

Chairman Reil and Selectmen Schofield and Burke are present in the Upper Town Hall, Mendon.

Chairman Reil called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the pledge.

**Selectman Reil made and Selectman Burke seconded a motion to approve the regular session meeting minutes of December 28, 2015 and February 1, 2016 and the executive session minutes of November 30, 2015 to be released.** Ms. Willoughby explained she recommends releasing executive session minutes based on whether the issue is resolved. The minutes of November 30 are related to the Library Director's contract which had been signed. She did not see a reason to not release them. **The motion carried unanimously.**

There were no citizen statements or petitions.

**Selectman Reil made and Selectman Burke seconded a motion to appoint Theresa Clifton, 54 George Street, and Jeanne Fichtner, 16 Emerson Street, to the 350th Anniversary Committee for terms to expire December 31, 2017.** Chairman Reil explained the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee recommended the appointments. **The motion carried unanimously.** Chairman Reil announced that anyone who wants to be involved or be on a subcommittee to come to their next meeting.

**Selectman Reil made and Selectman Burke seconded a motion to grant a special permit to remove approximately 8,000 cubic yards of loam to Brian Mazar/NEFC, 35 Cape Road as presented.** Rich Riccio, Field Engineering, presented the plan on behalf of the New England Futbol Club Inc. for the proposed soccer field. They got site plan approval and a special permit from the Planning Board for the two turf fields. Construction has started. The Conservation Commission signed off on the earth removal today. The site has been balanced with the subsoil on site. Selectman Schofield said he spoke with Brian Mazar as to why soil couldn't stay on site. Mr. Riccio explained it was necessary for proper drainage and to leave a stable base. Selectman Schofield said others doing construction projects need to be made aware of the earth removal bylaw. Chairman Reil noted Mr. Aicardi's, Zoning Enforcer, request for keeping track of what is being removed. Mr. Skinner, resident, said the trucks are leaving dirt on the roads. Mr. Riccio said there is a crushed-stone pad to collect sedimentation which will keep the road clean. The contractor will be made aware of this and keep the road clean. **The motion carried unanimously.** Selectman Schofield requested to modify the motion to include 'pending return of positive routing slips. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Selectmen reviewed the March 21 Special Town Meeting warrant articles with the following discussion:

- 1-Selectmen are waiting for the second round of Accountant applications to be received
- 2- Due to a backlog of work in their office, this is being requested now instead of waiting until the Annual Town Meeting. Selectman Burke noted the additional hours are already be worked.
- 3- *Action: Ms. Newman can explain details upon her return. Selectman Schofield assumed this will fix salaries not yet addressed due to the Compensation Study. Chairman Schofield would like clarification on how numbers were calculated.*
- 4-Police overtime money has been expended already.
- 5-Keyless access for Town Hall basement needed for Police Department.
- 6-Lt. Kurczy requested \$20,000 needed for Fire Department overtime because of absences due to injuries.
- 8- Diesel fuel funds are needed for normal operation of vehicles, not necessarily from storms.

Selectman Schofield is concerned some of articles are for recurring expenses and wants to make sure they can be covered in FY17 budget.

9- Estimate to cover upcoming road details. Highway Surveyor Tetreault said Chapter 90 money cannot be used to fund this. Mr. Skinner asked why we use the Police Department when the State always uses flagmen. Mr. Tetreault said because they need to be trained and it may be up to the Chief. *Action: Selectman Schofield said we will ask the Chief.* Chairman Reil added that it could be in the Police Union's contract.

10-To fund pipe installation on Hopedale Street.

11-Selectman Schofield explained there are four-million gallons of water which were lost due to out-of-date meter reading and complex methodology of how Hopedale charges Mendon. This is a 30 percent loss which is 20 percent above the usual and customarily-acceptable loss. Meters will be incrementally upgraded throughout town.

12- Seventy-five percent of Veterans Benefits Aid is reimbursed the following year.

13-Ms. Willoughby explained Worker's Compensation audit adjustment was made to the 2014/2015 premium.

15- Ms. Mazar, Community Preservation Committee Chairperson, recommended removing this article because the house was not historically preserved or considered historical. The barn, however, is original, pre 1850.

16-Mr. Schofield noted there are other ways to defray tax costs in addition to M. G. L. Ch. 60 S.3D

17-Ms. Mazar reported she received a check from the developer of 34 George Street. Since the barn burned down, it should be cleaned up by the current owner. She will confirm what needs to be done with Chief Horn. The article may need additional language to include the owner removing debris. Ms. Mazar offered to give background at the Special Town Meeting (STM).

18-Ms. Mazar explained the 131 North Avenue property will be gifted back to the Gannetts in order for a non-profit organization to build an Agricultural Center and parking lot. She offered to give background information on this, also, at the STM.

19-Selectman Schofield wants to make sure the Board is clear for Town Meeting on details for the National Grid and Verizon easements.

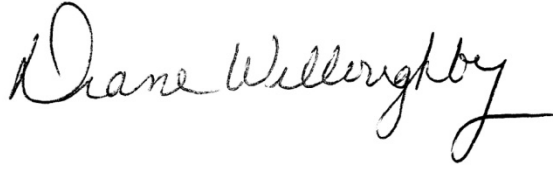
20- Selectman Schofield recommended removing the term limit on the solar net metering/power purchase agreement. He feels this detail should be put in the motion not in the warrant. Ms. Mazar suggested putting panels on Town-owned buildings. She offered to look into the details. All agreed to remove 'for a term of up to \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) years,' from the warrant. *Action: Ms. Willoughby will confirm this is acceptable to town counsel.*

Members discussed leaving line items on the warrant as long as they are accurate.

Members agreed the February 29 meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.

**Selectman Schofield made and Selectman Burke seconded motion to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Diane Willoughby". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

Diane Willoughby  
Administrative Assistant

Documents Discussed located in Selectmen's Office:

Regular Session Minutes of December 28, 2015 and February 1, 2016

Executive Session Minutes of November 30, 2015

Letter dated February 9, 2016 from Dan Byer, Secretary, 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee to Selectmen

Draft March 21, 2016 Special Town Meeting Warrant

March 21, 2016 STM Draft Warrant Articles Spreadsheet dated February 16, 2016

Earth Removal Permit Application, Rich Riccio, 35 Cape Road

Proposed Athletic Fields New England F. C., 35 Milford Street Site Drawings 1/25/16