one and said he'll be glad to discuss this at any one of them and to make a recommendation to the Manager on his budget. Mr. O'Loughlin said he is not saying that this is a dead issue; he's just saying there's a way to discuss it.

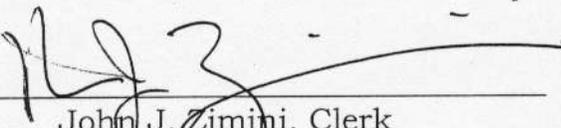
The Chairman read the Community Calendar.

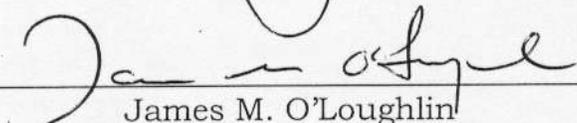
AJOURNMENT – Motion by Mr. Zimini and seconded by Mr. Cox, **it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.**

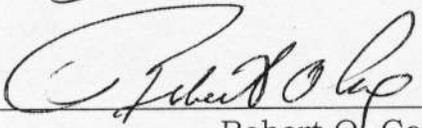
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

  
George A. Malliaros, Chairman

  
Joseph DiRocco, Jr., Vice-Chairman

  
John J. Zimini, Clerk

  
James M. O'Loughlin

  
Robert O. Cox



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## Department of Public Works

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MICHAEL R. BUXTON  
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

### STORM WATER MANAGEMENT REPORT 2010

#### WHAT IS STORM WATER

- STORM WATER IS SURFACE FLOW WATER THAT TRAVELS THROUGH NATURAL OR MAN MADE CONVEYANCE SYSTEM (I.E.) WOODLANDS, GRASS, CATCH BASINS, MANHOLES OR PIPES
  
  - CLEAN WATER ACT OF 1972 INCREASED ACCOUNTABILITY FOR PROTECTING WATER QUALITY ON DISCHARGERS
  
  - TOWN REQUIRED TO FILE FOR PERMIT "NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM" (NPDES) AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
  
  - TOWN WAS GRANTED ITS PERMIT AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN IN SEPTEMBER 2003. THE FINACIAL INVESTMENT THE TOWN HAS MADE IN ADDRESSING THE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED IN THE PERMIT HAVE BEEN SIGNIFICANT
- NEW DRAFT PERMIT IS UNDER REVIEW FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND SHOULD BE RELEASED LATER THIS YEAR

## **TOWNS STORMWATER PLAN**

- **STORMWATER COMMITTEE IS MADE UP OF THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENTS**

### **TOWN MANAGER / ASSISTANT TOWN MANAGER**

KEPT ABREAST OF THE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES OF THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

ADDRESS ANY LEGAL ISSUES

FUNDING IMPACTS TO THE BUDGET TO STAY IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE STORMWATER PLAN

DEVELOP STORMWATER UTILITY TO FUND COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS OF THE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

MEMBERS OF THE TEAM ATTEND STORMWATER SEMINARS TO KEEP ABREAST OF NEW REGULATIONS

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

MAINTENANCE OF THE PUBLIC WAYS

**332** LANE MILES SWEEP REMOVED **1900** TONS OF SAND AND DEBRIS FROM ENTERING OUR WATERWAYS

**320** CATCH BASINS THAT DISCHARGE DIRECTLY TO THE LAKES AND PONDS STENCILED " **DON'T DUMP DRAINS TO POND / LAKE**" TO MAKE THE PUBLIC

**AWARE NOT TO DUMP ANY HAZARDOUS MATERIAL INTO THE BASINS**

**2 EXISTING CATCH BASINS FITTED WITH DRAINAGE HOODS TO KEEP FLOATABLE MATERIALS IN THE BASIN FOR REMOVAL.**

**97 TOWN DETENTION PONDS VISITED FOR ROUTINE INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE, ENTERED IN TOWNS GIS SYSTEM**

**21 COMMERCIAL PROPERTY OWNERS NOTIFIED TO FILE REPORTS WITH DPW OF MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES**

**250 PAMPHLETS, "HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE TO HEALTHY HABITS TO HELP KEEP OUR STORMWATER CLEAN" DISTRIBUTED AT THE TOWN HALL, LIBRARY, RECREATION OFFICE AND PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR PUBLIC AWARENESS IS ON THE TOWNS WEB SITE. EXAMPLES OF EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES THAT CAN CONTRIBUTE TO POLLUTION I.E., EXCESS LAWN FERTILIZER, LEAKING OIL FROM VEHICLES, PICKING UP PET WASTE**

