

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
Monday, September 27, 2010  
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM**

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*Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons, Mark Fairbrother, Chris Boutwell, Patricia Allen, Town Administrator, Frank Abbondanzio; Administrative Secretary, Wendy Bogusz; Arn Albertini, Greenfield Recorder, Jeff Tirrell, WHAI, David Detmold, Montague Reporter*

Allen announces meeting being taped

**Approve Minutes of September 7 and 13, 2010**

*Fairbrother makes the motion to approve the minutes of September 7 and 13, 2010 with corrections. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen - Aye*

**Mike Nelson, Franklin County Pumpkinfest**

**Pumpkinfest Update**

- Have 25 vendors at the moment, mostly food but more craft people are getting involved.
- Full line of entertainment lined up for Peskeompskut park
- Banners are up throughout town
- On the State's Web site
- Hired one officer to stand near the beer tent and other officers would be doing random drive bys and walkthroughs throughout the night.
- Spoken with Chief Godin about fire safety stuff and he had no particular concerns, just the normal leave space for fire hydrants, fire trucks to get through. He is happy with our project
- Been in touch with Tom Bergeron, DPW Superintendent who has detour planned and worked out and signs will be put out the night before.
- Working with Kuzmeskus Bus Company to shuttle people from High School and Sheffield for peak hours of 6:00 to 10:00 PM

**Use of Public Property, Avenue A & Seventh Street**

*Boutwell makes the motion to authorize Michael Nelson, dba Franklin County Pumpkinfest Committee to do a fundraiser at Avenue A and Seventh St. intersection on October 9, 2010 from 9:00 AM until 12:00 Noon. It will involve approximately 6 people as a fundraiser to pay some of the expenses for the Franklin County Pumpkinfest. They will be wearing high visibility vests and with the condition the liability insurance gets figured out. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously, Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen – Aye*

**Change in hours**

*Fairbrother makes the motion to revise the previously approved licensing for the Franklin County Pumpkinfest on October 23, 2010 with all the same terms and conditions except the official closing time will be 10:00 PM rather than 9:00 PM. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen – Aye (Pertains to both entertainment license and use of public property license)*

**David Westbrook, PDP Productions, LLC, Entertainment Permit at 109 Avenue A**

Westbrook: Here to apply for a license for entertainment for the space at 109 Avenue A. We want to put in an all ages, alcohol and drug free music venue. Depending on build out time, want to start ASAP. We would program it 1 – 2 nights a week, 95% would be Friday and Saturday nights, not a set schedule.

Allen asks about renting out the space

Westbrook: What happens with a lot of venues like this is in addition to doing the programming yourself and producing events and bringing people in, you have people who come in and have their own events already packaged up with performers and they want to come in and just rent the space; maybe rent your technicians, but they want to do everything. Essentially, you rent it to them and they take all the profits out. We want to be open to those types of things. Primarily, we want to do programming ourselves because you maintain more control when you do those types of things. Doesn't think they would be competing with the Shea Theater. They have been doing similar things, but not at a permanent space for about 8 years now. Filled out everyday because he wants to keep them open to have the flexibility to book artist traveling from Boston to New York for example. This is not a full time occupation for anyone of them involved, won't be programming 7 nights a week, ever. Do not have a lease yet; they were waiting to see how everything works out until they have all the feedback.

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Discussion about space to be used, how it will be renovated and sound proofed.

Fairbrother feels there are enough unanswered questions not to vote on this tonight, however based on the presentation and what has been said so far would like a sense of the Board given

Jensen: Agreement is in proposal form at the moment, an entertainment license for their portion is a necessary component for them to continue, a sense of the Board would be informative and helpful. I am in discussion with the Fire Department on what kind of regulatory framework we're going to be under, which is unresolved.

Allen: You haven't mentioned all the people that you have worked with and several have written letters of support.

Fairbrother wants to see final floor plan layout with assumption things will be worked out, would be in support of this.

Boutwell: Would be in support if Town Noise Bylaws are followed and Burrito Rojo is not blasted out of the building.

Allen thinks several of the abutters need to be notified and is also supportive of the concept.

Westbrook goes over his planned build out of the building. Will be keeping capacity under 99

Allen: It makes it different from what the Shea is doing. The other issue is we have had issues/concerns by abutters about people congregating outside at times.

Abbondanzio: Just a suggestion based on the experience I've had with live amplified entertainment, a lot of the noise problems come out the front door when people are going in and out. If you have a vestibule and soundproofing....

Westbrook: It does have a vestibule and a second door so that is going to resolve a good amount of the sound issues coming out the front. I know Burrito Rojo has entertainment events in their space right now, so I think they are not opposed to entertainment nearby; and we discussed that a little bit when I talked to the owner.

Boutwell to D. Jensen: I know the former capacity was 85 over there, but wasn't that the whole first floor that included the Burrito Rojo?

