

MEETING MINUTES **FOR MARCH 4, 2013**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Monday, March 4, 2013 in the Conway Hearing Room at 7:00 PM. Present were Selectman Andrew Deslaurier, Chairman, Selectman Michael Rosa, Vice Chairman, Selectman David Gagliardi, Secretary, Selectman Robert Correnti, Member, Selectman Robert Accomando, Member, Town Manager John Curran and Assistant Town Manager Cathleen O’Dea.

CALL TO ORDER

OPEN MICROPHONE

Ms. Caroline Catlender, Executive Director of the Billerica Community Alliance, came to the podium and spoke regarding their “Meet the Candidates Night” being held on March 19th from 7:00 PM until 9:00 PM at the Town Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VACANCIES ON BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Secretary David Gagliardi stated the Board of Selectmen are accepting applications for the following positions:

POSITION

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

Selectmen Appointments

Arts Council	3
Cabot Land Reuse Committee	3
Commission on Disability	1
Elderly and Disabled Taxation Fund Committee	1
Financial & Compliance Audit Committee	2
Historic Districts Commission	4 alt.
Open Space & Recreation Committee	2

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 4, 2013

Scholarship Foundation Committee	1
Substance Abuse Prevention Committee	6
Traffic Management Committee	1 (East)

Town Manager Appointments

Beautification Committee	3
Housing Partnership Committee	2

Moderator Appointments

Composting Committee	6
Financial & Compliance Audit Committee	3
Personnel Board	4
Town Meeting Warrant Action Committee	1

Please note that the above positions are not paid positions. Applicants should have some knowledge of Municipal Government. Brief job descriptions are available at the Selectmen's Office. Applications must be sent to the Board of Selectmen, Town Hall, 365 Boston Road, Billerica.

DPW WATER CONSERVATION REBATE PROGRAM

Secretary David Gagliardi stated the Town of Billerica has a Rebate Program for the replacement of toilets, urinals and clothes washers with water conserving features. The "Water Conservation Fund" was established to mitigate the demands on the Town water supply and allows the DPW to offer these rebates. To qualify for the rebate, Billerica water customers must be in good standing and own the property where the fixtures will be changed out. Tenants may participate with written permission from the property owner. Toilets, urinals and clothes washers must be specific models to qualify for the rebate. Go to www.billericadpw.org or contact the DPW Director's Office for a list of qualifying models. Qualifying toilet rebates are \$100. Qualifying urinal rebates are \$25. Qualifying clothes washer rebates are \$225. All rebates will be applied as a credit on your water bill. Rebate applications can be picked up at the DPW Director's Office at Town Hall or at the Water Treatment Facility located at 270 Treble Cove Road. Applications must be submitted to the DPW Office within 90 days of purchase.

SUNSHINE GALS KITCHEN – MEALS PREPARED AND SERVED FOR NEEDY FAMILIES LIVING IN BILLERICA

Secretary David Gagliardi stated the Sunshine Gals Kitchen prepares and serves meals on the fourth Saturday of each month between 12:00 Noon and 1:30 PM for needy families living in Billerica. This luncheon is homemade and prepared and served at the First Parish Church located in Billerica Center. If you have any questions, please call Jo Leary at 978-270-4509 or go to sunshinegals@yahoo.com.

PUBLIC SAFETY MEMORIAL

Selectman Robert Correnti stated the Billerica Public Safety Memorial, which will honor Billerica Police, Fire and Paramedics who have died in the line of active duty, will be located in front of Town Hall. It will be built with private funding. The dedication is planned for the Fall of 2013. Help make this memorial possible by making a tax-deductible donation. Donations of \$75.00 or more will be recognized on a plaque in Town Hall. For more information and a copy of the donation form, which is important to insure proper recognition of donors, please go to www.billericapublicsafetymemorial.org. The donation and donation form can be sent to the Billerica Public Safety Memorial Fund, care of the Billerica Board of Selectmen, Billerica Town Hall, 365 Boston Road, Billerica MA 01821.

