

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2013 - 7:30 P.M.
SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM

Meeting came to order at 7:30 p.m. with Selectmen Troy E. Garron, Kim R. Roy and Michael J. Schleiff present.

The following business was discussed:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board as well as those attending tonight's meeting stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

The Agenda for Tuesday, March 12th, was unanimously approved without revision.

AFFIRMED COMMITMENT AND WARRANT

Moved by Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously affirmed approval for the payment of the following commitment and warrant:

Vendor Warrant	# 71	\$ 335,287.01
Ambulance Commitment	# 2B	\$ 8,311.00

APPROVED COMMITMENTS AND WARRANTS

Moved by Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following commitments and warrants with the exception of Schleiff abstaining from the Police Department payroll in warrant #72:

Payroll Warrant	# 72	\$ 314,516.64
Vendor Warrant	# 73	\$ 66,438.45
Withholding Warrant	# 74	\$ 117,193.88
Mobile Home Park Fee	# 11	\$ 5,160.00
Ambulance Commitment	# 3/13	\$ 146.26

Moved by Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following Selectmen bills:

Michael Gilman, Esq. (legal services/February).....	\$ 647.50
Attorney Lawrence P. Mayo (legal services/February)	\$ 1,937.50
Matthew Bender & Co., Inc. (MA Law Research Guide)	\$ 152.94
Halifax Postmaster (400 forever stamps)	\$ 184.00
Halifax Postmaster (mailing STM 4/8/13 warrant)	\$ 844.19
MMMA (C. Seelig/meeting 4/11/13)	\$ 30.00

The Board acknowledged payment of the Selectmen Office Payroll for the period ending March 9, 2013 in the amount of \$5,988.02.

The Board acknowledged payment to the Treasurer for the following turnovers:

<u>TURNOVER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2013-59	\$ 1,155.00

MINUTES

Moved by Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved the following Selectmen Minutes:

Regular Session – January 22, 2013

GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS

Petition Article

Annual article from South Coastal legal Services for \$3,500 will be on the annual town meeting warrant.

Family Leave – Thomas Schindler

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the board unanimously granted Family Medical Leave to Thomas Schindler as of February 13, 2013 until such time he is able to return to work.

Boiler Elementary School

The board was informed that the insurer has declined coverage on the boiler as it is wear and tear. There for any cost incurred will need to be paid for by the town. Schleiff asked how they determined that is how the crack happened and Seelig did not know. He asked how the bill was for and roughly Seelig said eight or nine thousand. Schleiff also asked what else over at the school that we do not have coverage on that could potentially break. Seelig said we have coverage on the boiler but not on that particular incident because it is considered normal wear and tear and that if we want to get boiler policy that covers wear and tear then we can.

Roy stated that it get backs to the discussion that they had last night at the Finance Committee meeting which is making sure that the school is maintained and that there are people are keeping an eye on the things. She understands what Schleiff is saying but they need to see whose responsibility it is ... is it under the jurisdiction of the school committee? Seelig said that under the state law it falls under the jurisdiction of the school committee. Roy continued to say that last night the Chair of the elementary school was in attendance at FinCom's meeting and we talked about the fact that things went on a bit before anyone realized that there was a problem with the building they were under the impression that it was out responsibly and we thought it was theirs. She added that Capital Planning has got word that there are some repairs that need to be done and set aside an article for this town meeting.

About a month age Building Inspector, Tom Millias went over there with the assistant building inspector just to look around and made a punch list of things that needed repair. Roy has contacted John Tuffy and Claudia a suggested maybe having a meeting and invite Tom Millias and maybe have Gerry there also because he might know of some vendors who can give Claudia advice where to pursue the bids. She realizes that the principal is the administrator but it is also her responsibility to make sure the building is maintained.

Seelig said that he can check with Ken Mann at Borhek Insurance to see where there might be some “holes” in our policy where problems could come up and that it is hard trying to figure out what you don’t have for coverage and what you could have. Seelig also stated that coverage could be denied for certain incidents if we are not maintaining the building.

Schleiff said that we need someone to look at things that further on down could lead to bigger issues. Seelig said that if there is no maintenance plans on building or vehicles then they will fall apart more quickly and in the long run spend more money on repairs. Schleiff then bring up the point that we need to get maintenance plans on the new vehicles that have been purchased these last few years and Roy was in agreement.

Garron asked what could they do as a board and Seelig said that they are meeting with the Building Committee this evening and they could ask them. Schleiff brought up the point that over at the school they are educating the kids and do not have the knowledge about roofs and other issues. Seelig stated then they need to hire people who can do those sort of things and added that every couple of months they need to do a walk through to see what repairs need to be done to stay on top of things.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT

Jennifer (Bobbi) Harmon - Choate - Dog Hearing Continued 16:30

At 7:45 p.m., in accordance with MGL Chapter 140, Section 157, Roy opened the continued dog hearing that was held two weeks ago on February 12, 2013. The hearing addressed a complaint that dogs owned by Jennifer (Bobbi) Harmon – Choate and housed at 7 Plymouth Street are creating a nuisance by excessive barking. The hearing was held at the request of the complainant, Scott Clawson.

The following individuals were present and sworn in by Notary Public, Pamela McSherry:

Jennifer Choate	7 Plymouth Street
Scott Clawson	21 Plymouth Street
Leslie Deeb	21 Plymouth Street
Annie Brown	Animal Control Officer

Roy:

Thank you for coming back. Um I think what we should do perhaps if you agree to have you do an update, Annie do an update on what’s happened since we’ve been there last.

Brown:

Um I haven’t had any complaints come into my box or anything like that so um I haven’t had anything happen since our last meeting. Um I know that um you guys were planning to go out as well as the ZBA a representative was planning to go out. I know, I know you went but I don’t know if that took place.

Roy: They did.

Brown:

Okay. So that where that’s the only information that I’ve had that’s been updated.

Roy:

Okay. Mr. Clawson do you want to start with what's happened over the last two weeks.

Clawson: The past two weeks have been ...

Roy: Fours weeks has it been four weeks wow.

Clawson:

Been fairly quiet. Um other than ah today they were fairly noisy um the dogs on the west side barking maybe one or two of them almost throughout the whole day. Um it was raining out and I was outside we were taking some water out of the pond pumping water out of the pond and they were barking a fair amount before we started, during when we were starting work and pretty much the whole day today. But other than that um yesterday morning I went out and I checked early in the morning because I know last time Jennifer had told us that the dogs are in um every night and I went out at six thirty and I taped them outside barking at six thirty in the morning yesterday.

Roy: Today

Schleiff: What time I'm sorry what time yesterday you said?

Clawson: Sixty thirty a.m.

Schleiff: What time were they doing it today well what time cause it was raining so ...

