

# **TMTA Executive Committee**

## **10/9/13 Meeting Minutes**

### **Attendees:**

TMTA Officers: Jim Osten, Chair Michelle Goddard, Vice-Chair

Pct. 1 Joel Adler

Pct. 2

Pct. 3 Michelle Goddard

Pct. 4 Molly Nye, Laura Hussong

Pct. 5 Andy Friedlich

Pct. 6 Frank Sandy, Jane Pagett

Pct. 7 George Burnell, Mary Burnell

Pct. 8 Andrei Radulescu-Banu

Pct. 9 Jeanne Canale

Other Mary Ann Stewart, School Committee Edith Sandy

Jim Osten called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

### **Announcements:**

With regard to the November 4 Special Town Meeting, Jim announced there would be a *TMTA Information Session at 7:30 p.m. on October 29 in Battin Hall*. He said the Warrant approved by the Selectmen on Monday night included 5 Articles. These are:

1. Reports of Town Boards, Officers, Committees
2. Amend the FY2014 Operating, Enterprise Fund and Community Preservation Budgets
3. Establish and Appropriate To and From Specified Stabilization Funds
4. Appropriate for Modular Classrooms at the High School
5. Appropriate for Renovations to Buildings to be Acquired at 39 Marrett Road (Community Center)

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Having spoken with Barry Orenstein, Jim said there had been no expenditures and that the bank balance was the same as the prior month.

### **School Committee Update – Mary Ann Stewart (STM Article 4):**

Mary Ann reported that at the School Committee meeting the night before, The New England Center for Children (NECC) gave a presentation regarding students on the autism spectrum (report on the LPS website). They reported on the space needs for the Intensive Learning Program (ILP) for the students projected to be going to the High School in 2015. The data presented relates to the Special Town Meeting Article requesting funding for modular units at the High School.

At Summit 1 last Thursday, Rob Addelson covered the financing plan. He said the appropriation being requested was between \$6.7 and 7.7 million for modular units which would address ILP and general student space needs. Given the financing plan, no override was being requested for the 12 modular units.

Mary Ann reported that at the October 26 School Committee meeting, a report on Special Education would be presented. She also said that final enrollment numbers were close to projected.

Questions:

1. What will happen to the modular units at Estabrook School? Mary Ann wasn't sure.
2. With the addition of the modular space, how many additional personnel will be needed?  
Staffing will be addressed at the Annual Town Meeting.

### **The Community Center at 39 Marrett Road (STM Article 5)**

#### **The Ad Hoc Community Center Advisory Committee – Laura Hussong:**

Laura said that with the papers being passed on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and the Town gaining ownership of the buildings, an architectural firm was hired to help with the changes needed to convert the buildings to The Community Center. As Chair of the CCAC, Michelle Ciccolo recommended to the Selectmen that 2 parallel paths are be pursued 1) renovate a portion of the building to get some people in as quickly as possible, and 2) develop other areas for our long term program needs.

It is anticipated that the Recreation and Human Services Departments will first move to 39 Marrett Road. Of the 12 Human Services staff, 2 will remain at the Town Office Building to coordinate Transportation. With the current Senior Center at Muzzey having problems, construction at 39 Marrett Rd. will begin in December so that the Senior Center can move in June.

Under Article 5 at the Special Town Meeting, an appropriation will be requested to fund the construction documents and initial build out. Initial renovations include minor changes for code, installation of wifi and making the building ADA compliant. Other changes include adding a bathroom on the second floor, changing the HVAC system and building a sidewalk from Marrett Rd. to the Center. A structural analysis is being done for the increased load on the second floor and to determine where walls can be taken down and built. The estimated Article 5 first phase costs are between \$567,000 and \$945,000 with additional "soft costs" between \$188,000 and \$265,000. Funding for Article 5 includes using money already approved for Muzzey Senior Center improvements but not yet done, tax levy revenue and Community Preservation Act money. It was mentioned that the Article 5 appropriation is the first portion of the projected \$8 to 9 million to totally renovate the buildings.

Questions:

1. What is wrong with the current HVAC system? It needs to be modified as space is changed and it's an old system.
2. Are there plans for how to dispose of the Town space at Muzzey? Joel Adler said there is a stipulation in the original deed that the space be used for senior purposes.

#### **TMMA Planning for the Special Town Meeting:**

Jim asked for volunteers to research and write up the articles for a TMMA Information Report.

Article 2 – Amending FY 2014 Operating Budgets	Andy
Article 3 - Est. & Appropriate from Stabilization Funds	George
Article 4 – Appropriate for Modular Classrooms at H.S.	Andrei
Article 5 – Appropriate for Renovations, 39 Marrett Rd.	Laura and George

It was decided that we wouldn't print copies of the TMMA Warrant Information Report but would send it out electronically.

### **Old Business:**

1. Preparing the "How to and sources for help" – Andrei reported he has set up an email list with 2 documents 1) the old "Town Meeting in Lexington" which needs to be updated for electronic voting, and 2) the "How To" suggested by Glen Parker that Andrei needs help with. Andrei will send out a "tickler" for help. It was mentioned that Deborah Brown should also review the material and that the League of Women Voters should be contacted since in the past the "Town Meeting in Lexington" has been a joint TMMA / LWV project.
2. The Anaerobic Digester Proposal – George reported that the Board of Selectmen voted to post the draft RFP on the Town website for public comment which expires on October 24. There are two ways people can respond 1) folks can comment on specific RFP particulars, and 2) general comments about whether we should have one or not and why. With those who have spoken at BOS meetings, there appears to be a strong feeling we shouldn't have one on Hartwell Ave. People should be encouraged to write to the Selectmen re: the RFP. It was also mentioned that the RFP has 2 alternatives (waste on and off site) and that the RFP has been slightly changed from a year ago with projecting capacity of 50,000 tons/yr. of "source separated organic waste" (garbage, greases and fats) and 50,000 tons/yr. of yard waste for a total capacity of 100,000 tons/yr.  
Question: Should comments to the Board of Selectmen be cc.ed to the TMMA email list? Edie mentioned that people should post their comments separately to the TMMA list and not to cc. and that citizens can ask Town Meeting Members to post their comments to the list.

### **New Business:**

1. Jim said that the request to co-sponsor the LWV had to be voted on via email with result being 10 to 3 not to co-sponsor it. There was discussion that we should only co-sponsor meetings / forums that directly relate to Town Meeting / government. Having had to vote "electronically", it brought up the issue of how and when voting via email should be done. Jim thought that financial matters should be voted in at meetings and not electronically. This will be further discussed at a future meeting.

A motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Andy Friedlich