

**TOWN OF LAKEVILLE
SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
Monday, February 8, 2010**

On February 8, 2010, the Board of Selectmen held a Special Meeting at the Town Offices. The Meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM. Present were Selectman Maksy, Selectman Yeatts, Selectman Evirs, and Town Administrator Rita Garbitt.

Executive Session

Upon a motion made by Selectman Yeatts and seconded by Selectman Evirs, on a unanimous roll call vote, the Board

VOTED: To enter Executive Session under Exemption #3 of the Open Meeting Law for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to the Collective Bargaining Agreements with the Police and Fire Departments, and under Exemption #7 to comply with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws (general privacy) and to return to Open Session.
Polled Vote: Selectman Yeatts – Aye, Selectman Maksy – Aye, and Selectman Evirs – Aye.

At 6:30 PM, the Selectmen returned to Open Session. Selectmen present were: Selectman Maksy, Selectman Evirs and Selectman Yeatts. Also present were: Rita Garbitt, Town Administrator and Tracie Craig, Executive Assistant.

Meet with Fire Chief to discuss FY11 Grant for 911 Feasibility Study

Daniel Hopkins, Fire Chief, was present for the discussion. Ms. Garbitt said that she and Selectman Yeatts had been attending regional meetings hosted by SRPEDD which looked at regionalizing services. Selectman Yeatts said that she attends Plymouth County meetings and Ms. Garbitt attends Bristol County meetings. Ms. Garbitt said that the Police and Fire Chiefs met with Troy Clarkson from the Plymouth County Commissioners Office to talk about a regional 911 dispatch. She and Chief Sorel attended a meeting Dartmouth in January which spoke about grant money that is available for feasibility studies for 911 regionalization. SRPEDD would like to find out which communities would be interested in being included in the feasibility study. They would do all the work. Now is the time to decide whether we want to join either study. Ms. Garbitt said that Barnstable County has regionalized their Fire Dispatch, and it appears to work really well. However, as of January, no Police Departments had regionalized. She said that Marion, Mattapoiset and Rochester have Tri-Town Meetings, and they looked at regionalizing their dispatch a few years ago and found it was not feasible. John Henry from Marion was at the meeting and said they are taking another look at regional dispatch.

Ms. Garbitt said we are not sure if it will save money for the Lakeville Fire Department because Chief Hopkins has to have two (2) men on duty because of the ambulance. Chief Hopkins said he thinks we should sign onto the feasibility study. The Police Department takes all the 911 calls, and they trickle down to us. Chief Hopkins said the Fire Department does not have a dispatcher; we dispatch ourselves. Chief Hopkins said if we do this, there will be an expense because we will have to help pay for the dispatch system. His other question was where would the Town's Fire Alarm Systems go. He felt the Town should sign on to the feasibility study and

get our questions answered. The Plymouth County Commissioners are trying to work on a regional dispatch, not just 911. SRPEDD is working on regional 911. Selectman Yeatts said we should discuss Steve Canessa's legislation to make regionalization more uniform at the next meeting. Ms. Garbitt said the Department of Transportation said all of the chiefs pretty much have the same questions. Selectman Evirs said if you look at the county map, Lakeville is surrounded by Bristol County. It makes more sense to regionalize with local towns instead of branching out into Plymouth County. Selectman Yeatts said that would come out with the feasibility study.

Chairman Maksy asked if Freetown Fire can respond to the Regional Schools. Chief Hopkins said years ago, both Towns responded automatically to the Regional Schools. The Regional Schools have an alarm system that goes to the Police Station. Freetown only has two (2) firefighters on duty like us. Chief Hopkins said Freetown has phased out their response over the years. However, we have no problem with Freetown helping us with the school coverage.

Upon a motion by Selectman Yeatts, seconded by Selectman Evirs, the Board:

VOTED: To join in the feasibility study for Regional 911 Dispatch.
Unanimous in favor.