MERRIMACK VALLEY HOUSING PARTNERSHIP, PROJECT GENESIS, HOME BUYER TRAINING CLASSES 2013 SCHEDULE

Secretary David Gagliardi stated the Merrimack Valley Housing Partnership, Project Genesis, is hosting Home Buyer Training Classes to promote responsible and sustainable home ownership. They will have classes in English, Spanish and Khmer. Classes will be held at Middlesex Community College in downtown Lowell. You can register online at 222.mvhp.org or call 978-459-8490 for more information.

BILLERICA PUBLIC SCHOOLS TITLE 1 PROGRAM PRESENTS “HELPING OUR CHILDREN BECOME RESILIENT AS THEY GROW UP FACING A COMPLICATED WORLD”

Secretary David Gagliardi stated the Billerica Public Schools Title 1 Program is inviting everyone to join their grief specialist and keynote speaker Maria Trozzi for an interactive evening where she will explore the typical and not-so-typical speed bumps that adolescents may encounter growing up in today’s complicated world on Wednesday, March 6th from 7:00 PM until 8:00 PM in the Marshall Middle School Auditorium. Admission is free.

SPRING 2013 TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLES

Secretary David Gagliardi stated Spring 2013 Town Meeting Warrant Articles will be accepted until Monday, March 18th, 2013 prior to 4:00 PM in the Town Manager’s Office.

PRESENTATION

DOG PARK

Selectman David Gagliardi, seconded by Selectman Michael Rosa, made a motion that the Board accept the new information that was given to us tonight regarding the proposed Dog Park.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor
 0 – Opposed

Mr. Mark Reid and Ms. Jennifer Chubb, Members of the Billerica Recreation Commission Dog Park Subcommittee, came to the podium and gave a very informative presentation regarding the proposed Billerica Dog Park. A copy of this presentation is on file in the Selectmen's Office.

Lengthy discussions ensued regarding possible locations and Article 97 issues, budget issues, upkeep, maintenance, trash and dog waste concerns (both short-term and long-term), liability/legal issues, fee issues, funding issues and licensing/vaccination issues.

ADDENDUM

RESOLUTION – VERIZON REPAIR CENTER JOBS AND INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY WORK IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Selectman David Gagliardi, seconded by Selectman Robert Correnti, made a motion that the Board accept the new information that was given to us tonight regarding this resolution.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor
 0 – Opposed

Selectman David Gagliardi stated this was brought to my attention yesterday, thus I asked Jeanne to put it on an addendum. It is time sensitive, thus it could not wait until our next meeting. What this entails is Verizon currently intends to close two Repair Call Centers in Massachusetts this year, one in Andover and one in Springfield, and as many as 140 workers will be impacted. Forty-three of those workers live in Billerica. I have given you four letters that have been sent to Verizon urging them to not close these Repair Call Centers. One of them is from the Mass Delegation of Senators, one is from State Treasurer Steven Grossman, one is from the Mass Congressional Delegation and one

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 4, 2013

from Secretary of State William Francis Galvin. What I have in the packet here is a resolution that I ask this Board to adopt and send on to Mr. Lowell McAdam, President and Chief Executive Officer of Verizon Communications, Inc. letting him know that this Board is not in favor of closing these two Repair Call Centers because it does affect 43 Billerica residents.

Brief discussions ensued in favor of supporting this resolution.

Resolution Relating to Maintaining Verizon Repair Center Jobs and Innovative Technology Work in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

WHEREAS, solutions to competitive demands on businesses in Massachusetts and throughout the United States and abroad often involve downsizing and outsourcing instead of protecting workers and their families, and

WHEREAS, Massachusetts Workers are without jobs, and some communities are particularly hard hit with long term unemployment; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that maintaining good jobs with good pay & benefits in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is encouraged of all businesses, ensuring working families employed in Massachusetts have job stability, and

WHEREAS, Verizon Communications in Massachusetts has been and continues to downsize their Massachusetts Workforce and has not added any new technology driven jobs in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and

WHEREAS, Verizon Communications in Massachusetts has decided to relocate their two Enhanced Verizon Repair Centers located in Andover, Massachusetts and Springfield, Massachusetts out of state to Rhode Island, forcing upon workers the options of an unreasonable commute hundreds of miles from their homes, moving out of state, or ending their employment with Verizon, and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that Verizon workers and their families will suffer extreme hardships, creating stressful family relationships, issues with child care and elder care, marital discord, and the communities in which they live will be impacted as these employees determine whether to move out of state, commute hundreds of miles or quit, and