Clawson:

Today they were barking its two sets of different dogs um the dogs on the west side of Jennifer's property were barking today. The ones in the back weren't barking. But yesterday I went and checked the dogs on the north side the ones that we (gestured towards Roy) went over and they they're were in their kennels at six thirty in the morning which I'm assuming they were there all night long.

Schleiff:

Which is I don't know I don't the layout west side is you have there's different.

Clawson: She's got several.

Brown:

There's a berm side and then there's a behind the barn side. So those where the two dogs are the two sets of dogs are located.

Seelig: Or facing the property if you're on the street facing the Harmon property.

Schleiff: Right

Brown: Yup

Seelig:

The berm runs more south on the west side of the property then swings around.

Schleiff: You're talking in the back of the property?

Roy: Um hum.

Garron: Ya

Schleiff:

There's a berm that runs on the west side and comes around heading east right up to the property line before you ...

Clawson: Before the Plympton property right.

Schleiff: Okay

Clawson: Ya

Schleiff: And there's two kennels there?

Choate: There in two different areas.

Roy:

Are there two different breeds? Are they separated by breed or are they a combination of both breeds?

Choate: Combination

At this time Schleiff made a diagram to try and understand exactly where they were talking about. Brown came up to the table and showed where the kennel/office, barn, dog area off the back of the barn and the house with a fenced in area were located.

Schleiff: Right so this is the kennel here.

Brown: Yup

Schleiff: Okay

Clawson: That's the west side that's what I telling about side.

Schleiff: That's the west ... that's the west.

Clawson: Yup and the other one I would be call the north side.

Schleiff: And the other called the north side.

Clawson: North side of the property ya.

Schleiff: Why I would call that east if the house is in the middle.

Brown: Yup that would be the house.

Schleiff: And the north would be towards the street?

Clawson: No

Seelig: South

Schleiff: So okay you're calling that north okay.

Roy:

I was looking at the Boy Scout in the back. He knows direction. Is that good?

Brown:

This one over here is that's the small facility. The main the main housing area is this one back here off the barn.

Schleiff: Okay so you said when it was raining out ...

Clawson: All day today.

Schleiff: You heard the dog barking so what time about ...

Clawson:

In those kennels there were a couple dogs not a whole bunch but I'm gonna say maybe one, two or three that barked throughout the whole day on constantly.

Schleiff: In the west kennel?

Clawson: Right the west kennel.

Schleiff: You can determine which kennel?

Clawson: Uh hum ya

Schleiff:

Barking. So when you say all day you said yesterday six thirty you were hearing them.

Clawson:

No. I didn't nothing on that on those on the ones on the north side I went over to check to see if they were out because the last time we were in she said they were going to be in. They weren't out until seven or eight o'clock. Six thirty in the morning they were out so I would assume they were out all night long.

Schleiff:

So if you were checking on them means they were quiet you kind of I don't hear them so you were looking around.

Clawson:

Correct, they were quiet ya until I got up to them and then they were barking up that close.

Roy:

I went to the property. On the day that I went to the property Mr. Clawson said that they had been quiet for a bit for the last week or so um since the hearing. Um I heard, we walked they barked a little bit they quieted down but there was certainly some barking every once in a while and I had a conversation with somebody that works for Mr. Clawson it was ya know she just happened ...

Clawson: She actually doesn't work for me she works for um Tom Hearn.

Roy: Oh okay okay.

Clawson: Ya one of the trainers he's in the barn.

Roy:

Okay so somebody showed up at the property and so I took the opportunity to ask some questions about the barking and she certainly talked about how frequent it is for her and ya know how it effects sometimes the horses and um had also reiterated that it had been quiet the last couple of weeks but had talked about ya know how loud and how consistent it can be and that they do try to block it because you you almost get used to it but then there's times that it just so bad that it just ya know they can't concentrate. So, um I have with me Deb Tinkham who's the chair of the ZBA um and then I know another member from the ZBA was over there this weekend

Clawson: Uh hum

Roy:

That I spoke with who you know they hear barking certainly not constant but ya know at times there was barking for a couple minutes and then they would quiet down. So ...

Schleiff: This was outside or inside?

Roy: This was outside.

Schleiff: During the day?

Roy: During the day yup. So

Schleiff:

Um I went out there this morning at seven. I might have met your son getting picked up for school.

Choate: Oh could be, yeah

Schleiff:

I said I wasn't visiting you I was visiting some noisy dogs so he ... they're right down there somewhere down there. Um so I walked down the path and I wanted to be conscious of noise so I'm listening to noise so I'm waiting to hear some dogs. I didn't hear any dogs. I went to the left of the house I didn't hear anything coming from that building that's why I was asking what kennels was what. Ya know I walked a little bit, stood listened I mean the birds made more noise and I heard an owl I heard some roosters over in Plympton. I hear the cars zooming making noise of the cars. So I didn't hear the dogs at seven a.m. So I discovered that must be the kennel over there. So I walked towards the kennels over there and when I got almost to the end of the property you could see those little windows or something there and then then they started barking. I heard the music first I go ya know having a who down or what they're doing but then they started barking so then I heard them so that's where the dogs was. But that's the only place I could determine the dogs were barking from. I didn't go stomping around the property. I kind of just a bit ease in and out try to get a sense of what's around me.

Choate: A lot of mud.

Schleiff:

Ya, no I walked around the mud too. Um then I heard the dogs barking so I walked away and I went back towards like the west property trying to get a sense of what's going on. I heard the dogs barking it sounded muffled it didn't sound extremely loud when I was there when they were inside I don't know what they sound outside I'm sure its a lot louder when they're outside. Um but it didn't wasn't all wasn't bark, bark, bark, bark, bark, bark so they must have thought I went away or I don't know what get them going ya know but it certainly seemed reasonably quiet at seven in the morning even indoors it seemed muffled. Um ya know like I said the birds were making more noise out there then first thing in the morning the birds are out there they're going crazy so I don't know if it's the sensitivity of the dogs being there all the time or not. I didn't see any excessive when I went out there that's all I'm trying to tell ya. Ya know like I said they weren't outside obviously they're outside they're going to be more noticeable. That's my end.

Deeb:

This doesn't really make a lot of sense to me I mean I don't know the number of dogs that are on this property but if people are saying the dogs are barking does it matter that its seven in the morning, twelve in the afternoon. I mean believe she (Choate) does a great job with her dogs it's not anything personal and people should be able to do what they want but when it inflicts on other people peace and quiet.

Schleiff: Oh absolutely.

Deeb:

Like is there is there question if the dogs are barking or not an issue I mean there's thirty something dogs there plus they bark.

Schleiff: I don't how many.

