

# TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN - BOARD OF SELECTMEN

## REGULAR MEETING - JUNE 26, 2000

### JUDGE WELSH HEARING ROOM

**The following minutes are available on-line as a service and are not the official record due to changes in formatting for the Internet. The minutes may have attachments that are not included here in this format. The official, complete paper copy can be viewed during regular office hours, Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Office of the Town Clerk, 260 Commercial St. Provincetown, MA 02657.**

Chairman, Betty Steele-Jeffers opened the meeting at 6:30 PM, noting the following attendees: Board of Selectmen: Elizabeth Steele-Jeffers, Cheryl Andrews, Mary-Jo Avellar, David Atkinson, Richard Prowell and Secretary to the Board of Selectmen - Vernon Porter

Other Attendees: Keith Bergman - Town Manager, Mark Latour – Assistant Town Manager and other interested parties.

The following are minutes, in brief.

#### PRE-SPECIAL TOWN MEETING BUSINESS

##### 1A MACMILLAN PIER

Ready Resource Grant Award

***MOTION: Move that the Board of Selectmen vote to authorize acceptance of a grant for \$490,000 from the Department of Housing & Community Development under its Ready Resource Program for the MacMillan Pier Reconstruction project.***

**Motion by: David Atkinson Seconded by: Cheryl Andrews Yea 5 Nay 0**

##### 1B MACMILLAN PIER

Memorandum Of Agreement With MassDevelopment

***MOTION: Move that the Board of Selectmen vote to authorize execution of a Memorandum of Agreement with the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency for the MacMillan Pier Rehabilitation Project, as authorized by the grant agreement between the Town of Provincetown and the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction, under its Ferries & Terminals program – with recorded changes per Town Counsel's letter of this date.***

**Motion by: David Atkinson Seconded by: Cheryl Andrews  
Yea 4 Nay 1 (Mary-Jo Avellar)**

##### 1C AMEND SEMASS AGREEMENT

Fix Adjustment of the Acceptance Fee

***MOTION: Move that the Board of Selectmen vote to authorize execution of an amendment to the waste acquisition agreement with SEMASS dated January 1, 1985 which fixes the adjustment of the Acceptance Fee.***

**Motion by: David Atkinson Seconded by: Cheryl Andrews Yea 5 Nay 0**

##### 1D AWARD CONTRACT FOR TOWN HALL

Six (6) Mahogany Doors with Hardware

***MOTION: Move that the Board of Selectmen vote to award a contract to sole bidder Donald Faber Woodworks of Orleans, Massachusetts in the amount of \$17,364 for the manufacture of six (6) new mahogany doors with hardware for Provincetown Town Hall.***

**Motion by: David Atkinson Seconded by: Cheryl Andrews Yea 5 Nay 0**

## **1E BOARD OF SELECTMEN APPOINTMENTS**

*None at this time.*

## **1F PUMP-OUT BOAT GRANT AGREEMENT**

Approve \$9,500 Contract with Division of Marine Fisheries

**MOTION:** *Move that the Board of Selectmen vote to authorize execution of a grant agreement with the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries in the amount of \$9,500 for the provision of equipment and services pursuant to the Clean Vessel Act, for the period July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001.*

**Motion by:** David Atkinson **Seconded by:** Cheryl Andrews Yea 5 Nay 0

## **2. PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

Susan Wasson – here to speak about affordable housing. 48% increase in her tax bill. Assessor said her bill went up so high because she has a three family dwelling and you can generate a lot of revenue from that and if you sold it and turned it into condos you'd make a ton of money. Currently rent to two year round people and try to keep rents affordable. He asked me what I charged for rents, I told him \$525.00, and he said that was ridiculously low for this town. I told him the woman living there is 86 years old. Obviously, I will have to raise the rents. Whatever happened to affordable housing? There needs to be some type of incentive to people who rent to yearrounders. Only incentive is for homeowners to sell and move out of Provincetown. It's frightening.

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Peter Sousa – 1) Whale Watch boats should be required, when they are licensed, to bring their raw sewerage in for disposal. 2) Encouraging tourists to come to town year round. Environmental impact study should be done. We've contacted an environmental advocacy group for some help on the proposed sewerage treatment plant and the potential major effects it may have on our wetlands, groundwater, etc. National organization will be visiting Provincetown.

## **3. SELECTMEN STATEMENTS**

### **Richard Prowell**

- 1) Still waiting for information on old burn dump – if gate is back up?
- 2) Concerned about Sue Wasson's statements – Yearrounders and high taxes.  
Investigating the issue of high taxes and will be talking with Ms. Wasson this week.

### **Cheryl Andrews**

- 1) Keith - our values are re-certified by the State every three years. Tax bills reflecting a hike in assessment to such a degree as to 48% does not make sense to me. Under assessed in the past? Would very much like some answers to those questions.
- 2) Organizers and volunteers for the Blessing of the Fleet and the Portuguese Festival – was a fabulous time. One of the most fun events that the town puts on annually.

### **Betty Steele-Jeffers**

- 1) Echoing a little bit about what Cheryl said – discussion about Yearrounders and people who rent to

Yearrounders. (Keith – answer is probably trying to amend State law for Provincetown as it was one of your goals last year and the assessors did quite a bit of work as to what would be available to you. What we found is that where the owner is not living on the property, then a higher rate would be charged.)

- 2) Might behoove the Staff to hold their tongues and use caution in what they say.  
We want to do whatever we can to have people live here.

***MOTION: Move that the Board of Selectmen accept the invitation from the Town of Orleans to participated in the Orleans Cardinals Baseball game on July 11, 2000 and designated as “Provincetown Night.”***

**Motion by: Betty Steele-Jeffers    Seconded by: Mary-Jo Avellar    Yea 5 Nay 0**

- 3) Zoning Board hearings: 361 Commercial St., - no need to respond.  
and 288 Commercial St., re: 290A Commercial – no need to respond.

**Mary-Jo Avellar**

Response to Peter Sousa – when national organization arrives in Provincetown, I will be more than happy to meet with then because I share your concerns.

***MOTION: Move that the Board of Selectmen send a letter to the organizers of the Portuguese Festival thanking them for the work they did and the success of the weekend.***

**Motion by: Betty Steele-Jeffers    Seconded by: Mary-Jo Avellar    Yea 5 Nay 0**

Regarding remarks Susan Wasson made – taxes calculated - inherently unfair is the State being complicit in forcing the town to elevate taxes to a rate that is driving people out? Not sure that just residential exemption is the solution. Maybe use Town Counsel to assist us.

**David Atkinson**

Relinquished part of his time for the Harbormaster to discuss the Pump-out Boat Grant Agreement.

Letter of complaint from New York.

***MOTION: Move that the Board of Selectmen request a response from our Parking Department in response to letter of complaint from Mr. Paul Cunningham of Kerhonkson, New York.***

**Motion by: Cheryl Andrews    Seconded by: Mary-Jo Avellar    Yea 5 Nay 0**

**4. SPECIAL TOWN MEETING BUSINESS**

Reconvene Selectmen’s Meeting in Town Hall Auditorium

***MOTION: Move that the Board of Selectmen vote to reconvene its meeting in the Town Hall Auditorium to consider business which may arise during the session of the June 26, 2000 Special Town Meeting.***

**Motion by: Mary-Jo Avellar    Seconded by: Cheryl Andrews    Yea 5 Nay 0**

***MOTION: Move that the Board of Selectmen adjourn at the close of the Special Town Meeting at 8:10 PM***

**Motion by: Mary-Jo Avellar    Seconded by: David Atkinson    Yea 5 Nay 0**