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 4, 2013

WHEREAS, it is recognized that the Verizon Communications Enhanced Verizon Repair Centers have been located in Massachusetts for over forty years, servicing Massachusetts residents; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Billerica, Massachusetts promotes collaborative efforts of governments, business and labor in the dynamic field of telecommunications to employ workers in Massachusetts and partner with the communities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in sustaining and growing a high-performance economy, benefitting consumers, working families, and our communities; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Billerica, Massachusetts supports innovative job growth and retaining technology driven jobs with good pay and benefits, and strongly encourages Verizon Communications to continue to employ EVRC workers in Massachusetts providing the same repair center services that have served the Commonwealth for over forty years; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Billerica, Massachusetts will provide a copy of this resolution to Verizon, strongly encouraging Verizon to consider the impact of relocating workers out of state on their workers and families, the communities in which they live, and the economic growth and stability of the communities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Passed and Adopted by the Board of Selectmen on this Fourth day of March, 2013 in the TOWN OF BILLERICA, Massachusetts

Selectman David Gagliardi, seconded by Selectman Michael Rosa, made a motion that the Board approve this resolution and forward it to Mr. Lowell McAdam, President and Chief Executive Officer of Verizon Communications, Inc.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor
 0 – Opposed

OLD BUSINESS

TOWN MANAGER REPORTS

Town Manager John Curran stated it was a short report since it has only been one week since the Board's last meeting. If anyone has any questions I would be glad to answer them. There were none.

SOLID WASTE POLICY AMENDMENT (SECOND READING)

Secretary David Gagliardi stated this is the second reading regarding the Solid Waste Policy Amendment.

Chairman Andrew Deslaurier stated are there any questions or further comments regarding this policy. There were none.

Selectman David Gagliardi, seconded by Selectman Michael Rosa, made a motion that the Board approve the Solid Waste Policy Amendment.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor
 0 – Opposed

WATER AND SEWER RATES REVIEW

Town Manager John Curran stated as you know, the Water and Sewer Regulations, Article VI, Section 1, states that the Water and Sewer Rates shall be reviewed at the first Selectmen’s Meeting in March. I wanted to update the Board that I would have our Consultant, Doug Gardner, present a review and recommendation of the rates to the Water and Sewer Oversight Committee prior to asking this Board take action on the rates and I am hoping your continue this matter until that time.

Brief discussions ensued.

Selectman David Gagliardi, seconded by Selectman Robert Correnti, made a motion that the Board continue the Water and Sewer Rate Review until Monday, March 18, 2013.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor
 0 – Opposed

PINEHURST VFW POST 2597, RE: POPPY DRIVE AT THE MARKET BASKET STORES LOCATED AT 199, 493 AND 700 BOSTON ROAD ON MAY 17, 18 AND 19, 2013

Secretary David Gagliardi stated the William F. Eggo Pinehurst VFW Post #2597 is seeking permission to conduct a Poppy Drive at the Market Basket stores located at 199, 493 and 700 Boston Road on May 17th, 18th and 19th, 2013.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 4, 2013

Selectman Robert Correnti, seconded by Selectman Michael Rosa, made a motion to approve the request of the William F. Eggo Pinehurst VFW Post #2597 to conduct a Poppy Drive at the Market Basket stores located at 199, 493 and 700 Boston Road on May 17th, 18th and 19th, 2013.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor
 0 – Opposed

BOARD OF SELECTMEN APPOINTMENT

BOARD OF REGISTRARS (REPUBLICAN)

Selectman David Gagliardi, seconded by Selectman Michael Rosa, made a motion to appoint Donald Lovegrove of 11 Kensington Drive to the Board of Registrars (Republican).

It was voted: 5 – In Favor
 0 – Opposed

MEETING SCHEDULE

March 18, 2013
April 8 and 22, 2013

Selectman David Gagliardi, seconded by Selectman Michael Rosa, made a motion that the Board adjourn at 7:52 PM.

It was voted: 5 – In Favor
 0 – Opposed

A TRUE COPY ATTEST

Susan Michelini, Recording Secretary