Deeb:

Because I felt when I come to the meeting before that we were being told that these dogs don't bark, flat out.

Schleiff: I'm just telling you ...

Deeb: They do.

Schleiff: When I went there I what I heard ...

Deeb: Ya

Schleiff: When I heard the dogs.

Deeb: I understand.

Schleiff:

I don't know how many dogs were in there. They barked when I went by the window saw them, I walked away, I stood there a little bit I didn't hear it then I heard them barking a little bit they stopped again, maybe a minute they bark they stopped again

Deeb: They've, they've been definitely ...

Schleiff: So

Deeb: Better they've been better the last ...

Schleiff: I'm sorry.

Deeb: Month or so better they've been better there's no doubt about that.

Schleiff: Well um

Deeb: But for the past two years were they? No.

Schleiff:

Well like I said I went down there today and I listened and I'm just reporting back what I saw, inside it seemed muffled. The berm I'm sure helps a little bit, would some more foliage there help I think it would help also. Um if they're outside do they bark 24/7 I don't know that.

Brown: I think that

Schleiff:

I mean I can only give ... you swore in that you're here to tell ya know whatever you know to to the best of your abilities and I have to ...

Brown:

I think that if we can if we can establish a set hours that ya know if there, if there not out before eight o'clock in the morning or seven o'clock in the morning. I think if we have set hours that we can suggest the meeting last night for the kennel permit got continued to the twenty second of April. So if we can come to some consensus of times because I think that's a big part of it, they don't they feel that they don't have rest from the times that the dogs are barking and the dogs definitely need exercise, they definitely need to get out and its her business during business hours. So I think that if we can come to a compromise on times then possibly send that information down to ZBA so it's documented in that's ...

Roy:

I see where you're coming from Annie. I think that's a good start about times.

Brown: Right

Roy: But the, but the ... they should have peace in their yard.

Brown: Absolutely

Roy:

At noon and there are a lot of dogs on the property for the number of litters that you say that you have. You say that you only have six litters a year.

Choate: Ah hum

Roy: And you are looking to increase that

Choate: Correct

Roy: Okay. What are you looking to increase that to from six to what?

Choate:

I would like to increase, maybe decrease the Pomeranians increase the Shepherds.

Roy: But how many litters?

Choate: From um probably a combination of maybe six and two.

Roy: So you ...

Clawson: How many dogs are at there now?

Roy: You're only looking to increase your amount of litters to be eight a year.

Choate: Correct

Roy: Okay

Choate: Unless it's less with the Pomeranians is how it's kind of balancing.

Roy:

Cause I ... I know that the ZBA had to cancel last night because of quorum but I didn't see you I was expecting to see you there.

Choate: Right. I had down written down eight fifteen.

Roy: Oh okay

Choate: I have no idea. I did talk to them and said oh my gosh.

Roy: Ya

Choate: I'll be there yes.

Roy:

Now you um Mike mentioned that there was music playing and I think that was a suggestion of Annie to sort of make music and to exercise the dogs um more frequently so I don't know is that, do you think that's what's helped in the last few weeks?

Choate: I don't think anything's changed in the last few weeks

Brown: The dogs

Choate:

Other than what I've told you when I was here last time that I have tried to put them in earlier and out later. Um on occasion they'd go out earlier or they'd come in a little later but as a whole.

Roy: This morning they were out at six thirty.

Choate:

Yesterday they um the whatever side this side (gestured towards the drawing on the table).

Brown: The back one.

Choate: Was out earlier but all collared by myself personally, no barking

Roy:

Well when I saw you I bumped into you last week and you said you were going out to buy two more of those bark collars.

Choate: Which I did.

Roy: Okay so how many of, you have twenty three adult dogs correct?

Choate: Correct

Roy:

Okay. Of those twenty three adult dogs how many of them wear the bark collars?

Choate:

Um, all of the Shepherds which would be ten except for two that are mothers right this minute.

Roy: Okay

Choate: And they only go out and come back.

Roy:

So the two um new collars that you purchased were those for existing dogs that didn't have them before or?

Choate:

They were for um, two of my collars the batteries. I have to charge them every single night rather than be able to go ten to fourteen days.

Roy: So they just ... they weren't brand new?

Choate: Correct ah hum.

Roy:

They did talk about um the woman that I talked to did say that occasionally she would hear the screeching of the dog but the day I was there I don't think we heard any screeching of a dog being hurt from a bark collar.

Clawson: No they were just barking.

Roy: They were just barking so there were no collars on them at that time.

Choate: Oh they always have collars on when they go out.

Roy: Well they weren't screeching.

Schleiff: When I was there it was before seven today and I left ...

Choate: They wouldn't have any collars on at night.

Schleiff:

After twenty past six so I was there five of seven ... I was about twenty, twenty five minutes there, so the dogs were all in.

Roy: They were all in. No I was talking about yesterday he said ...

Roy: Ya

Schleiff: Oh oh yesterday

Roy:

Whatever day. Either it was today or yesterday he said that he had gone out there and they were there at six thirty. So when do you put the bark collar ... I'm not a super fan of the bark

Choate: No Sure.

Roy: Collars but I'm just because of the (in audible) thing.

Choate: The minute they go outside from their crate and kennel.

Roy: Okay

Choate: To go outside they get a collar immediately.

Roy:

Do you think it's possible that a dog could bark with a bark collar on and not yelp in pain?

Choate: Oh sure.

Roy: Is it possible?

Choate:

Depending on their pain tolerance or the level that it's at or if it was little looser or tighter sure absolutely.

Roy: But what's the point if they if they continue to bark?

Brown: That that comes with knowing the particular dog that you're are dealing with.

Roy: Okay

Brown:

Um if you have a male dog and there's a bitch in heat he's gonna bark through that collar. Um so it it comes with knowing, knowing your dogs and also knowing their coat and all those kind of things sometime you have to shave where those bark collars go so you have proper contact but it also goes with knowing your dogs and I think that she knows knows her dogs pretty well so.

Roy: But those dogs even though they're wearing ...

Brown: They will bark through.

Roy: Collars are still barking

Brown:

Some of them will bark through. Yup and they're smart dogs they'll also know when they've loosened up a little bit, being a leather strap occasionally they they loosen um so they're smart dogs. I'm sure they they figure that kind of stuff out.

Roy: Okay so it really doesn't keep a dog from barking.

Brown: It's not, nothings one hundred percent no.

Roy: Thank you for clearing that. Mr. Clawson ...

Clawson:

This was from yesterday morning at six (played a recording/video off his cell phone of dogs barking then showed the board) if you can see there was no, it was very short um and then I have another one.

Choate: That's Sunday morning at six a.m.?

Garron: He said yesterday.

