

# TOWN of OAKHAM

## *Board of Selectmen*

**January 25, 2010**

### **Board of Selectmen present:**

Dennis M. Bergin Jr., Chairman  
Clayton E. Rice, Vice Chairman  
Eliot G. Starbard, Clerk (arrived at 6:35 p.m.)

**Recording:** Catherine Amidio

### **Present:**

Ellie Downer  
John Barringer  
Donald Haapakoski  
Lucy Tessnau  
Susan Turnbull  
Patricia Worthington  
Thomas McCaffrey  
Ken Dignan  
Dennis Martin  
Donna Sands  
Lisa Hubacz

Mr. Bergin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

### **New Boiler**

The small Boiler that heats the senior center needs to be replaced. The boiler dates back to the 1980's. The following quotes were submitted:

- \* R.J. McDonald - \$3,950
- \* Gasper's Plumbing & Heating - \$4,024 & \$3,865

The proposal from R.J. McDonald was approved and signed.

### **Merging Oakham Center & New Braintree School**

Patricia Worthington, Principal of Oakham Center & New Braintree School attended the meeting to discuss the possibility of merging the two schools. Under the proposed reconfiguration, preschool through 1<sup>st</sup> grade would attend New Braintree School and grades 2 through 6 would attend Oakham Center School. This would allow for 2 classes per grade resulting in a smaller class size. Mrs. Worthington has already presented her thoughts at a meeting with QRSD Superintendent Maureen Marshall and William Burnett, Support Service Manager. Ms. Marshall and Mr. Burnett did not feel there would be any additional costs if the reconfiguration were to take place and would benefit the children.

### **Motions**

- o Mr. Starbard made a motion to sign the **Mutual Aid Agreement** from Central Mass Law Enforcement Council as requested by Oakham Police Chief, Donald Haapakoski. Mr. Rice seconded, motion carries.
- o Mr. Bergin made a motion to sign the proposal as submitted by R.J. McDonald to install a new **Peerless WBV 3 section cast iron boiler** for \$3,950. Mr. Rice seconded, motion carries.

### **Miscellaneous**

- ❖ Mr. Ken Dignan, a retired teacher and Vietnam veteran, expressed his interest in becoming the Veterans Agent. Mr. William Mucha will not seek re-appointment when his 1 year term ends on June 30, 2010.
- ❖ Mr. Mark Blanchard resigned as a member of the Conservation Commission effective December 7, 2009.
- ❖ Mr. Rice voiced his concerns regarding liability coverage for the working police dog. The administrative assistant will contact Healy Brothers Insurance to discuss coverage.
- ❖ Police Chief, Donald Haapakoski asked the board if they would consider appointing Mr. Douglas Blood a retired North Brookfield Police Officer to act as a special officer for the Oakham Police Department.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

Mr. Rice made a motion to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Mr. Bergin seconded, motion carries.

### **Next Meeting**

The next Board of Selectmen's meeting will be held on February 8, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.