

MIDDLEFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Middlefield Town Hall

Middlefield, Ma.

February 9, 2009

Present: Mary Courtney, Robert Gazda, Larry Pease (Absent)

Others: Marge Batorski, Wally Smith, Cathy Roth, Skip Savery, Mitch Feldmesser, Tamarin Laurel-Paine

- Meeting officially opened at 7:35 p.m.
- Selectmen read and approved the February 2, 2009 minutes. Corrections were made
- The Selectmen asked the secretary to invite Jack Baylis, the janitorial custodian, to the February 23, 2009 meeting. Jack's probationary period will conclude on February 17, 2009.
- Robert Gazda announced that he has been in contact with Robin Delieto (Real Estate Specialist with Northeast Facility Service Office United States Postal Service) Robin has enclosed copies of the new lease agreement which will begin on January 1, 2010 and will expire on December 31, 2014 at the pre-existing site. Robert Gazda read the terms of the contract at the meeting. Mary Courtney has volunteered to read the contract, given the nature of the wording. Robert Gazda will call his contact and request a copy of the old lease, and also question the post office's ability to give a 30 day notice if they choose to terminate the lease. Bob will report back on February 17.
- The meeting scheduled for Monday, February 16 (President's Day) will be rescheduled to Tuesday, February 17, 2009. Secretary was asked to post.
- Mary Courtney stated that she had received an e-mail from Larry Pease stating that he will report on info re: Ron Burmer, as well as the alarm system on February 17.
- Robert Gazda has put Kopelman & Paige on notice that we are on hold for the Personnel Policy; and also have informed them that the Board of Selectmen shall be the sole contact re; any queries for the town. Discussion ensued concerning by-laws; contracts with Kopelman & Paige. Mary Courtney would like to request a copy of the contract between Kopelman & Paige and the town of Middlefield. Secretary was asked to draft a letter requesting this information.
- Mary Courtney announced that she had a conversation with Elizabeth of Sen. Downing's office, whom had informed Mary that we will be receiving a

correspondence which states that the recall provision was not acted on by the state legislature and therefore, we have to start the process all over again. The town of Townsfield had some issue before the state legislature that bogged down everything else. When the process is acted upon again, it will be presented in a more timely manner, which will be of greater benefit to the town.

- Skip Savery reported on the tree work being done in the town by WMECO. Skip also reported that the army corps of engineers did a rough estimate of approx. \$90,000 to clear up damage of the Ice Storm. 75% of the total sum will be covered by FEMA. There will be a accurate estimate done after the snow is gone.
- Discussion of internet access of the Selectmen's computer ensued. Robert Gazda will call Verizon to find out verizon's cost.
- Tamarin Laurel-Paine submitted copies of working drafts prepared by Finance Committee concerning the town budget. Marin also submitted a warrant from last year, which contained a change in wording concerning the Revolving fund.
- Discussion ensued about Secretary's account which was broken into two half positions. A decision will have to be made regarding funding of said account. A comprehensive discussion will be held on February 17 when Larry Pease will be present. A conversation with Suzanne & Terry will be scheduled.
- Secretary was asked to contact Richard Wade, who will be requested to attend February 17's meeting in order to update the Selectmen on the status of the tax collector's office.
- Conversation about format of agenda ensued
- Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by Suzanne C. Lemieux

Mary Courtney, Selectman

Robert Gazda, Selectman

Larry Pease, Chairman (Chairman)