Schleiff: Six-thirty

Clawson: Yesterday morning.

Schleiff: Six-thirty

Clawson: It was Monday morning.

Roy:

I did listen to Mr. Clawson's CD that he dropped off to us um, ya know, there were long periods of barking but his camera was on the meter and that's what you could see the whole time was the meter but there were certainly long periods of barking on the tape. Again the filming was just of the meter but ...

Schleiff: Is long periods ten minutes or an hour or somewhere in the middle or ...

Clawson:

Some some of those tapes went for an hour and half. I have a, almost thirty two hours of taping. I didn't actually put the thirty two hours on those.

Roy: That wasn't on there ya.

Clawson:

Um, so during the summertime and during the fall they were going all day which would be for an hour, stop for twenty minutes, another hour stop for twenty minutes.

Schleiff:

Oh certainly summer there are longer daylight hours so day time to be out everybody tends be out longer eight o'clock at night. Trying to make friends a little easy in my neighborhood too.

Choate:

And and that could in fact be when I had, I think I had mentioned that I had been back and forth to New Hampshire I had a death in the family. Could be I had somebody working for me that wasn't a hundred percent on the ball so if that was happening that in fact could be I don't know.

Clawson:

And then we have the today incident with the dogs ya know one or two dogs barking you could hear them clearly well past my house and I walked way out back you could hear them out there and it was only a couple of them but there's still just barking all day long constantly.

Schleiff:

Um when I was there I also kind of noticed the logistics where the barn is and you have a big stable is that what the huge building, stable so if they're in the barn it almost seems like the stable would help keep it from getting to the house the noise certainly you would hear it to the stable but it also looks like just a bump but if they're in the yard outside in the yard then you don't have that blocking ...

Brown: It funnels straight through.

Schleiff: The noise so then the barking is more apparent to the house.

Roy: Yes

Schleiff: Because you don't have that building there.

Schleiff: So I mean ...

Roy: Yup. Troy you've been quiet.

Garron:

In all honesty as I said at our last meeting sure as tell you wanted to get rid of the horses or get rid of the dogs what would you like to see her do because it's been quiet for the last few weeks and she claims she's been doing the same things she didn't change the routine. I'm ya know you can make faces whatever I just saying what I'm hearing here. I haven't been there. I don't know what to do.

Clawson:

I, I don't know what the solution is Troy ya know either she's either got to soundproof them, move the dogs to the front of the property or guarantee some how that the dogs are going to be quiet and I ...

Roy: (in audible)

Clawson:

It's just like today what's ya know I'm gonna listen to it for one day but and that's okay?

Roy: Or even ...

Clawson: It's not okay for me cause it's physically effected my health.

Roy: Okay

Clawson: Physically affected me.

Roy:

Or reduce the number of adult dogs because the less number of dogs is going to be less barking.

Clawson:

There again it was only a couple of dogs today it wasn't like it was ten dogs.

Roy: Then maybe ...

Clawson: It has been ten dogs in the past.

Roy:

I mean I don't know if you could get along enough that you could call her and say hey dogs are barking shut them up.

Deeb: We tried that.

Clawson:

We tried that she threatened she was going to take me to court for harassment.

Choate: Well it did get to a point of it wasn't a friendly hello.

Clawson: It was texts.

Choate: It was harassing.

Clawson:

It was several texts the dogs are barking. Of course it was nine or ten o'clock at night

Deeb: Sometimes or later.

Clawson: Ya sometimes two o'clock in the morning.

Choate:

But aren't we talking about recently like what's going on presently what I'm doing what I've ...

Clawson:

What about the past two years I've had to live through this. You want to talk to my doctor and ask him what my health is because of this.

Deeb: Talk to me and ask me cause ...

Roy: Okay so we're here because we got a complaint.

Choate: Ah hum.

Roy:

Ya know. We're talking about the last four weeks but prior to that there was excessive barking according to Mr. Clawson and your testimony the last time you were in you talked about being away and maybe that's why and you just said it right here ...

Choate: Sure

Roy:

Perhaps they were not being watched the same way you would have watched them.

Choate: Right

Roy:

So you would admit that there has to be some kind of barking for you to be even sitting in this room and at your old testimony you said that you could see how that could happen.

Choate: Absolutely

Roy: Okay

Choate: But we're talking one day.

Roy: Okay

Roy: So that's why we're here now.

Choate:

We're talking one day a month we're not talking incessant, excessive barking that's a nuisance.

Roy:

We were talking about that in for in summer time when you were not present and according to Mr. Clawson and according to you that it could it could have been that way.

Choate: Ya but that, I wasn't out of town for extended periods of time it was only

Roy:

Okay we've kind of gone back and forth on that and not really clear from you what that is because at one point you say I was away a lot and then you said you were gone one night at a time so I'm actually confused by that.

Choate:

Well I was away frequently but it was one night at a time it wasn't

Roy: Okay

Choate: More than a night.

Roy: Ya

Choate: and a day so

Roy: Then then why would the ... I'm confused.

Schleiff:

Choate: I thought we cleared that up at the last meeting.

Schleiff: Once a week you were disappearing for day or two.

Choate: Probably

Schleiff: Over a course of a month or two.

Choate:

It was a course of probably initially when the funeral, the death and the initial stuff it was once a week and then it was probably once a month.

Roy:

Which is, it's your life I understand that but what I'm saying to you is that you just said I don't know why we're here ... we're talking about the last couple of weeks everything fine but this all started when things weren't fine and so maybe they're fine for the last few weeks and for that I'm happy and whatever you're doing is a good thing and I'm hoping that you can keep up with it because everybody should be able to be in their yard without listening to non stop barking.

Choate: I agree. I absolutely agree.

Roy: I wouldn't want to live there absolutely would not.

Choate: Ah hum.

Roy:

And so that's why we're back here because we wanted to see how things were going. The last time you were here again there was a slight improvement on the way that you had seen the dogs had heard the dogs barking and so we wanted to follow up with you and talk to you about it. We know that you are up for your kennel permit renewal. I wanted to go to their meeting to be able to hear ZBA and see what you were looking for to increase on your litters because I think that could affect the noise level. I don't know, not really our jurisdiction as Selectmen but we're here every time there's a complaint about the noise for the dogs and so we feel that, I feel we need to listen to your permit process to make sure ...

Choate: Sure

Roy:

That's something that we also want to support because we we want to avoid these dog hearings, they're not fun as you know.

Choate: Absolutely

Roy: Not fun

Choate: But hasn't everyone invested time and days and ...

Roy: Yes

Choate: All of ZBA's to come hear that these allegations are incorrect

Roy: Well

Choate:

Like how many times are we going to come in and all of us have to do this?

Schleiff: Well I mean.

