

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
Town Hall Council Chambers
OCTOBER 17, 2011 - Monday**

Present: Brian McDonald, Chairperson
Thomas J. Lacey, Vice Chairperson
Victor Pap, Councilor

Not Present: Edmund Harrington, Councilor
Kevin Whitaker, Councilor

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Chairman Brian McDonald called the Environmental Committee meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Discussion on recent editorial in the Boston Globe entitle "The Navy's Mess in Weymouth" dated October 11, 2011

No-cost base and land transfer discussion

Letter from Chairman for approval by Committee

Chairman McDonald reported that he called the meeting to update additional information received. Although it was short notice, the Navy and Tri-Town were invited to attend. There is no representation from either party.

Chairman McDonald reported what he learned recently; that the closed Naval Station at Alameda, California, which was closed during the Defense 360 round has been transferred at no cost. As the Chairman understands it, the NAS transfer has some similarities and some differences with the Alameda situation. From discussion, it would appear for the NAS to qualify for a no-cost transfer, it would have to revert back to the original reuse plan; the Mills Corp., which no one wants. The Chairman reported that the opinion piece is an accurate rendition of the circumstances of the situation on the base cleanup.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Pap to enter the Op-Ed piece from the Boston Globe dated October 11, 2011 into the record of the meeting and was seconded by Councilor Lacey. There was some discussion. Dominic Galluzzo, who was in the audience asked the committee if the public was entitled to respond to the piece. Chairman McDonald responded that as the meeting was not posted as a public hearing, the committee will not accept comment at this time, but that audience members were invited to submit any

comments in writing and a meeting would be scheduled to allow discussion.
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Chairman McDonald also reported that Kevin Donovan did provide some information on the no-cost transfer. The Navy was transferring former base land back to communities at no cost, and changed it after 2005. The Alameda station was to be transferred at a cost of \$108 million; however, the Navy then transferred it at no cost, and completed the clean up of the site to California and EPA standards. The Chairman would like to explore if the Navy is willing to do the same. The \$45 million transfer cost would then be paid by LNR to the host communities instead of the Navy. Chairman McDonald drafted a letter to the congressional delegation and read the draft to the committee. There was a brief discussion of the letter contents. Councilor Pap had some comments on the third paragraph of the letter. Councilor Lacey noted he remains concerned that the mid-November land transfer deadline is fast approaching.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Lacey to forward the draft letter to the full Town Council, with a recommendation for favorable action, and was seconded by Councilor Pap. Councilor Lacey asked that the letter include language concerning the timeframe driver and that time is of the essence. No vote was taken on the motion.

Councilor Pap requested the next meeting of the committee include an opportunity for citizen input and advised that it be scheduled as a public hearing. The Chairman will address with the Council President.

Adjournment

At 7:05PM, there being no further business, Councilor Pap made a MOTION to ADJOURN the meeting and was seconded by Councilor Lacey.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary

Approved by Chairman Brian McDonald