

MEETING MINUTES
Town of Heath
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Sawyer Hall
February 23, 2016

Called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Sheila Litchfield, with Brian DeVriese, Bill Lattrell and Kara Leistyna, Town Coordinator present. Also present: Jonathan Diamond, and see attached sign in sheet for additional attendees.

Reviewed Agenda: Ken Gilbert will not attend tonight. Add to other business: Protocol for Citizen Comments.

Minutes: *On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Bill Lattrell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of 1-26-16 Select Board meeting as presented.*

On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Bill Lattrell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of 2-02-16 Select Board meeting as amended.

Jonathan Diamond/ArtPlace Grant: Jonathan presented information to the Board on a grant for creative placemaking projects funded through 2016 National Creative Placemaking Fund. Jonathan feels this could be seed money to transform Heath Elementary into a performing arts magnet school. The Heath Education Initiative Task Force has discussed this option, and Supt. Buoniconti is familiar with the opportunity. Deadline for grant is March 2 with awards in May. Jon will research funding source and Mary Lyon will act as physical sponsor. Sheila will assist with application.

On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Bill Lattrell, the Board voted unanimously to approve of a submittal of ArtPlace Grant application on behalf of the Town of Heath.

Finance Committee/Highway Dept. Budget Hearing: Mike was thanked for the fine job he did segregating highway and fire expenses and good job keeping spending down. Discussed each line item. Mike would like to install another automatic greaser. Time is saved with this technology. Changed the name of line item for License Renewals to License Renewals/DOT Physicals. Capital Planning: Chevy small truck will need replacement soon. It has many issues and is currently at the mechanic. It's at its five-year mark which is the lifespan of a small truck. This particular model is becoming obsolete by GM. Mike will research best buy/make and what surrounding towns use. International has an option. To purchase, funding could come from stabilization, also Chap. 90. Other: Mike is trying to work with MassDOT and the Federal Govt. to get a grant to repair Avery Brook Road. This is a long process and the Town would have to pay for engineering costs only. Mike will review Sadoga Road bridge plans and provide comment. Thank you to Mike.

8:03 p.m. Mike Shattuck left meeting.

Other FY17 Financial Planning: There have been some requests for increases to certain stipends for FY17. A comparison with other, comparable towns may help to determine whether an increase is warranted.

Financial Team met. Joe Markarian will meet again when Accountant and Treasurer can be present to discuss Heath borrowing capacity in preparation for Community Compact work.

Three-Town Landfill: A meeting will be held with the three towns on March 2. Will review revised permit. Need to add funding to budget line (Landfill Closing) to cover related expenses such as mowing, sampling, inspection.

Heath Education Initiative Task Force: Informational Meeting will be held Thursday, 6:30-8 p.m. at the Heath School. Open to public. Task Force members will present an introduction, history, data collection, short/long term options that have been identified, and offer a time for questions/answers. The exploration phase has generated some options that will be presented to parents. No decisions have been made. Recommendations will be made to Select Board if anything needs to be included in warrant. Discussed ArtPlace grant option. Task Force members will visit all area elementary schools to get a sense of the environment, and how each operates.

8:32 p.m. Gloria Fisher left meeting.

Municipal Safety Complex: Calvin Carr, Bob Viarengo, and Brian DeVriese reported that the Lt. Governor is aware of our situation with the funding. Discussed how to proceed in working with both the administration and the legislature on restoring funding. Janey Bishoff, Public Relations, suggested a meeting with Ryan Chamberland, the Governor's Western Mass. Representative, that took place in December. Mr. Chamberland visited the facility and is working with ANF (Administration and Finance) and the Exec. Branch on options. David Travers, a Heath resident who works in the Boston area, has offered to help as a volunteer. Ms. Bishoff suggests keeping a public relations presence in Boston to reinforce what has happened or to use as last resort in case no action is taken. We need representation in the executive branch. Discussed strategic vision and additional costs. Discussed contract with Ms. Bishoff. She is willing to offer her time at no charge beyond the already invoiced amount of \$5,868. The committee will ask for Ms. Bishoff's strategic plan and how she will help going forward. Heath needs to get this funding returned. Kara will draft a letter to the Lt. Governor. Discussed upcoming events when legislators will be present. Kara will check with Ryan Chamberland on progress.

9:15 p.m. Finance Committee members left meeting.

Mail/ Email:

1. Email from Gloria Fisher re: Community Health Nurse
2. Email from Sheila re: School Budget
3. Mohawk Trail Regional School District Budget FY17
4. Letter from Michael Kociela re: School Comm. vote on Capital Repair Work
5. FRCOG FY17 Budget
6. Email from HCOG re: website design offer (\$12,000)
7. Memo from Board of Assessors re: asst. assessor position. Kara will respond.
8. Email from Ken Gilbert re: Emergency Numbering. Lorena may work on list if needed during Kara's absence.
9. Franklin County Solid Waste Mgmt. District reports
10. Draft notice for residents on recycling. Discussed and approved. Ken Erho will distribute.
11. FCSWMD memo on Battery Recycling and disposal. Spring Clean Sweep: May 21.
12. Draft Long Range Financial Plan from Joe Markarian
13. Email from Colonial Power. Kara will email plan to BOS for review.
14. Email from Carrie Healy regarding Heath and zip code confusion/Chap. 70 funding
15. Memo drafted and sent to Dept. Heads, employees, etc. re: zip codes
16. Email from Brian DeVriese re: Land Sale
17. Email to Rep. Paul Mark. No response. Send note to Senator Downing
18. Info. from Bob Viarengo re: Safety Complex (11 pages)
19. Email from Bill re: road maintenance and action to take to disseminate info. to residents
20. Email from Bill re: visit with MA DOT rep/Avery Brook Road
21. Notice from Mass DOT regarding Bridge No. H-14-008 over Underwood Brook

22. Note from Town Clerk re: Doug Wilkins' resignation
23. Purchase & Sale/Lot 1, Royer Road (Hannay/Palmer).
24. Note from Dave Howland – Hello from FL
25. Draft agenda for Three Town Landfill Meeting. Add overview of Landfill.

Other Separate Documents:

26. FY17 Budget Spreadsheet 2-22-16
27. Town Coordinator Report
28. Asst. Assessor Job Description revised. Kara will send to Assessors for approval.

SIGNED:

- Vacation request

Next meeting scheduled for March 1, 2016 at 7 p.m.

On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Bill Lattrell, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kara Leistyna
Town Coordinator