**PET WASTE DISPOSAL STATIONS WERE INSTALLED AT VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK FOR RESIDENTS TO PICKUP AFTER THEIR PETS. ADDITIONAL STATIONS WILL BE INSTALLED AT THE NEW DILLON / McANESPIE PARK**

**ADDITIONAL SIGNAGE WAS POSTED AT TOWN PARKS AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS TO REMIND PEOPLE TO PICKUP THEIR DEBRIS**

**TOWN RECEIVED GRANTS FROM THE RENEWABLE ENERGY TRUST UNDER THE**

CLEAN ENERGY CHOICE PROGRAM TO PURCHASE TWO SOLAR COMPACTING BARRELS. ONE WAS INSTALLED AT VMP. THE SECOND ONE WILL BE INSTALLED AT THE NEW DILLON McANESPIE PARK

ASSISTING GARDEN CLUB WITH PLANNING EARTH DAY AND ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION SATURDAY APRIL 17 AT VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

EARTH WEEK CLEANUP ACTIVITIES ARE THE WEEK OF APRIL 18 TO 24

#### **ENGINEERING OFFICE**

48 PLANS IE SUB-DIVISION, FORM A, CONSERVATION FILINGS, WERE REVIEWED TO MAKE SURE THEY COMPLY WITH CURRENT DRAINAGE REQUIREMENTS

CONTINUE GROUND POSTIONING SYSTEM OF IDENTIFYING ALL DRAINAGE STRUCTURES IN PUBLIC WAYS

CONTINUE TO UPDATE AND MAINTAIN THE TOWNS MAPS FOR THE GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM DRAINAGE LAYER

NEW EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL REGULATIONS WERE ADOPTED BY THE PLANNING BOARD IN MARCH OF 2008 AND INCLUDED IN THE PLANNING BOARD RULES AND REGULATIONS.

## BOARD OF HEALTH

**427 DRAINAGE OUTFALLS IDENTIFIED FOR THE TOWNS DRAINAGE SYSTEM**

**ALL DRAINAGE OUTFALLS WERE INSPECTED FOR DRY WEATHER WATER FLOW**

**0 REPORT OF ILLEGAL DISCHARGE TO STORMWATER BASINS IN 2009**

**CATCH BASIN DRAIN SAMPLING CONTINUES**

**FUNDING IS IN PLACE TO INVESTIGATE ANY REPORTS OF ILLEGAL DISCHARGES**

**CONTINUE TO ENFORCE EXISTING BYLAW TO REMOVE ANY ILLEGAL DISCHARGES TO STORM SEWERS**

**CONTINUE WEEKLY WATER SAMPLING DURING THE SUMMER OF ALL BEACHES AROUND LONG POND, LAKE MUSCUPPIC AND PETERS POND**

**SCHEDULED ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION ON SATURDAY APRIL 17, 2010 FROM 8:00 AM TO 1:00 PM**

**TOWN OF DRACUT WEB PAGE [www.dracut-ma.us](http://www.dracut-ma.us) UNDER BOH LINK HAS MORE INFORMATION OF COMPANIES THAT WILL RECIEVE HAZARDOUS WASTE**

## **CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**38 PUBLIC HEARINGS HELD IN 2009  
REVIEWING ACTIVITIES  
THAT EFFECT WETLANDS**

**TOWNS WEB PAGE HAS INFORMATION  
SHEET ON WHY WETLANDS ARE  
IMPORTANT AND VALUABLE**

## **CLERKS OFFICE**

**CONTINUE POSTING ALL MEETING FOR  
PUBLIC AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION**

## **REPORTS**

**ACTIVITIES ARE REPORTED TO THE ASSISTANT TOWN  
MANAGER FOR FILING WITH THE TOWNS ANNUAL  
REPORT TO THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND U. S.  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, WATER  
TECHNICAL UNIT**

## **BENEFITS OF STORM WATER MANAGEMENT**

- CONTROLLING POLLUTION FROM STORM WATER BEFORE IT DRAINS TO RIVERS, STREAMS AND WETLANDS WILL MEAN A HEALTHIER ENVIRONMENT FOR EVERYBODY TO ENJOY

- STORMWATER IS THE BIGGEST POLLUTER OF RIVERS AND STREAMS. IT CARRIES POLLUTANTS TO WATERWAYS AND DAMAGES HABITAT FOR FISH AND OTHER AQUATIC LIFE

- YET STORMWATER IS ALSO A VALUABLE RESOURCE, IT'S RAINWATER, THAT WE NEED TO TREAT AND INFILTRATE INTO THE GROUND TO REPLENISH GROUND WATER SUPPLIES.

*Reported to Board of Selectmen  
at their meeting of March 9, 2010*