

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**Minutes of March 11, 2013**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Bruce Breton called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Selectmen Phil LoChiatto, Kathleen DiFruscia and Roger Hohenberger were present; as was Town Administrator David Sullivan. Selectman Ross McLeod was excused. Mr. Breton opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mrs. DiFruscia reminded all that voting would take place the following day, from 7AM to 8PM, at the High School.

*Mrs. DiFruscia* noted that she had spoken to the Recreation Coordinator that afternoon, and the previous day's Daddy Daughter Dance had been a huge success; adding that the second dance would take place the following Friday at Castleton. Mrs. DiFruscia also advised that she attended the Windham Community Band's Annual Banquet; adding that the Band itself is phenomenal and urging all to attend one of their performances if they have the opportunity.

*Mrs. DiFruscia* then welcomed Mr. Breton back to the Board. Mr. Breton thanked Mrs. DiFruscia, noting he would not have been able to return without the efforts of his wife and the Fire Department. Mr. Breton noted it had been a long four weeks in the hospital, and that he had received countless visitors and cards while there. He stated he will miss coming to the meetings on Monday evenings, and extended thanks to the Town staff and Mr. Hohenberger; the latter having been to his left for the last ten years. Mr. Breton added that, while he can be brash and abrasive, he hoped he had done some good work while on the Board. Mr. Hohenberger also extended his thanks to Mr. Breton for all his years of service, and a period of reminiscing amongst the members ensued.

**CORRESPONDENCE/LIAISON REPORTS:** None.

**MINUTES:** Mr. Hohenberger moved and Mr. LoChiatto seconded to approve the minutes of 12/27, 1/7, and 3/4 written. Passed 3-1, with Mr. Breton abstaining.

**STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE:** Mr. Sullivan noted that, as discussed, a Saturday Strategic Planning retreat with the Board and Department Heads has been tentatively scheduled for Saturday, March 23. He noted that, subsequent to that, the Department Heads will schedule a brainstorming session and compile a final Plan for submission to the Board at a future meeting. Brief discussion ensued.

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS:** Mr. Sullivan stated that the primary reason for that evening's meeting was to have Mr. Breton back one last time before the election. He indicated he and Mr. Breton had worked together since 2003, and had met prior to that via Mr. Breton's service on the ZBA. Mr. Sullivan noted Mr. Breton's passion as Selectman, and thanked him for his efforts and support; adding he will always recall their chats and expressing hope that Mr. Breton will still visit the Town offices. Mr. Sullivan then presented to Mr. Breton an Appreciation Award in recognition of his many years of service; noting that few Selectmen serve for nine years. Mr. Sullivan closed his presentation by again expressing his thanks on behalf of the current and previous Boards and the staff, and stating he was glad that Mr. Breton's health was improving.

*Chief McPherson* approached, noting that he had been Chief as many years as Mr. Breton had been Selectmen; adding that the two had also had some spirited discussions over the years. He noted, however, that what sticks with him is the friendship and support given throughout. The Chief then presented Mr. Breton with an ambulance; noting the latter's propensity for *not* dialing 9-1-1 in the past. Discussion ensued, and Mr. Breton again thanked the Department for their assistance.

Mr. LoChiatto approached noting he had met Mr. Breton via their service on the Planning Board. He went on to note that he cannot thank Mr. Breton enough for his passion, effort, and dedication to the Town; adding that his respect for Mr. Breton stems from same and the latter should be applauded for his efforts.

Mr. Hohenberger moved and Mrs. DiFruscia seconded to adjourn. Passed 4-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Wendi Devlin, Administrative Assistant

*NOTE: These minutes are prepared in draft form and have not been submitted to the Board for approval.*