**Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes of December 2, 2014**

**Bourne Community Building**

**Bourne, MA 02532**

TA Guerino

Peter Meier, Chairman

Don Pickard, Vice-Chairman

Stephen Mealy, Clerk

Don Ellis

Linda Zuern

Pickard moved and seconded by Zuern that the Board vote to convene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to litigation and to reconvene in Open Session immediately following the conclusion of the Executive Session. The Chm. stated on the record that an open session may be detrimental to the Town’s litigation position. Roll call: Zuern – yes; Pickard – yes; Mealy – yes; Ellis – yes; Meier – yes.

Note this meeting is being televised and recorded. If anyone in the audience is recording or videotaping, they need to acknowledge such at this time – Michael Rausch of the Bourne Enterprise; Mr. Bauer of the Cape Cod Times.

**Meeting Called to Order**

Chm. Meier called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

**Moment of Silence for our Troops/Salute the Flag**

**Public Comment – Non-Agenda Items**

Mr. David Veira explained the Home Rule Charter regarding the language of the 36 member make up being cleaned up and is waiting for Governor’s signature.

He is seeing some recovering of the pothole money. The Speaker of House announced there is no vote to reduce unrestricted government aid. It is unfair of a burden on one community.

Regarding the State’s $96,000 discrepancy to Bourne, this year the money will go through an offset payment.

**Correspondence**

Mealy read correspondence into the record. Hard copies are available upon request in the Town Administrator’s office.

**Joint Meeting with School Committee to fill vacancy called to order at 7:20 pm – Judith MacLeod Froman**

At this time, the School Committee opened their meeting.

Chm. Hyldburg recommends Ms. Froman’s appointment. He publically thanked Ms. Katherine Walton for her assistance to the Town of Bourne.

Ms. Froman introduced herself to the board.

Hyldburg moved and seconded by Pickard to appoint Ms. Judith MacLeod Froman to the Bourne School Committee. This term will run through May 2015.

VOTE: Hyldburg – yes; Stuck – yes; Scena – yes; McClain – yes; Zuern - yes; Pickard - yes; Meier – yes; Ellis – yes; Mealy - yes. Unanimous vote.

**Reclassification – Donna**

The Board of Assessors recommends the Selectmen retain one tax rate for all classes of property for fiscal year 2015. The board feels that the relatively small benefit to the residential taxpayer that could be achieved through the use of two tax rates is not warranted in light of the dramatic increase in taxes paid by the Commercial/Industrial/Personal Property taxpayer. Bourne is largely a residential community that simply does not have enough of a Commercial/Industrial base to make classification worthwhile.

TA Guerino recommends the board approve as presented.

Pickard moved and seconded by Mealy that the Town of Bourne retain one tax rate for all classes of property for fiscal year 2015 as recommended by the Board of Assessors. Vote 5-0.

**Thomas Cahir – RTA and Alternative Train Station site**

Mr. Cahir clarified the confusion of the station site. He opposes any commuter rail on the Cape side of the canal. The Cape Flyer will bring three (3) trains on the weekends.

The State is paying for the added tracks. There will be the two services – the commuter rail and the Cape Flyer. The commuter rail will be a daily, year-round service; the Cape Flyer will be a 15 weekend run from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Zuern suggested including bicycle paths.

Ellis said the end run comment was directed at the Department of Transportation. He will continue to be against a commuter service. He suggested running service from Buzzards Bay to the Gallo Arena parking lot as well as the RTA bus service. Parking, access and egress, noise and pollution under the bridge will increase and affect Bakersville. He raised issue with the money the State is spending as it will trickle down to our town.

Mealy feels this will bring people away from Buzzards Bay. He feels investing monies for a platform for 8 people. He also commented on not knowing the traffic as well as the traffic for the third bridge.

Mr. John Pearson commented on the horn and said it is set by Federal Code. Tracks and signals are inspected. TA Guerino said it is the interpretation by the engineer.

Mr. Mulvey commented on how the acoustics will make an impact on the area.

**Town Administrator Report**

If the board is of the mind to allow citizens the opportunity to vote on the issue of whether they want to look at the Commuter Rail, there will be two votes (legislative vote at Town Meeting and the ballot at the May Election). There must be more than 90 days between the two votes. He recommends the Board put on the agenda for next week to a vote and recommends a 1/26/15 Special Town Meeting. More detail will follow next week. This will be on the next meeting agenda.

He will start framing the budget with the Selectmen. There are positions that are needed and there will be offsets. He would also like to frame labor issues (there are five to negotiate between now and May).

**Selectmen’s Business**

1. **Selectmen’s Comments**

Zuern participated on the Christmas Care Packages for the Troops.

Pickard requested agenda item at the next meeting for documentation on disciplinary action by the Town Administrator. The entire board should weigh in on who is responsible and how this occurred. TA Guerino will speak with Town Counsel as discussion is either in an Open Session or Executive Session.

Mealy informed the board of two meetings: 12/4/14 is Transportation Advisory Committee regarding the third bridge and 12/8/14 Main Street Steering Committee regarding the Buzzards Bay Park and responses to the survey. He reminded the public of the need for the Food Pantry.

Chm. Meier said the Food Panty served over 350 families for Thanksgiving. Chm. Meier would like to put on a future agenda the action of the Human Services Committee.

Ellis reminded everyone of the 12/5/14 Christmas In Old Bourne Village and other functions around town at the Library, the Briggs McDermott House, Buzzards Bay, the Methodist Church and the Bourne Archives Building.

TA Guerino commented that the rocks at the Buzzards Bay Park will be removed before the Holiday celebration.

Chm. Meier informed the public the town lost the grant from the Chamber of $50,000 due to cuts in Chapter 9C. Transportation Advisory Committee meeting next Thursday.

**Adjourn**

Pickard moved and seconded by Mealy to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm. Vote 5-0.

Respectfully submitted – Lisa Groezinger, sec.