

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

July 28, 1977

REC'D

ATT:

8-1

1977

AT 3:00 P.M.

TOWN CLERK

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 P.M. by First Selectman, Carl N. Otte. Members of the Board present: Betty C. Wakeman and Joel N. Davis.

The Board approved the minutes of the previous meeting after deleting the word "also" in the opening paragraph. Vote 3-0

The bills were approved to be paid for the week. Vote 3-0

Charter Revision Commission members Athan Pappas and Edwin Higgins met with the Board of Selectmen to answer any questions prior to the Board's acceptance or rejection of the revision. Mrs. Wakeman reported on the visit she and Mr. Otte made to Tom White. To the question "Could the Board of Selectmen accept or reject the revision in part," Mr. White responded that the Board of Selectmen does have the legal right to reject in part, being careful to keep it in context. Rejection of a portion of the charter would cause it to revert to the original charter. Also the Board of Selectmen can separate the revision on the ballot but it must be published as such.

The mechanics involved in the Board of Education changes are this: the Selectmen initiate the change by taking the question (of length of terms) to a Special Town Meeting which would in turn (upon approval) have the Regional Board call the question. The Regional Board must have a hearing and referendum. Only the change in term goes to referendum. The "how" of it is not taken to the Regional Board. The question does not have to be taken to the Regional Board before the charter referendum. Furthermore the term change couldn't be done for only one town - all members must be elected for the same term. Only one town need call the meeting for a referendum.

It is the power of the Board of Selectmen to establish in what form the revision goes to referendum, although the Charter Revision Commission did recommend it go in toto.

The Board of Selectmen suggested some edited changes (although they were not sure of their legal power to do so,) such as:

Pg. 1; 4th sentence from bottom, add "full" force.

Pg. 2; 8th sentence; "by" not "of."

Pg. 21 Section 6-18; insert "or at a Special Town Meeting called especially for that purpose."

On a motion by J.N. Davis, the Board of Selectmen voted to commend the Charter Revision Commission for the dedication with which they have performed their work. Vote 3-0

B. Wakeman moved to accept the revision as presented. Mr. Davis proposed the following amendment to Wakeman's motion: To accept the revision but to delete the provision for a single assessor. On the vote on the amendment, Wakeman voted no; Otte no; Davis yes. Amendment defeated. The Board then voted yes, to accept, 3-0, on the original motion.

C. Otte moved that the Board of Selectmen present the revision of the charter to a referendum to be held on Nov. 8, 1977, in toto. Davis moved an amendment to the motion: that the charter be presented to the referendum in 4 questions: 1) as charter 2) restructuring Planning and Zoning 3) restructuring the Board of Education 4) restructuring the Assessor. Vote on the amendment: Otte no; Wakeman no; Davis yes. Motion on the amendment defeated. Vote on the original motion: 3-0 yes.

Davis moved that action relative to the Special Town Meeting requesting

Regional District #13 to call a referendum regarding the term of members of the Regional Board of Education be held after the decision on the Charter revision referendum. Otte yes; Wakeman no; Davis yes. Motion passed.

The Board will check with Section 7-191 of the State Statutes regarding publication procedures to be followed.

The Board of Selectmen then met with M. Foster Mather, DVM and W. LeVee of the Insurance Committee to review the proposed insurance bid package. Davis moved that the Insurance Committee be authorized to proceed with the bid plans as presented tonight. Wakeman seconded it. Vote 3-0 Dr. Mather agreed to work out the matter of the bonds with Mr. Otte.

The Board voted 3-0 to rescind its appointment of July 21, 1977, relative to filling the Justice of the Peace vacancy.

Mrs. Elenore Carr was appointed to the Library Board of Directors after the Board of Selectmen accepted the resignation of Mrs. Louise Scott. Vote 3-0

Action relative to the Municipal Agent was tabled. Vote 3-0 Deeds for the White's cemetery land and the .05 acres to be purchased by Middlefield were reviewed and will be signed in front of Mrs. Hatch, who is a Notary Public. Vote 3-0

On a motion by B. Wakeman, Donna White was appointed as Constable Duty Officer for an indefinite term to be paid at a rate of \$40.00 per month for out-of-office work, effective July 1, 1977, charged to the constables' expense. Vote 3-0

The Workmen's Compensation Report was discussed. For instance, an accident on July 15, followed by 3 "dead" days with no pay (July 16, 17, 18) then for 3 days the injured would be paid for just those 3 days, on the 7th day the injured gets paid for all 7 days. Mr. Otte stated he had proposed an amendment to the Personnel Policy (minutes of July 21, 1977) so a man injured on the job would not have to use sic days, vacation days, or take a day without pay for a job-related injury. Davis stated he would rather take care of this problem on a case to case basis. Mr. Otte reminded the Board of the upcoming meeting on August 2 with the Labor Department re CSEA, Inc. The matter could be settled there. The Board voted to let the matter relative to amendments to the Personnel Policy for injuries be dropped. 3-0

The Board reviewed the draft of the Annual Report of the Board of Selectmen and approved it. It will be typed for inclusion in the Annual Report. Vote 3-0

Mr. Otte reported that the request to the state for reduction in speed on Main Street has received preliminary appraisal and a report from George Bell. He felt there was no justification for the request and will follow with a letter.

The meeting adjourned at 11:21 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

D.

Donna White
Secretary to the Selectmen