

AGENDA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
November 9, 2010
7:00 p.m.
Town Building

Public Input

Chairman's Comments

Town Administrator's Report

Meeting Minutes

Public Hearing -- 7:30 p.m. Tax Classification Hearing

With Board of Assessors, followed by decision on tax classification for FY 2011

Action/Discussion

Priorities review

Review of memberships and liaison assignments

Liaison Reports, if any

Correspondence

Adjournment

Posted 11/4/10

Correspondence

Town:

Planning Board memo supporting Pedestrian Walkway Planning Sub-committee concept plans, rec'd 10/26

ZBA notice on Plantation I Amend and II comprehensive permit deadline extension, rec'd 10/27

Villages at Stow affordable housing lottery notice, rec'd 10/27

Letter of interest in Veteran's Graves Committee vacancy, rec'd 10/28

Building Permits Report for October, rec'd 11/2

Bolton letter to NRSB requesting zero-percent increase in FY 2012 assessments to towns, rec'd 11/3

General:

MBTA memo on impact of Ballot Question 3, rec'd 10/26

Dept of Conservation and Recreation "Forest Futures" workshop schedule, rec'd 11/1

Verizon FIOS 2010 annual customer notification, rec'd 11/3

Motions for Nov 9, 2010 Selectmen's meeting

Approve tax classification for FY 2011: two votes

1. I move that the Board close this public hearing on the FY 2011 tax classification.
2. Pursuant to MGL Chapter 40 Section 56, I move that the Board adopt a single tax rate for all property classes for FY 2011.



Town of Stow
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Stow Town Building
380 Great Road
Stow, Massachusetts 01775
(978) 897-4515 selectmen@stow-ma.gov Fax (978) 897-4631

Notice Of Tax Classification Hearing

The Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at 7:30 pm in the Town Building, 380 Great Road, Stow, MA on the issue of tax classification. The purpose of the hearing is to allow taxpayers the opportunity to present their views on whether or not Residential, Commercial, Industrial, Open Space and Personal Property should be taxed with one rate for all property classes, or to use different tax rates for different property classes.

The hearing will include a presentation by the Board of Assessors outlining the options available under Chapter 40, Section 56 of the Massachusetts General Laws. At the conclusion of the public hearing the Board of Selectmen shall determine whether or not tax classification shall be applied for the Fiscal Year 2011 tax rate. Currently the Town taxes at a single tax rate for all property classes. All concerned taxpayers are encouraged to attend to present their views orally or in writing.

If there are questions about the hearing, please contact the Assessors' Office at 897-4597.

Laura Y. Spear
Chairman, Board of Selectmen

Posted 10/22/10

The Stow Independent
One time: 10/27/10 issue

To: Town of Stow Departments, Boards, and Committees
From: Stephen Dungan, Chair, Board of Selectmen
Date: January 7, 2010
Re: Board of Selectmen Priorities

At its December 1, 2009 meeting, the Board of Selectmen voted to support the following as its top priority:

- Obtain water for the Lower Village and Town Center (including the Center School project and Town Building)

The Board also voted to support additional priorities (in no particular order):

- Increase the Town's affordable housing stock
- Implement the elementary school project
- Support economic development
- Develop a plan for a senior/community center
- Protect the Assabet River
- Determine the future use of the Pompositticut School building

Although we identified many activities that are underway in Town, our goal is to provide focus and identify what we feel is most important to address for the remainder of this fiscal year.

Significant progress has already been made on many of these items, and the Board will review the status of these priorities each month. Please inform us of activities, issues, and opportunities relating to these priorities. As you make trade offs and decisions as part of the work that your organization does, please keep these priorities in mind.

Additionally, we welcome your feedback and input on your top priorities and how they may relate to the overall needs of the Town.