Choate: As much as it takes obviously.

Roy:

(in audible) come in here saying that there has been dog barking we have officers saying that they've heard dogs barking so there are dogs barking whether its non-stop for the last six month I don't know all I know ...

Choate: But ...

Roy:

That dogs bark and the more dogs you have the likelihood dogs barking increases and so we are here because we have a complaint ...

Choate: Ah hum.

Roy: from somebody who is a citizen and deserves peace in his yard as well.

Choate: Ah hum.

Roy:

And we need to resolve this cause I personally do not want to sit through another Harmon-Clawson hearing

Deeb:

How are these allegations incorrect I don't understand that statement? It's like saying that what we're doing is redundant that we're lying.

Roy: Look look ya know I don't want this ...

Deeb: Go ahead.

Roy: To get out of control

Deeb: Oh no it won't I promise you it won't.

Schleiff:

My my thoughts is making improvements and continuing to make improvements, soundproof you know, vegetation, sound barriers something so when they're out deflects some of the noise that's going on to dull it down. From listening from inside the barn very hard to hear them barking from that side. I didn't hear anything from the west one, I did hear it from the other one and it, it was muffled so that to me was reasonable. If you can some how get it down from the outside a little bit more that would be much more. Um, if this was just your home and not a business down there ya know I might look at this a little different to. Um ...

Clawson: How so?

Schleiff: Huh

Clawson: How so?

Schleiff:

Well because it's your like your like businesses. Business zone for barking. Um your houses ...

Clawson: Where in a business zone for barking.

Schleiff:

No no. Your down there you run businesses, its it's a horses, dog, cats, you're hearing all kinds of animals all over the place, birds, owls, you know I hear farm animals over in Plympton, um I hear the cars whizzing by on the street, um it's it's just a location that just seems to echo just echo sound.

Clawson:

You telling me tell me one place in the state of Massachusetts where there's twenty three dogs and ten or fifteen horses on two acres of land. Find one place in the state of Massachusetts, it's by design its due to fail and you know that.

Schleiff: I don't know that.

Clawson: By design it's due to fail

Schleiff: I don't I'm not

Clawson: Twenty three dogs on two acres of land.

Schleiff:

First of all first of all please don't accuse me of something I don't know you know I'm just telling you what I see how I'm looking at this. Okay. In my experience when I went down there that's all I can go by I don't know, I'm not an expert on dogs, horses, cats any type of expert in what I do for work.

Roy: Okay

Schleiff:

and nothing to do with this so I'm learning this as I go like the rest of them we don't I'm just going by what I see. These are businesses also running down there so there is going to be some sort of noise both sides of the fences. And you know we like to see everything, everybody get along, it's not always possible but we like to see an effort and if if we see somebody, and everybody trying to make an effort it makes it a little easier um on everybody.

Roy:

Alright I have a technical question on um what actually the board of Selectmen has as a power when it comes to this sort of thing. I know like can we put restrictions on noise barriers like offer suggestions on those kinds of things or is that strictly a ZBA issue.

Brown:

That comes under animal control can um can initiate muzzle orders, um confinement orders, things like that. That comes under animal control's rights. Um

Schleiff: Muzzles were out you can't use them.

Brown: Nope. You can use muzzles.

Schleiff: Oh you can use muzzles.

Brown:

yup and then we'll be back if that order goes out then it would be another hearing in ten days so that's why I don't honestly want to go down that road

Roy: Okay

Brown: Um with ...

Clawson: Can I suggest one one thing DEP has a sound

Roy: Ya know what

Clawson: Meter

Roy: Can I just ask ...

Clawson: Sure

Roy: Annie to finish, go ahead Annie.

Brown:

Um ya that's why I didn't want to go down that road because if I give those orders out then it would be an issue of licensing, and um then we would have to have another hearing within ten days to reflect whether or not the orders want to be withheld.

Roy: Okay

Brown:

By her statutes, but where there's a permit involved in this as well its little bit more

Garron: Involved

Brown: Ah hum

Roy:

Okay again I've said this to you I think that you take great care of your dogs and you have ya know I don't want this to effect your business. I don't. But I also feel that you both need to understand yes it is a business you have a business and I'm sure there's noises you make that aren't friendly to her and you we've already talked about that I think four hearings ago, I don't know but I know that you're doing things right now with the music and the exercising. How can we resolve this between you so that we're not here again? What other things do you think that like you said they the texts became harassing but somehow he has to let you know when they're barking and whatever you do to stop the barking works so why couldn't somebody just have that communication with you to say hey they're barking and you ...

Brown:

I don't mind being a go between for that if Scott wants to text me and I can text Bobbi I don't mind being a go, because that also logs it for us that its in my phone he's called me at this particular time stated that there's a problem. I've called her said that there's a problem. So I don't have a problem being the go between for that to help in the ability for peace. I know it'ss a lot and ya it ...

Roy: It's hear say no they're not barking he's lying no no she's lying

Choate:

No I would be amicable for Scott and or Leslie to certainly contact me again like I said I don't want to impose anything detrimental to anyone's livelihood or life or living conditions or peace or tranquility. I mean ya know I'm trying to take measures if, if there's something that happens and they're barking and I'm not aware of it absolutely.

Roy: Or even ...

Choate:

A simple dogs barking west, end north end I don't whatever we decipher it is but

Roy:

But I mean I'm not a fan of the bark collar cause I think ya know the sound must be horrific to have a dog yelping in pain, certainly not a fan of it and now that you've (gestured towards Brown) explained it to me because I thought it was a simple that you could go and turn it up and then all of a sudden the dog would stop barking ...

Brown: No

Roy:

Cause it would know. Sort of like ya know those underground fences where a dog knows not to go near cause they don't want to get zapped. I was assuming it was the same sort of thing that once they learned that they barked they would not.

Choate: No they'd test it (in audible).

Roy: Okay so I don't understand the point of them.

Schleiff: We should breed cats

Brown: No (jokingly)

Schleiff: Because no noise

Roy: Barns do that anyway

Deeb: Maybe we should ask Scott what would make him happy.

Garron: I already asked that question. I didn't get an answer.

Clawson:

Just to have the dogs stop barking, ya know I thought it was going to be good up until today ya know it didn't just go for an hour it went all day. So you know everything that she worked up to until today. The dogs were barking most of the day.

Roy:

And the dogs were out early yesterday and and that's something that you, we want you to commit to is the time thing. I mean what's a proper time is it eight a.m. is that something that we should impose?

