

TOWN OF DURHAM

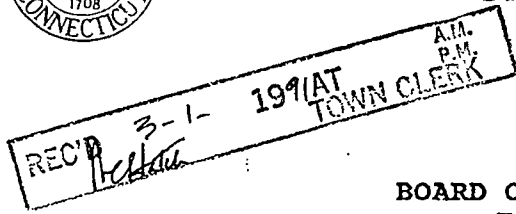
Office of the First Selectman

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Maryann P. Boord
First Selectman



BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING February 21, 1991

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. in the Durham Town Hall. Board of Selectmen present: Maryann P. Boord, First Selectman; Francis E. Korn, Selectman; Gladys B. Lavine, Selectman. Also present at various times: Jack Stahl (Board of Tax Review), James McLaughlin (Board of Tax Review), Henry Philip (Assessor), Richard C. Parmelee (resident), Hugh Curley (representing Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce).

Jack Stahl for the Board of Tax Review

Mr. Stahl reported that the Board has met with 40 residents so far in the appeal process; ten years ago they met with 116. They are signed up for interviews through next week. He noted that there have been some errors they are working to correct, especially on Main Street and in the Historic District; assessments are being redone. The Board of Tax Review will be meeting with the Coalition of Main Street Residents. As a contingency, he has asked OPM for an extension until April 15th.

Mrs. Boord stressed the Grand List figures MUST be available by the end of March for budgetary purposes. Mr. Philip added that he has an extension to March 15th, which he hasn't used. Mr. Stahl itemized the Board of Tax Review's schedule: their work is performed in February and they have secured two extensions which will expire April 15th. After property owners are notified of the change in their assessment, they have 10 days to respond (either to accept the amount or appeal it). No one can take a person's right-of-appeal away.

Mr. Philip noted HIS schedule: assessor finishes his work on January 31; and the Board of Tax Review sits during February and the usual final date is March 15th. Mr. Philip questioned the "methodology" of the way Main Street (or any antique home) is assessed.

F. Korn asked why 10% was added onto the Historic District properties; this has a significant impact on the evaluation of property. He complained that the person who assessed the Historic District properties put the entire district, which is fragile already, in jeopardy. Mr. Philip noted the real question is what

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is the per square foot figure on comparable properties. Older subdivisions always seem to be hit the hardest during revaluation.

Budgets

1020 Tax Collector's Salary HOLD
1021 Tax Collector's expenses \$9,311 3 ayes
1030 Town Clerk's Salary HOLD
1031 Town Clerk's Expenses \$12,689 3 ayes
1050 Town Hall Support Staff HOLD
1501 Assessor's Salary (no increase) \$12,500 3 ayes
1502 Assessor's Expenses \$9,875 3 ayes
1508 Town Counsel \$25,000 3 ayes
(Board voted unanimously to request the Board of Finance combine #1508 and #1509 (Litigation) into one line item.)
1510 Planning and Zoning Counsel (Bd had no figures)
1522 BHE HOLD
2004 ZBA HOLD
2006 PZC \$50,900 3 ayes
2008 Economic Development Comm \$350 3 ayes
(Board voted unanimously to keep \$3,417 in contingency)
2010 Conservation Comm. sent back for corrected figures
2014 Historic District Comm. \$950 3 ayes
2501 Elections \$13,805 3 ayes
2505 Social Security HOLD
2507 Unemployment Comp \$5,032 3 ayes
2509 Town Hall Improvements \$3,135 3 ayes
2514 Town Property Maintenance \$7,500 3 ayes
2516 MAP HOLD
2522 Employment Payroll Deductions \$1.00
4005 Constables \$1,000 3 ayes
4015 Dog Fund Transfer HOLD
4025 Fire Co. Trustees HOLD
4030 Ambulance Corps Building \$10,975 3 ayes
4504 Regional Mental Health \$309 3 ayes
4505 Visiting Nurse \$5,000 3 ayes
4506 DMIAAB Bd/Selectmen approved paying Durham's share of the \$737,954 request. G. Lavine asked that the Board of Finance have this line item broken out in detail on the printed hearing/meeting sheets.
4507 MMH Community Mental Health Clinic \$4,110 3 ayes
4508 Regional Training Center \$1 3 ayes
4510 General Assistance \$15,000 3 ayes
4512 60+ Club \$600 3 ayes
4515 Human Services \$425 3 ayes
4516 Meals on Wheels \$2,795 3 ayes
4520 Red Cross Trans \$11,500 3 ayes
4525 CAGM \$1,822 3 ayes
4526 Community Health Center \$1,750 3 ayes
4530 Rushford Center \$551 3 ayes