11/17/09

	Priority	Comment
A	Increase affordable housing stock	SCHC project would provide huge boost
B	Build more sidewalks	Need identified in MP survey
C	Explore mixed use zoning in Lower Village (117 only)	Would provide housing close to shopping, post office, etc.
D	Support expanded agriculture	Agriculture Commission established; nearly half of Stow Community Park land set aside for farming
E	Implement elementary school project	Local votes and MSBA funding in place; project should be complete by 2012.
F	Determine best use of land that becomes available to town	Discussions underway (BOS, PB, ConsComm); proposal ready by end of Nov., 2009)
G	Support expanded recreation	Stow Community Park nearly complete; will consider other recreational opportunities as other parcels become available.
H	Support economic development	Many comments in MP survey re: desire for more retail and dining options, but these are limited by lack of water (see below).
I	Protect more open space	Town already has significant open space. Interested parties need to consider other land use priorities as well as open space.
J	Obtain water for LV, Center School, town buildings, etc.	Aggressive effort underway (Town Administrator); hopefully a contract with a private water company will be in place by year-end. MP has identified water as a critical need for current and future businesses and affordable housing project in and near LV.
K	Develop plan for expansion/replacement of fire station	Facility has been overcrowded for a long time. Fire Chief working on plan that may involve using part of Pompositticut School.
L	Develop plan for senior/community center	Under active consideration by COA. Options include expansion of current space at Town Building and using space at Pompo.
M	Flu preparedness	BOH has excellent distribution system in place, but vaccine supplies very limited.
N	Follow up on last "Planning Summit" (December 2, 2004); consider follow-up session.	Some action items still outstanding; may be best to start fresh once MP is complete; priorities from 2004 may have changed.
O	Establish commuter shuttle service to S. Acton station; expand COA bus service.	May be possible to build on current RTA arrangement with MART, but financial feasibility needs careful analysis.
P	Complete rail trail	This project needs to be concluded, at least to the point of a route through most of Stow. Collaboration with Assabet National Wildlife Refuge should be pursued.
Q	Collect back taxes	As of 9/30/09, back taxes, interest, and fees total 296,481 with over 62,000 owed by one person. Need to explore legal and regulatory options, especially for repeat offenders.

**Selectmen's FY11 Committee Memberships and Liaisons/Contacts,
Revised September 15, 2010**

Committee Memberships

- Capital Planning Committee Charlie Kern, 3-yr., ending 6/30/13
- Elementary School Building Comm Charlie Kern, indefinite term
- Local Access Channel Advisory Steve Dungan, 1-yr., ending 6/30/11
- MAPC Selectmen's alternate Laura Spear, 1-yr, ending 6/30/11
- MAGIC Selectmen's rep Laura Spear, 1-yr, ending 6/30/11
- Master Plan Committee Steve Dungan, indefinite term
- Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Jim Salvie, 1-yr, ending 6/30/11
- Public Safety Study Committee Laura Spear, 1-yr., ending 6/30/11
- Pedestrian Walkway Planning Subctte Jim Salvie, 1-yr, ending 6/30/11

Liaisons/ Contacts, Annual July 1 to June 30

- Assabet River Rail Trail Committee Steve Dungan
- Community Preservation Steve Dungan
- Conservation and Open Space Laura Spear
- Council on Aging Steve Dungan
- Finance Committee Charlie Kern
- Fire/Highway/ Police Charlie Kern
- Health, Board of Jim Salvie
- Historical Commission Laura Spear
- Lower Village Subcommittee Laura Spear
- MinuteVan Committee Steve Dungan
- Nashoba Regional School Comm Jim Salvie
- Planning Board Laura Spear
- Pompo School Study Committee Charlie Kern
- Recreation Commission Jim Salvie
- Tri-Town Jim Salvie
- Zoning Board of Appeals Laura Spear

Note: Communications with other Town departments and committees will be as needed.

**Selectmen's FY11 Committee Memberships and Liaisons/Contacts,
Final version, June 2, 2010**

Committee Memberships

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| • Capital Planning Committee | Charlie Kern, 3-yr., ending 6/30/13 |
| • Elementary School Building Comm | Charlie Kern, indefinite term |
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| • Master Plan Committee | Steve Dungan, indefinite term |
| • Municipal Affordable Housing Trust | Jim Salvie, 1-yr., ending 6/30/11 |
| • Public Safety Study Committee | Tom Ruggiero, 1-yr., ending 6/30/11 |
| • Sidewalk Task Force | Tom Ruggiero, 1-yr., ending 6/30/11 |

Liaisons/ Contacts, Annual July 1 to June 30

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|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| • Assabet River Rail Trail Committee | Steve Dungan |
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| • Lower Village Subcommittee | Laura Spear |
| • Nashoba Regional School Comm | Jim Salvie |
| • Planning Board | Laura Spear |
| • Pompo School Study Committee | Charlie Kern |
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