Brown:

I think that we should come I would like to come up with a suggestion of business hours for the dogs to be, have the access to go out ya know Monday through Saturday from eight a.m. till five p.m. or perhaps six p.m. I'm not sure which would work for best and on Sundays they go out for an hour in morning and an hour in the night. Sunday he has most of his day to himself. I mean I don't know if that's amicable, I don't Saturdays may perhaps limit our kennel where I used to work it was half the dogs were allowed out not all of them on Saturdays and Sundays, no dogs were allowed out except for to be exercised.

Roy: Is that something you that you think that you could do?

Choate: I would be willing to commit to hours.

Roy: Okay

Choate: Certain hours absolutely within reason certainly

Roy: Would that be okay would that be something that would help?

Choate: If we need to put in stone and that way ...

Clawson:

So ... lets ... I'm not sure what you're asking me am I gonna allow the dogs to go out and bark constantly

Roy: no

Clawson: During certain hours

Roy: no, no, no, no, no, no.

Clawson:

Is that what we're saying or ... she can have the dogs out at any time I just don't want to hear the barking

Roy: No, I know.

Clawson:

That's what is the issue here is about the barking not the dogs being out or in.

Choate: But there was barking yesterday when they went out earlier

Roy:

Okay all right we're trying to resolve this because we have we have to move on so what we're saying obviously we're not saying that the dogs can bark non stop between eight and five. We're saying that at least from eight to five that you know is the only time that they'd be outside. We still want to control barking we still want to play music we still

Choate: Absolutely

Roy:

Want to exercise them. Then on Sundays you get a real break cause they really would not be out there that much.

Clawson: Well that would better than it is

Brown:

And on Saturdays only half of the dogs go out at a time. So that there's a chance that half the dogs it would be half the amount of possible

Clawson: noise

Brown: agitation. So I, I don't know ... but I'm just trying to ...

Clawson:

The dogs being out is not the agitation it's the barking that's the agitation

Roy: No I know but they wouldn't

Clawson:

Ya know if I gotta hear half of them barking versus all of them barking no that's not acceptable to me.

Roy: Okay

Clawson: And she wants to move them

Roy: But Mr. Clawson ...

Clawson:

Put a kennel out front where road noise is then that would be acceptable to me because I wouldn't hear it, but if I gotta hear it all day like I have for the past two and half years no that's not going to be acceptable. I mean it's been better, but up until today you know if she wants to give it another two week try and, or month try and then I gotta have some guarantees throughout the summer months or we're gonna be back here.

Schleiff: Is it better now then it was the last two weeks.

Clawson: It's been better now since almost Christmas.

Schleiff:

Okay has it been better the last time you were here to when the time before that you were there. It's getting better.

Roy: There are better days. Right

Clawson: yup I mean but today, today was an issue a real issue today

Roy: Okay

Schleiff: So

Clawson: I was out there it was fairly warm and I was outdoors

Schleiff:

Bad day, bad day ya know everybody has a bad day even dogs barking have a bad day.

Roy: Okay so do we ...

Schleiff:

I don't know whether she was there or not or how you can remedy it or ya know find the culprit and put a dunce hat on him stand him in the corner he's the one doing it I don't know.

Deeb: Dog will be dogs they bark

Garron:

The dogs are gonna bark no matter I mean unless they're Basenji's they will bark.

Roy: So you're saying not to even bother

Clawson:

Either soundproof them or move them to a different location. I think that's the only solution that I can be guaranteed ... ya know that will probably I'd be agreeable to right now these to move them or soundproof the kennels.

Schleiff: Well the kennels seemed for what I heard seemed pretty good.

Schleiff: The east kennel. When I was there this morning and I heard dogs

Clawson: All there is is wire there's nothing else there.

Schleiff:

When I heard when I was there this morning and I heard dogs barking in the kennel it was muzzled. It wasn't that loud at all.

Deeb: You were not on our property though you were on her property.

Schleiff: Right, which is closer than your property.

Clawson: And the dogs were inside in the barn today this morning correct?

Schleiff: Ya that's what I'm saying.

Clawson:

They weren't outside in the kennels where they are most of time like they were

Schleiff:

I'm talking when they're inside I'm not talking about when they're outside they weren't outside, what I'm saying when they're inside I can't hear them. I mean I heard them barking but it was very low keyed, very muffled.

Clawson: Ya when they're inside I agree with ya.

Schleiff: Okay okay that's ...

Clawson:

If we if we can keep them inside that's fine it's just when they're outside and they're barking

Schleiff:

The point is they're striving to make improvements, the striving is getting better it's it's a process and you're going to continue working on that and we should see how we are ya know, another ya know two weeks a month.

Brown:

If we meet one more time before ZBA and then possibly send our findings your findings to ZBA. I don't know if that might be ...

Roy:

Okay so let me just clarify you are not interested in at least trying the the schedule? No. Okay that's fine.

Clawson: The schedule is fine as long as I don't hear the barking

Roy: Okay well ...

Clawson: It's the barking that's what I'm here for.

Roy: The thing is ... all right

Clawson: Whether they're in or out it doesn't matter it's the barking.

Roy:

I know. Okay so we won't try that. Okay so we're not getting anywhere and we need to stop this we'll come back to this before because I know your kennel permit was continued to April twenty – second.

Brown: Yup

Roy: Correct. Okay so ...

Seelig:

So do you want to make motion to continue this to a different date and time?

Schleiff: Prior to the twenty ... April twenty – second

Seelig:

Well the twenty – second you have one you have a meeting in April on the ninth at this point

Schleiff: We have another March.

Seelig: Right two weeks from tonight.

Schleiff: then April ninth then we have

Seelig:

I don't see a point of waiting of just waiting two weeks you all, I think it was a month between the continuation so I'd recommend doing it on the ninth. You're gonna have enough business I think on the twenty – third here on town meeting.

Roy: And I'll continue to go out there too.

Schleiff: ZBA meeting on the twenty – second

Roy: Huh

Schleiff: ZBA is meeting on the twenty – second

Seelig: Right so we

Schleiff: So we want to meet prior to then to our recommendation.

Seelig:

You have two meetings prior to that which are two weeks from now on the twenty – sixth and then April ninth.

Roy: Yes so we got four weeks.

Seelig: Great so why ...

Roy: Yes. The ninth is fine.

Seelig:

If you want to continue what I would recommend continuing to the ninth at seven forty five.

Roy: ya

Schleiff: That's four weeks?

Seelig: Yup

Schleiff: ya okay that's fine

Roy: Oaky. Do I have that as a motion?

Garron: So moved

Schleiff: Second

Roy: All those in favor.

Garron: Aye

Schleiff: Aye

Roy: Aye. Thank you.

Schleiff:

In the mean time narrow this down a little bit, the business ya know they're businesses, so somehow we can try and work this out where we all can go home with a smile on our face that we've accomplished something.

Clawson: That would be nice.

Choate: Thank you.

