

LANCASTER BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF March 21, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Stanley B. Starr, Jr. called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen to Order at 6:00 P.M. in the Lancaster Community Center, 39 Harvard Road, Lancaster, Massachusetts. Present were Selectman Walter F. Sendrowski, Ryan McNutt, Town Administrator and Kathleen Rocco, Executive Assistant.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - NONE

6:00 P.M. Michael McCue, Chairman for the Commission on Disability, advised the Board of Selectmen of two vacancies on the Commission; one member requires disability the other member does not. Mr. McCue stated that the Commission on Disability has 7 active members and their charge is to advise the Town of Lancaster on matters of accessibility and advocate for approximately 10% to Town residents, who have some form of disability and help improve their lives with dignity. Mr. McCue noted that this is a vibrant Commission that is making important strides for the disabled.

Mr. McCue stated that those interested in becoming a member can call him on his cell: 978-697-2408 or email mmccue@mccueassociates.com as well contacting the Town Administrator's office at 978-365-3321.

III. SCHEDULED APPEARANCES & PUBLIC HEARING

6:10 P.M. Connie Englert, Principle of TrueNorth Transit Group, LLC, came before the Board of Selectmen on behalf of the Department of Transportation with their Bus Plus Program. The Bus Plus Program is restoring bus services that was lost many decades ago to many interior and small urban cities in the northern tier of Massachusetts, as well as other rural areas across the state. She noted that they are trying to reconnect the dots, and are currently operating under contract to the DOT, between Worcester and North Hampton via Clinton and Fitchburg and across the Route 2 corridor). Currently TrueNorth Transit Group is operating under a temporary license with the Department of Transportation (DOT) to provide services. Ms Englert stated that this is a 7 day a week - 365 days a year operation with full size motor coaches that are ADA assessable. There is no cost to the town and no increase in liability as well. The best stop option for Lancaster will be on 39 Harvard Road, at the old elementary school and will stop Routes will be towards the South with stops at Clinton and then Worcester. Going twice a day. northwest, stops will be Leominster, Fitchburg, Gardner, Athol, Orange and dropping down to Route 202 to Amherst and North Hampton. Ms Englert commented that there will be discounted fares for those over 60 and under 10 years of age, as well as an agreement with the Veterans Administration, which entails free fare for those using the VA transportation card.

IV. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Town Administrator Ryan McNutt updated the Board on the status of current projects pending before the Board:

Town Administrator McNutt stated that he has the honor to acknowledge the Lancaster Fire Department for the following reason:

On Monday, March 7th, Lancaster Emergency Services responded to a 2 car accident at Intersection of Main Street and Mill Street. The incident had two pickup trucks that were involved with one that was flipped on its side and the passenger still inside, the firefighters used the Jaws—of-Life to cut the trucks roof off and removed the driver of the truck. This was the first time they were able to use the new Jaws-of-Life that are battery operated. Mr. McNutt further noted that this extrication was trick as the truck being on its side made it unstable and the truck had to be secured before performing the extraction. Lt. Robert Gordon of the Fire Department crawled in to assess the driver. Many of the bystanders wanted to flip the truck over or break the window and pull the driver out before the Emergency Services got to the scene. Town Administrator McNutt further commented that both drivers are alive and recuperating from minor injuries.

The Lancaster Firefighters that worked the extrication were:

Firefighter Ryan Aldrich Firefighter David Foster Lt. Robert Gordon Deputy Chief Kevin Lamb Fire Chief Michael Hanson

Mr. McNutt also acknowledged Woods ALS Crew, who transported the female driver and the Lancaster Ambulance – Captain Courtney Manning and EMT Christine Monahan, who treated and transported the other driver.

Town Administrator McNutt stated that he is currently working on several Articles for the upcoming Annual Town Meeting. He further noted that there will be an Earth Products Review Committee meeting this week, and they will be reviewing the services of Tighe and Bond.

V. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

On Motion by Mr. Sendrowski, seconded by Mr. Starr, to approve and accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2016. Walter F. Sendrowski vote Aye and Stanley B. Starr, Jr., vote Aye. 2-0

VI. APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS -

Appointment of Eric Schmidt, as a full-time Police Officer with the Lancaster Police Department. (directly following vote of Selectmen Mr. Schmidt will affirm oath given by town clerk.)

On Motion by Mr. Sendrowski, seconded by Mr. Starr, to appoint Eric Schmidt as a Full Time Police Officer to the town of Lancaster.. Walter F. Sendrowski vote Aye and Stanley B. Starr, Jr. vote Aye. 2-0

Appointment of Lancaster Police Detective Patrick Mortimer to the grade of Police Sergeant (directly following vote of Selectmen Det. Mortimer will affirm oath given by town clerk.)

On Motion by Mr. Sendrowski, seconded by Mr. Starr, to appoint Lancaster Police Detective Patrick Mortimer to the grade of Police Sergeant. Walter F. Sendrowski vote Aye and Stanley B. Starr, Jr. vote Aye. 2-0

Appointment of Lancaster Police Sergeant Everett L. Moody to the grade of Police Lieutenant (directly following vote of Selectmen Sgt. Moody will affirm oath given by town clerk.)

On Motion by Mr. Sendrowski, seconded by Mr. Starr, to appoint Lancaster Police Sergeant Everett L. Moody to the grade of Police Lieutenant. Walter F. Sendrowski vote Aye and Stanley B. Starr, Jr. vote Aye. 2-0

Reappointment of the Memorial Day Committee, terms to expire on June 30, 2017.

On Motion by Mr. Sendrowski and seconded by Mr. Starr to reappoint the following to the Memorial Day Committee, term to expire June 30, 2017:

Ann Fuller, 185 Langen Road Jennifer Lapen, 95 Packard Street Leslie Montague, 35 Ivy Court Mary Paquette, 73 Chase Hill Road Henry Paszbo, 320 Harvard Road Karen Shaw, 105 Old Common Road Alexander Turner, 620 Main Street Carol Sonia, 333 Old Common Road.

Walter F. Sendrowski vote Aye and Stanley B. Starr, Jr. vote Aye. 2-0

VII. ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET, AND POLICY - None

VIII. LICENSES AND PERMITS - None

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Starr reviewed some of the communications in the Selectmen's packet.

He noted that the Board of Appeals voted to re-appoint Scott Miller as Chair, Jeanne Rich as Vice-Chair and appoint Matthew Mayo as Clerk for Calendar Year 2016.

Nashoba Regional School District FY2017 Assessment for the Town of Lancaster is \$11,400,286.

Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District sent correspondence to the Board of Selectmen, regarding the debt issue. Chairman Starr noted that the Minuteman Regional Vocational School

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Committee did approve the amount of \$144,922,478 in construction of the school. Minuteman Regional has suggested forms of Article and Motion for the Debt Issue Approval.

Minuteman Regional School Committee Representative, Jennifer Leone, came before the Board of Selectmen to recommend that the Board of Selectmen put an Article in the Annual Town Meeting Warrant regarding the debt; with the understanding that this is a financial burden to the Town of Lancaster. She stated that she has had a discussion with Finance Director Cheryl Gariepy and Town Administrator McNutt regarding this matter, and the plan would be put this as a debt exclusion, which would require a ballot vote at the Annual Town Election.

On Motion by Mr. Sendrowski, seconded by Mr. Starr, to add an article to the Annual Town Meeting Warrant regarding the Minuteman Regional School debt. Walter F. Sendrowski vote Aye and Stanley B. Starr, Jr. vote Aye. 2-0

Next Board of Selectmen's Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 4, 2016 in the Meeting Room of the Lancaster Community Center, 34 Harvard Road, Lancaster.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Starr noted that the Selectmen will do the Town Administrator's evaluation to be scheduled for Monday, April 4, 2016.

XI. **NEW BUSINESS - NONE**

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business, on Motion by Mr. Sendrowski, seconded by Mr. Starr, it was unanimously voted the Board of Selectmen adjourned at 6:39 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Kathleen Rocco **Executive Assistant**

Walter F. Sendrowski, Clerk
Approved and accepted: April 6, 2016