

**MEETING MINUTES**  
Town of Heath  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
Sawyer Hall  
January 20, 2015

**Called to order** at 7:04 p.m by Sheila Litchfield, with Brian DeVriese, Bill Lattrell, and Kara Leistyna, Town Coordinator present.

**Reviewed Agenda:** Add to Appointments: Tim Lively re: Charlemont Ambulance at 7:15 p.m.; Meeting minutes to review tonight will be dated 1/6 and 1/9; 1/13 will be reviewed at next scheduled meeting.

Brian was updated on Charlemont Ambulance Service and their response to recent changes made to Heath's call order including Colrain Volunteer Ambulance Assoc. as primary responder. A letter will be drafted and sent this week explaining the change, Heath's response, informing them that a representative from Heath will no longer serve on Ambulance Task Force, and that Heath fully supports the service and wants to see it succeed.

**7:12 p.m. Tim Lively entered meeting.**

**7:30 p.m. Ed Grinnell, Animal Control Officer and Chris Mattson, Police Officer arrived.**

**Charlemont Ambulance:** Tim shared an email that was sent to all EMTs and Firefighters regarding Heath's changes to call order. Discussed. Heath will always remain open to cooperation and efforts to improve ambulance services. Tim will be in touch with Colrain to discuss recruitment of EMTs. EMS Service Zone Plan is still in process of revision - it's a slow process. Kara will touch base with Jeff Simmons to check on status. Tim was thanked for his work on the Ambulance Task Force.

Also discussed Incident Command Training schedule. Discussed whether it is realistic for Heath. Tim made his recommendations for Select Board and shared that most classes on the list are meant for Fire Service Personnel. Tim added that he has all qualifications.

Tim gave update on water matter in Community/Sawyer Hall. Situation has been remedied, system flushed, and tested. Discussed ways to mitigate the problem.

**7:38 p.m. Tim Lively left meeting.**

**Dog Matter:** Officer Mattson and Ed Grinnell discussed continuation matter coming up on Jan. 27. Ed feels a subpoena can be obtained from the court to get vet records to determine how many dogs are owned or kept by owner. Officer Mattson filed new charges in addition to existing charges however they discussed the importance of complainant's ability to appear in court. Ed asked to be kept apprised of status of subpoena.

Ed shared some information about the waiving of late fees. Unless a dog owner has had no violations in the past year, the fee (\$25/dog) cannot be waived.

**7:50 p.m. Ed Grinnell and Chris Mattson left meeting.**

**Reviewed Minutes:** *On a motion by Bill Lattrell, and seconded by Sheila Litchfield, the Board, with one abstention, voted to approve the minutes of 1/6/15 Select Board meeting as amended.*

***On a motion by Bill Lattrell, and seconded by Sheila Litchfield, the Board, with one abstention, voted to approve the minutes of 1/9/15 Select Board meeting as written.***

**Finance Committee/Budget Planning:** Because it is premature at this point, it is difficult to prepare an analysis on tax rate impact of Highway/Fire Building project and/or WiredWest. Discussed plan for Highway/Fire building. With the matching grant of up to \$2 million, the Town will need an authorization to borrow up to \$2 million (matching funds). Sheila will contact committee to begin to plan how to present building project and financing to residents.

Don met with Mike Smith to discuss vehicle replacement scheduled and to discuss capital needs for FY16.

WiredWest: Federal government may get involved. State of NY is pushing Broadband and the President is speaking about the need in State of Union Address. WiredWest's plan is to have State funds cover interest up to third year. Discussed need for informational meetings and how to provide information to residents. WiredWest will meet with Select Board on 1/27 at 7:30 p.m.

STM: Kara will prepare warrant and explanation sheet.

**8:30 p.m. Finance Committee members left meeting.**

**Mail/ Email:**

1. Email from Judy Willis with meeting dates regarding FY16 School Budget
2. Email from Judy Willis regarding Long Range Planning and Presentation. A recommendation to change regional agreement to a weighted vote rather than unanimous agreement has been brought forth. Discussed implications for Heath. Discussed other recommendations and upcoming presentation meeting.
3. Email from Sheila et al. regarding Charlemont Ambulance
4. Email from Hilma regarding Assessor's Clerk Proposed Position.
5. Memo sent to Assessors
6. Draft Analysis from Don Freeman regarding Tax Consequences
7. Email notice from Phoebe Walker – Oversight Board Meeting
8. Series of WiredWest related emails
9. Email from Mike Smith regarding Gov. Baker/Chap. 90 Funding
10. Email from Karen Brooks – checking on Remote Participation status. Based on answers to questions posed with Attorney General's office, remote participation by any Boards at this time will not be permitted.
11. Board of Health Clerk job description DRAFT. Kara will ask when BOH can meet to discuss.
12. Emails regarding threatening phone call
13. Email from Eric Glazier regarding Heath School door repair
14. Talking Points for New Highway/Fire Dpt. Building in Heath (compiled by S. Litchfield)
15. Email announcing meeting to discuss Municipal transportation needs, 1/27
16. Email from Mike Smith regarding IT back up and contact
17. DOR Excess and Deficiency Franklin Cty. Tech School
18. Email reminder from Tracey regarding STM
19. Annual Report Request

**Other Separate Documents:**

20. Town Coordinator Report
21. Updated FY16 Budget spreadsheet
22. Examples of letters sent for Town Hall Safety/Behavior
23. The Beacon, Jan. 2015

**Other Business:**

**DOR Follow-up & TAP Workplan Status:** Discussed Hilma's letter to Select Board regarding Conflict of Interest. She shared that an applicant would have to retire from elected position prior to considering/interviewing for position. Conflict of Interest regulations do not allow otherwise. Kara will call the Ethics Commission to confirm. A meeting will be arranged with Assessors and Bill and Brian.

**All Boards Meeting:** Sheila will prepare an agenda for 3/3/15. Annual Reports are due on 2/27.

SIGNED:

1. Treasury Warrant

*On a motion by Bill Lattrell, and seconded by Sheila Litchfield, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:54 p.m.*

Next meeting scheduled for January 27, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kara M. Leistyna  
Town Coordinator