Roy: Okay.

Clawson: Thank you.

Building Committee – Possibility of a COA Center

Members of the Building Committee came this evening to talk to the board about a possible site for a new COA center. John Campbell began by saying the COA came to the Building Committee letting them know that the Armands building on Rt. 106 was up for sale and could they look at it to see if it would meet the needs of a senior center. The committee did receive a price from the seller and they have been in contact with contractors to see if it can be done and the cost to renovate the building. They do not want to give out figures until he has firm numbers to present.

There are two building within the whole building one is 5000 sq. ft. and the other 8000 sq. ft. The committee took Pomroy's design to see if it can fit into the building and it does. It gives the same number of rooms that they were planning on as well as everything else. The plan is to use the 5000 sq. ft. section and the other could be used for something else making it a multi use building and not just a COA building. They have contacted Youth and Recreation and they have been up there to see what the possibilities would be for them. Campbell also stated that it could also be used as an emergency shelter or they could make more offices for the town hall. Seelig added that it could house the cable studio.

Campbell continued to say that there will be handicapped bathrooms on both sides and the kitchen will be shared. Garron asked about parking and if they looked into the traffic flow. Campbell said that the parking lot can accommodate up to 100 cars and that they did not check out the traffic flow but pointed out that it is better then the center of town and that there will always have traffic on Rt. 106. He also asked if there would be two accesses into the parking lot and Campbell said yes and that they also offered to sell them Stella's parking area but knows that the town is not in the position to do that.

Schleiff asked the condition of the building and if he felt it would last 20 years. Campbell said the 5,000 sq. ft. section was built in the 80's and the 8,000 sq. ft. section was done in 90's and stated that it is an old building but a good place to start. He thinks it will last quite some time as it is a steel building and steel can be replaced.

Roy still feels that we need a senior center but does not think it will sit well to go back and ask the towns people a year and half later to support this as you may upset them and they might not want to support it further down the line when they really might have a great plan in place. She continued to say that people at this time cannot afford any increases as they are still falling on hard times. Campbell said that the committee would not have brought up building a brand new building but seeing as this building is already there this might be a possibility and asked to give them a couple of weeks to get the cost together. Roy asked if the Building Committee had taken a formal vote supporting this project and Campbell said no but had more yeses for it then no's and did take a voted to go ahead to see what it would cost to do it. Roy continued to say that last she approached the building inspector, Tom Millias, asking if there was any way of putting an addition on Pope's Tavern or try different options as the building committee had not looked at any. Campbell said that him and Millias have looked at Pope's Tavern looking to see if they could add on and said that it is not doable and if they were to renovate one area of the building then there is still more that needs to be done and a waste of money.

What Garron got from last town meeting was that people were misinformed as to what was going to happen that night. He said people standing outside saying that your taxes are going to increase if a new COA building was approved. Not to mention the experts who we brought in were not allowed to speak at the meeting so there was not a lot of information given out. He agrees that yes taxes will increase but we need to remember that when built the library and the new school we were at a tax crunch also and we still found a way to do it. He wanted to point out that the seniors in this town planned for the town and made this town livable for those people who want to move here and send their children to our schools and what he got from the town meeting was that the residents cared more about the kids and the playgrounds and not about the seniors and did not realize the people who voted all that stuff in was the seniors and paid for it through their taxes. Yes he is concerned about the budget too but not to the point where we should not look into this. This has been on the table for at least twelve years now and more serious the last few years. Roy stated that she has been approached asking why not look into the Waterman property as it is a great investment, which she agreed but does not think we have the money for that property either.

Campbell wanted to say that over the years they have done renovations, did additions, built buildings and everyone was a struggling and didn't have the money but said in the next ten years you still are not going to have the money. The decision is whether or not you're going to do it and that what they did when they took a 20 year plan on what buildings they would add on to and what buildings they would make new and this plan came out pretty close as they made a new highway barn, new school, new Pope's Tavern and a new town hall. It all worked out pretty good all in hard times and no money problems. He continued to say that you can not build a new building or add on without having physical money problems and pointed out that back in the 90's the homeowner was a little better off then he is today but ten years from now the homeowner is not going to be any better off. Roy said that you also have to think about the cost of maintenance of the building because it comes from the operating budget and not the override. She has not changed her mind and knows that we need it but it's the timing. Campbell asked to let him get the number then they can decide whether to go forward or not. Roy suggested having a joint meeting with the Finance Committee and then they can go from there, which Campbell agreed to.

Schleiff suggested that if they do end up purchasing the building they can go in there do what needs to be done then later work on the other side and Campbell said that is basically what they are doing and that their intentions are to only use the 5,000 square feet side as it would fit perfect into their plan and the 8,000 square foot side they would do nothing with. The figure will only be for that side.

It was mentioned earlier by Seelig about maybe the cable studio using the other side and Garron asked how much would it be for a cable studio. Michelle (attendant from Comcast taping tonight's meeting) said the studio down the center is about 1,400 square feet. Seelig added that part of the cost for the studio would be shared with Plympton.

Roy asked when Campbell thought he would have his numbers as the closing of the warrant is coming up soon. He stated that he hopes to have the number for their meeting which is next week and he understands where the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen are coming from and he does not want to

bury the town. Roy asked if he wanted the BOS to go to their meeting on March 19th and he asked that the Building Committee have their meeting first and then they'll arrange to meet with everyone.

Seelig recommended that the selectmen meet with the Building Committee and Finance Committee at FinCom's next meeting on March 25th. Roy stated if the 25th does not work with everyone then they could schedule a special meeting and Campbell was in agreement to that. Campbell will coordinate this through Seelig who then will get in touch with Gordon Andrews (Chair of the Finance Committee).

Punch list

Seeing as the board had the building Committee here they wanted to ask them about punch lists for tasks that need to get done in the various buildings. Campbell began by saying that at the moment they are short handed and that a lot of work was done last summer. The trellis for around the back porch at town hall is ready to be put up they just need to find the time to do it. Roy is aware that Gerry has put in a couple of articles for the ATM to get some of the work completed.

Schleiff agrees that that it is difficult to get things done if you are being pulled in different directions and said that a punch list just helps out and is aware that there are always going to be unforeseen issues that come up and you cannot stick to your daily tasks. Campbell said that the committee does a lot of things from changing the community sign to putting up the banners.

Lastly Roy read a letter from the M&SBC informing the board that the second vehicle used by the maintenance department has been taken off the road due to frame failure. Rather than request a new vehicle, they are aware that there is a surplus police vehicle available and is requesting to use it. Schleiff suggested the old ACO van and thinks the only reason it does not run is because it has been sitting for a bit and to have the town mechanic look at it. Gerry thinks the cruiser will be fine as he has talk to the police department and they thought it would fine for running errands such as taking supplies to buildings, running to the hardware store. Garron said to see which one is the better of the two.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the board unanimously voted to have Seelig contact the Town Mechanic, Dave, asking him the condition of the old ACO van and then will relay the information back to the board.

GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS (CONTINUED)

Mosquito Control Board

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the board unanimously voted to support the application submitted by Kimberly King to be re-appointed as a Commissioner for the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project.

School Playground

Kim Cicone, President of the HES PTO, wanted the board to know that they would like to replace the existing playground behind the school and will be fundraising in order to this. The project will be through the PTO and they would like to raise \$50,000.

Talent Bank Form – Julie Cummings

A talent Bank form has been submitted from Julie Cumming expressing an interest in serving on the ADA, Holiday in Halifax, Halifax in Lights and the ZBA. All of these boards and committees have been notified.

Thank You – Water Department

The Hanson Board of Water Commissioners has sent a thank you letter thanking members of the Halifax Water Department for their assistance in repairing two water main breaks in Hanson that occurred in the aftermath of the February 8th blizzard.

The board also wanted to state the wealth of knowledge that Dick Clark has regarding the town's water system and that he is going to be a tough man to replace when he retires.

Silver Lake / Jones River / Fish

A draft on the study of feasibility of fish traveling from the Jones River to Silver Lake will be available shortly. A meeting will be held at Silver Lake High School on April 3rd at 6:30 pm. Seelig will notify the Monponsett Watershed Association about this.

Use of Town Green – Boy Scouts

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board approved a request from the Halifax Boy Scouts for use of the Town Green on Saturday, June 15th, from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for a fundraiser yard sale and granted permission for the Boy Scouts to put a sign announcing the yard sale on the Town Green up to two weeks before the event.

Fire Department Joint Procurement

Plymouth County Commissioners and the Fire Chief's Association of Plymouth have increased their dues from \$100 to \$300. Even though Halifax is a member they have not used them much and seeing as Chief Carrico does not have the money he has decided not to continue the membership.

Monponsett Pond

The fish ladder is fully opened and Brockton has been diverting to Silver Lake and downstream as much as possible. Schleiff asked if they are diverting at a slower rate and Seelig said no they are not.

Halifax in Lights – Volunteers Needed

The committee wants to stress that if the residents would like to see fireworks this year volunteers are needed to join the committee. They also wanted the public to know that they are having a meat raffle at Damian's on Thursday March 14th at 7:30 pm.

Special Town Meeting – April 8, 2013

The Planning Board has submitted to the board the two articles on the medical marijuana dispensaries for the STM.

Transportation Bond

The MMA is looking for municipalities to contact their legislators asking them to support the transportation finance legislation which includes \$300 million in Chapter 90 aid. Roy stated that sending a letter means that they are supporting the new tax plan from the governor which means everything not just Chapter 90.

Speed Limit Sign

At a previous meeting the board had asked where the speed limit sign was. Seelig has informed the board that it is at the police station as it usually is not brought out in the winter.

Childhood Cancer Awareness Week Proclamation

The American Cancer Fund for Children, Inc. and the Kids Cancer Connection, Inc. is declaring that April 21st – 27th be Childhood Cancer Awareness Week. Seelig noted that neither of these non profits is very large and revenues in 2011 are less than \$15,000. He does not see any harm in the board signing the proclamation.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the board unanimously voted to declare Childhood Cancer Awareness Week April 21st through the 27th and issue a proclamation.

Plympton – ACO

The Town of Plympton is asking if Halifax would be willing to sub our ACO to them under a contract agreement. Schleiff had asked if anyone has talked with Sgt. Broderick about this and Seelig said he will ask him what his thoughts are on this.

Regional Dispatch

The Town of Norwell is asking Halifax if they have any interest in signing up for a study with them. This study will look at the cost of adding more towns to the *Northern Tier* regional dispatch site, including Halifax. Both Schleiff and Roy think that at this time they are burnt out on this subject and are going to pass on it. Seelig will let Norwell's Town Administrator know that we are not interested.

Appointment to Taunton River Stewardship Council – Faith Pasternak

Faith Pasternak is interested in being appointed to the second seat (there is one vacancy) on the Taunton River Stewardship Council. Seelig asked the board if they would like to make an appointment to meet with her or appoint her this evening.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the board unanimously voted to appoint Faith Pasternak to the second seat that is available on the Taunton River Stewardship Council.

Chris Legere

Chris has taken a job with the Cape Cod Times and will no longer covering Halifax for the Boston Globe.

Heat & AC in Veterans' Office

Seelig is going to ask the Building Committee about the issues listed above.

Surplus Vehicle

Dead line for the bids on the 2009 Ford Crown Victoria is April 9th.

Trash Contract

Seelig is working with Susan Johnson on the bid specs for the trash contract and should be going out during the first part of March.

Special Town Meeting – May 13, 2013

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the board unanimously voted the following:

- to hold a Special Town Meeting on May 13, 2013.
- to open the warrant this evening for the Special Town Meeting.
- to close the warrant on March 22, 2013 at 4:00 pm. for the Special Town Meeting.

Halifax Elementary School Maintenance

Seelig asked if the board as a whole wanted to have a meeting with the school officials regarding the maintenance of the school. Roy then asked if they wanted the school principal, Claudia Motta, to meet with John Tuffy; get back to Millias and then have a discussion on the maintenance. Seelig said that there are two questions that need to be answered one is who is supposed to be doing the work and where is the list. Roy agreed that she would like a list from a Capital Planning standpoint so Motta was going to let Roy know whether to do it that way or a formal meeting. Seelig said the list will remain the same whoever is going to do it.

Roy stated that they had a meeting with the Chair of the School Committee and she knows what her charge is. Roy asked the board if they would like to have a formal meeting with her about it and Seelig and Garron both said that it does not sound like they need to.

Selectmen's Annual Report

A draft of the selectmen report for the Annual report has been given to the board to review and get any input. Garron stated he is okay with it. Roy mentioned that Schleiff had given her some feedback and she might expand on that section.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board voted as follows to enter into Executive Session at 9:35 p.m. to discuss Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board voted as follows to discuss contract negotiations for Sergeants, Patrol Officers, Firefighters, Highway, Dispatch and Police Chief:

Troy E. Garron	-	Yes
Kim R. Roy	-	Yes
Michael J. Schleiff	-	Yes

Garron announced that no statement would be made at the end of the Executive Session and the Board would not reconvene in open session.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board voted as follows to come out of Executive Session at 10:30 p.m.

Troy E. Garron	-	Yes
Kim R. Roy	-	Yes

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 p.m.

Michael J. Schleiff
Clerk

/pjm