Closing of Commissary Building at Ted Williams Camp

Janet Tracy, Town Clerk and Daniel Hopkins, Park Commission Chairman was present for the discussion. Chairman Maksy asked who has the authority to close the commissary building. Mr. Hopkins said even though the Selectmen say that they have control over all Town buildings, the original Town Meeting Article gives the Park Commission control over everything at Ted Williams Camp. The Park Commission took a vote to say that we will close the building at the end of May. Mr. Hopkins said there are major repairs that are needed, such as a new roof and heating. He said that the Reuse Committee is looking at the renovations to that building. We are trying to work out the best way for the Town Clerk to move the polling place. The Park Department does not have the money to fix the building. Mr. Hopkins said it would cost approximately \$10,000 to \$15,000 to fix the roof. They question if it is worth fixing if we might tear the building down in a year. Mr. Hopkins said the heat is a real issue. Even with the heat cranked up, on election day one side had to be shut down to get heat to the other side on. Chairman Maksy asked if the building can be open for the election. Mr. Hopkins said it will be open for the April 2010 election. Closing the building the end of May gives the Town time to figure out where the next election in September will be held. Janet Tracy, Town Clerk, said there is a primary in September and a State Election in November.

Selectman Yeatts said she did not understand how the Selectmen were left out of the process. It would have been nice for the Selectmen to have a memo from the Park Commission that this was your recommendation to close the building so that it would have been made public. Mr. Hopkins said that the Selectmen know that the Park Department and the Reuse Committee have been talking about replacing this building. We sent you a memo that we are closing the building. It's our prerogative. Selectman Evirs said the Park Commission is charged with renting the building out. They need to let everyone know that the building will no longer be rented to outside parties. He said the Town can still have our elections. It would be a vacant building that we open the day before. We know structurally the building is not very sound. If it costs \$10,000

to \$15,000 to put a roof on, how much will it cost to move the voting polls? Ms. Tracy said she will need to notify the Town's registered voters by postcard. The cards are 31 cents per card and there are 7,337 registered voters, both inactive and registered. The cost would be \$2,325 for 7,500 cards. We would have to have the cards printed with a new polling place and that would be \$300 for the printing. Selectman Yeatts asked if this was for one polling place. Ms. Tracy said yes. Selectman Evirs asked if you could put multiple polling places on the cards. Ms. Tracy said yes. She got another price for the postage, cards, labels and printing and that was \$8,000. Chairman Maksy said this will be a lot of work; you may need additional staffing to get this done. Selectman Yeatts said if you put multiple precincts on the card, voters would have to figure out what precinct they are in, and where they will go to vote. Ms. Tracy said that the mailing labels tell them what precinct they are in. Selectman Yeatts said that people might not look at their labels. Selectman Evirs said we would publicize the change of the polling places and place signage on the day of the voting.

Selectman Yeatts asked Mr. Hopkins, as Fire Chief, if he thought that the building is safe for one (1) day of voting. Mr. Hopkins said he was not saying it is not safe for one (1) day of voting. It is not safe for rentals. He suggested that the Selectmen tour the building. We are looking at the gravel removal money to rebuild the building. If we can bond it, the money to pay the bond off would come from the gravel removal. The only way the Park Department is making money is from the rental of the building and the rental of the fields. Chairman Maksy said perhaps the Board needs to sit down with the Reuse Committee. Mr. Hopkins said the Reuse Committee hopes to meet soon. Ms. Garbitt said if Town Meeting votes to borrow the money, and we haven't received any money from the gravel removal for the bonding, it would have to come out of the operating budget. Mr. Hopkins said we could take the first payment on the bond from the Lakeville Development Corporation money.

Selectman Evirs said in all these scenarios, we still have to go vote someplace else. Selectman Yeatts said we can still use the building to vote. Mr. Hopkins said sooner or later we are either tearing the building down or renovating it and voting will not be able to take place. Selectman Evirs said we could have a special election at any time. We need to go through with the process. Chairman Maksy asked where you would anticipate moving the voters too. Mr. Hopkins said you couldn't fit all three (3) precincts at the Senior Center. Perhaps two (2) precincts could be at the Senior Center and one (1) precinct at the Library. He did not know if there is any area that is big enough to hold all three (3) precincts. Selectman Evirs said we probably will have to split it up. Mr. Hopkins said we can try to keep them close. Selectman Yeatts said with the parking at the Town House, United Church of Christ and the Library, we could probably have all three (3) precincts at the Library. Mr. Hopkins said the Commissary will be open in April, but the Town Clerk needs time to change the polling places. Selectman Evirs said each polling place will affect the Town Clerk with her staff and police details. Selectman Evirs said that some Towns have voting at a school, and they close school for the day. Mr. Hopkins said we are working on coming up with ideas. Chairman Maksy said it will most likely cost \$10,000 to move the precincts and then move them back. Chairman Maksy said the Board will plan a site visit to the building.

At 7:05 PM, upon a motion made by Selectman Yeatts; seconded by Selectman Evirs, the Board unanimously:

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.
Unanimous in favor.