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4532 Sexual Assault Crisis \$500 3 ayes
4536 Midstate Regional Comm on Aging \$50 3 ayes
4537 MAT \$11,795 3 ayes
5001 Librarian's Salary HOLD
5002 Library Expenses HOLD (contains salary requests)
6501 Ambulance Corps Reserve \$20,000 3 ayes
6502 Fire Co. Reserve \$50,000 3 ayes

Minutes

MOTION M. BOORD, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 7, 1991. G. LAVINE NOTED SHE WAS NOT THE ONE WHO SAID ELLEN AND MARY HAD EXPERTISE IN CREATING A MAP; BOARD AGREED IT WAS TOWN PLANNER GEOFFREY COLEGROVE WHO UTTERED THE PHRASE; M. BOORD MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS REVISED, SECONDED BY G. LAVINE; 3 AYES.

Insurance

M. Boord reported she met with the Insurance Review Committee with new insurance figures.....in joining with Reg. District #13, the town would save money, the District would pay more. She also met with Superintendent of Schools Howard Kelley and they decided to meet with BCBS representative Sam Downey, who is the agent for Reg. District #13.

It was noted that Regional District #13 had a raise in its rates January 1 and to have another one, as expected, on April 1st if the Town of Durham joins their group, is too soon.

By joining with the District, the Town would save approximately \$70,000 for the 28 people who are covered. HMO's are being considered by the Insurance Review Committee, but negotiations would need to take place.

Proclamation

Hugh Curley, representing the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce, offered draft notes from which the Selectmen's office could prepare a Proclamation honoring the Air Force Band, who will give a concert at the High School on March 7th.

Correspondence

1. Letter from Robert Melvin asking the Selectmen to challenge the Administrator's Contract and stated he also encourages the Board to challenge binding arbitration laws.

2. Letter from Durham Main Street property owners complaining about the revaluation.

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3. Memo from Bill Milardo, Sanitarian, re the septic system where Colucci's and Favorite Things are in business. The bank has requested a week to try to straighten things out. Estimated cost of repairs is \$1,000.

4. Unemployment December 1990 3.1%

5. Mrs. Heyl, Chairman of the Board of Education, has invited the Board members to attend the presentation of the Education budget by Howard Kelley, Superintendent.

6. DOT traffic study at Pent Road/Tuttle Road will be discussed at an upcoming meeting.

7. Notification of a lawsuit brought by Paul Haake vs the Town of Durham.

Tax Reimbursement

MOTION M. BOORD, SECOND F. KORN, TO REIMBURSE JANE MARONEY \$297.06 FOR A VETERAN'S EXEMPTION; 3 AYES.

Selectmen's Concerns

F. Korn: felt the Annual Joint Chiefs of Staff Meeting went very well.

G. Lavine: noted that CT Housing Partnership Program in Durham is called the Durham Housing Partnership. It was agreed.

Update From the First Selectman

1. Received a call from the school: the National Honor Society is looking for a project. Board suggested mapping, photographing the cemetery stones, etc. Julie Schwartz, who contacted Mrs. Boord, will be advised to call Francis Korn, Town Historian.

Public Comments

Rick Parmelee: made remarks on calling a regional meeting on the Arbitrator's Contract. Discussion. M. Boord responded to Mr. Parmelee that she had called a regional meeting.

Adjourn

MOTION M. BOORD, SECOND G. LAVINE, TO ADJOURN AT 8:53 P.M.; 3 AYES.