

MEETING MINUTES

ALBANY COMMON LAND GOVERNANCE BOARD

Friday, March 5th, 4:00 pm.

Members present: Steve Knox, Jack Rose, Rob Nadler, Harry Richardson, and Cort Hansen.

On Friday, March 5th at 4:00 pm, Steve Knox, Chairman of the Governance Board called the meeting to order.

Steve began discussion on the wording of the article. He noted that the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) would reject the vote if the article was not properly accepted. The way the article was currently worded; there are two purposes in the same article. Re-wording would be necessary to eliminate reference to the Capital Reserve Fund. Steve noted state statute RSA 32:7 (to encumber funding without creating a capital reserve fund). The goal of the board is to encumber the funding in the process and to eliminate the necessity to come back to the town for another vote. He suggested that the selectmen vote prior to 12/31/2010 (by signing a purchase and sales agreement), in order to encumber the funding (to lapse should purchase not take place by 12/31/12). The amendment would be worded as follows; "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$175,000 for the purchase of the parcel known as the "Kennett property" to create the Albany Town Forest, and to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a Purchase and Sales Agreement to purchase the Kennett property from the Trust for Public Lands for \$175,000. The appropriated funds shall be withdrawn from the Town's Unreserved Fund Balance, and shall only be used if grants are received for the balance of the purchase price. The appropriation shall be non-lapsing and shall be encumbered until the purchase takes place, but in any event shall not be encumbered beyond December 31, 2012". This would allow the article to pass without requiring the funds to be placed in a capital reserve fund. Harry contended that the select board's intent to negotiate would encumber funds.

Discussion then proceeded to preparation for the town meeting night. Several comments were made at last Tuesday's evening, March 2nd information session regarding additional information that would be helpful on the 'fact sheet'. These additions were to include information on the TPL and the Land Governance Board. Rob suggested that the auditor should be called to double check the current balance of the Unreserved Funds.

Other issues that may arise were discussed and members were tasked with providing answers to questions. Insurance liability; Jack. Timber values; Cort. Conway Water Precinct questions; Steve. Financial questions; Harry. Surplus funds; Jack and selectmen. Who will manage property; Land Governance Board. Costs arising after purchase, trash/police; Land Governance Board.

Steve made a motion to adjourn, it was moved and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm.

Cort Hansen,
Board Secretary.