Board of Selectmen Meeting
February 2, 2012

Present:   Elaine Titus, Chairman   Andrew Bisignani, Town Administrator
           Michael Manning, Vice Chairman   Charles Riley, Town Counsel
           Richard Lombard, Secretary

The meeting convened at 7:30 p.m.

OPENING REMARKS:
Ms. Titus welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mr. Lombard thanked the DPW and Police Department for the excellent job they did sanding.

MINUTES APPROVAL:
A motion was made to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2011 Board of Selectmen meeting.

Motion:   Manning
Seconded: Lombard
Voted:     Unanimous vote in favor.

DCR PROJECT (Comcast):
Mr. Jim Caputo of the DCR stated that they have encountered a few obstructions in regards to the drainage on the causeway and are asking the town for permission to place either part of the water main or the Comcast utility in the existing easement. The Board asked several questions and Mr. Caputo stated that in his opinion it was in the best interest of everyone to place the Comcast utility in this easement. Mr. Lombard made a motion to give the DCR permission to place the water line in the easement if the Comcast agreement does not hold up. Ms. Titus seconded the motion for the purpose of discussion and stated that she felt this unnecessary at this time and should be dealt with at the next scheduled meeting on the 16th if necessary. Mr. Manning stated that based on the current presentation it was imprudent to authorize placing both the water and sewer line in the same easement and stated he would vote against this motion. Mr. Riley stated he must meet with Comcast first before anything is determined. Mr. Lombard withdrew his motion. After a brief discussion, all were in agreement to allow the legal consultants to come up with an agreement both parties were satisfied with and to execute that agreement as quickly as possible due to time constraints.

Motion:   Manning
Seconded: Lombard
Voted: Unanimous Vote in Favor of asking Town Counsel to prepare an agreement for the Boards consideration to allow Comcast to place their utilities in the easement and to hold the Town harmless of any problems.

WARRANT:
Ms. Titus stated that the Town Clerk received a petition for the Town Warrant by the close of business on January 31, 2012.

Motion: Manning
Seconded: Lombard
Voted: Unanimous Vote in Favor to include the petition on the Town Warrant.

MBTA:
Mr. Bisignani stated that the MBTA is proposing to eliminate some bus routes throughout surrounding communities including Nahant. Mr. Bill Crawford, MBTA Representative, explained that due to low ridership the MBTA will soon eliminate the Town’s route due to budget issues. Mr. Bisignani encouraged everyone to the public Hearing in Lynn City Hall on February 7, 2012 to discuss the issue.

NATIONAL GRID LEASE & LIGHTING:
Mr. Bisignani stated that he is looking into a lease purchase agreement with National Grid for the purchase of the light fixtures currently on the electric poles. He stated there are approximately 450 poles throughout Town and feels that this presents an opportunity for savings. Mr. Bisignani stated that the money for this agreement would come out of already appropriated funds and he will meet with Town Counsel to discuss who has authorization to approve this lease.

LITIGATION:
Mr. Lombard stated that the Board will be entering into executive session at the adjournment of the regular session.

LEASE EXTENSION:
Mr. Riley stated that the lease extension for Kelley Greens Golf Course was voted on on the 13th of October, 2012 and that he drafted the proposed extension for the Board’s review.

Motion: Manning
Seconded: Lombard
Voted: Unanimous Vote in Favor to sign the Golf Course Lease extension as presented.
LIGHTING OF FLAGS & CROSSWALKS:
Mr. Lombard stated that he was a little upset that the American flag at Veteran’s Park was not lit and suggested we contact the contractor who installed the fixtures to resolve the problem. He also suggested that a light be installed at the Police Station to illuminate that American flag as well. Mr. Lombard suggested that the Town Administrator meet with the DPW Superintendent and the Police Chief to review the crosswalks around Town noting that in some areas there does not seem to be enough.

YOUTH COMMISSION:
Ms Titus stated that the group is in the final stages and would like to meet with the Recreation and the CPA to discuss projects they have in mind, also, there are many young people interested in the group and may merge with other communities. Mr. Manning suggested an article be placed on the Town Warrant this year because although the committee exists as described in the Town ByLaws it had not met and members had not been appointed in the 30 years he had lived in Town. Ms Titus stated that the youth need more opportunities in Town for involvement.

PUBLIC FORUM:
Mr. Manning stated that Ms Britte Roosien was present and requested that a public forum be held to discuss school funding and suggested the Board of Selectmen call for the public forum and made a motion to adjust the Board’s meeting schedule from the first and third Thursday to the second and fourth Thursday in February. Ms Titus stated that she thought it was too quick to have a forum before Town Meeting and suggested a solid plan be in place and talk with the FinCom and School Committee before scheduling a meeting. Mr. Lombard stated that there is a lot to having this forum and agreed with Ms Titus to discuss this with the other Committees first. Mr. Manning stated that while discussion can wait discussion will become more problematic. He stated the sooner this discussion moves forward, the sooner the Town come to a resolution on school budgeting issues. He expressed surprise that members who had spoken favorably about Town Administrator candidates who organized forums to bring together opposing groups on the same issue in other communities to form consensus would not also support the same effort in Nahant. He stated that he wanted to plant the seed for the concept and he would be patient and wait.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
Ms. Titus read the announcements from the Town Clerk’s office on upcoming election deadlines.
ADJOURN:
A motion was made to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Selectmen and enter into executive session, not to return to regular meeting.

    Motion:    Lombard
    Seconded:  Manning
    Voted:     Unanimous in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

The minutes were prepared by Mary S Lowe, Administrative Assistant.

The minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen on the 16th day of February 2012.

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