Jensen: No, it's split out to be 84 in the back, and around 85 in the front. The total permitted capacity that I inherited with the building was in the vicinity of 165. Burrito Rojo has designation of 54 I believe, the common space is an additional 25 and the front space is 85. Not that these things can't be changed.

Westbrook: There will be no food, drink or snacks served.

Paperwork to be kept on file until further information is available. (lease, capacity, final configurations)

**Donald Clegg, Great Falls Farmers Market, Use of Public Property, October 3, 2010 (raindate: October 10, 2010)**

*Fairbrother makes the motion to grant a permit for assembly, public demonstration, use of public property for the lawn in front of Old Cumberland Farms to Don Clegg of Fourth St., Turners Falls, for the Great Falls Farmers Market, corner of Second Street and Avenue A on October 3, 2010 (raindate of October 10, 2010) from 11:30 – 4:30 set up and breakdown time inclusive. Approximate number of vendors 6 – 12, Chief of Police has signed off on it and insurance has previously been submitted. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously.*

**Mik Muller and Ann Harding, Soap Box Derby Post Event Wrap Up**

Muller: Wanted to say Thank you, thanks to all the Town Hall personnel and staff. We learned a lot, have 2 pages of ideas and ways to improve how things should go next year.

Harding: We got a lot of positive feedback from all around.

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Muller: J. Dobosz said he's seen a lot of events there and he estimated that the peak crowd was 750, but the whole day between everyone that was there was about 1,250. DVD is being edited, shirts are still available. Next year will be bigger. Discussion about borrowing risers from high school

Allen thanks Mik and Ann for all of their efforts.

Harding: Crowd was very cooperative, didn't have problems with anyone all day

**Town Administrators Report**

**Topics not anticipated covered in the 48 hour posting requirement**

**Budget:**

Abbondanzio: Starting to put together numbers for revenue and expenditure forecast. The big concern is the percentage of people favoring the reduction of the sales tax down to 3%. We would be looking at a total state loss of about \$2.5 billion revenue and in the current fiscal year it would be over a billion dollars starting in January. All the Gubernatorial candidates said they would go along with the will of the people and implement it. For the state as a whole it would be a \$600 million cut in local aid, for Montague it would be a \$138,000 on the Town side and about \$720,000 on the school side; it is a huge hit that doesn't even count the \$2 billion in additional projected deficit the state has coming up next fiscal year. This would be devastating to schools and town departments.

**Energy:**

Abbondanzio: The Energy Committee will be meeting tomorrow night and will be giving update on ESCO Project. The FRCOG lawyers have done an energy management services agreement draft and I'm having it reviewed by Counsel; hopefully we'll have a contract soon. Until there is a contract, Siemens is not going to order boilers. Beth Greenblathas finally reached some kind of agreement with Siemens about what should be in the agreement, because there is a lot of protections we need to make sure are in there. Beth will be reporting on this at the meeting tomorrow.

**Redistricting**

Abbondanzio: We were notified by the state that because of the census year, we have to do redistricting after census results come out. Deb Bourbeau is going to be working on it and will be attending seminars. She is looking at going from 6 precincts down to 3. It will be your final decision what you want to do. The state is running numbers for her and will be coming before the board at a later date.

**Meeting**

Abbondanzio: Next Thursday we have a meeting in Boston with the Joint Labor Management Committee. This is the first step towards arbitration; Pat Allen, Carolyn Olsen, Ray Zukowski and myself will be going. This is to lay out what the positions of both sides are and where we want to end up, then there will be a hearing set up at a later date.

**Film Conversion Project**

Fairbrother inquired about the status of the film conversion project

Abbondanzio: Received copy of DVD, saw rough video, there is some good stuff, the question is what to do with it. First step is \$600 item, if all we did is put the material into a format that we could record it and store it for future posterity, it would be a good thing.

**Meetings**

- Meeting with DESE on Wednesday to talk about schools at 10:30 AM in the Town Hall.
- Thursday, 9/30 is the dedication of Norma's Park
- Friday and Saturday night there is a fundraiser for the Reporter at the Shea Theater
- Confluence at the Shea

**Phone Message**

Received a call from someone who thanked the Highway Dept. for putting up a stop sign at the end of Gunn Rd.

**Bridge**

Abbondanzio: Went to Rep. Kulik's office hours today and we discussed the 5<sup>th</sup> Street bridge over the canal. Design has been completed and being reviewed by bridge designers in Boston and they are hoping to collapse it into this G/M project and get to it sooner rather than later. They might be able to get to it in the current construction season and use the bridge

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project budget to do that. The Housing Authority is going to have serious problems because their parking lot is being used as an emergency passage for fire trucks. We expect more information at the October 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Walter Ramsey has a list of for this meeting.

**PWED**

Abbondanzio: We should be hearing on PWED grant with in the next couple of weeks about the Strathmroe.

*Boutwell makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously.  
Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen - Aye*