

**MEETING MINUTES**  
Town of Heath  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
February 2, 2010

Called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Tom Lively with Sheila Litchfield present. Also present Town Coordinator Gloria Fisher, Planning Board members Cal Carr, Doug Mason, Dino Schnelle, and Finance Committee members Don Freeman and Jeff Simmons.

Agenda was reviewed with hiring campaign added to new business.

**Planning Board – Smart Growth**

The Board reviewed the letter from the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) regarding the a technical assistance grant for smart growth. The Planning Board has asked Peggy Sloan to work with them to develop a smart growth model and to develop new zoning bylaws. The grant is for research and FRCOG assistance. The BOS agreed to ask for the grant assistance. They will sign a letter to that effect.

**Budget Hearing – Planning Board**

The Planning Board requested a revolving budget account so that they may deposit and use monies generated from the sale of Zoning Bylaw books. After discussion it was decided that Planning Board should increase their request for the expense line. The Planning Board requested a FY 2011 expense line of \$450. The Planning Board was complimented on their work on the new Zoning book.

**Windmill Siting Regulations**

New legislation is pending that would take away the town's rights in permitting for windmills. Discussed how this could affect Heath.

**7:31** Cal, Doug, and Dino left the meeting. Brian De Vriese entered the meeting.

**Community Hall Policy**

Sheila explained the difference between the revised policy and the previous policy. The Board wants to encourage use of the Community Hall by residents. Discussed the possible legal liabilities inherent in charging fees for use. Discussed fees charged for use by profit making groups or people. Brian moved to adopt the policy. Sheila seconded. The vote was unanimous. The policy was signed.

**7:55** Don and Jeff left the meeting.

**Mail**

- Flyer from the FRCOG announcing a Health & Food Safety Forum to be held May 24, 2010 in Greenfield.
- Letter from MEMA notifying the town that the grant application deadline for the FEMA-funded Hazard Mitigation Grant Program has been extended to April 2.
- E-mail from the FRCOG that they have received the Local Technical Assistance funding from the Dept. of Housing and Community Development. The funding is to be used for both new and ongoing planning projects and projects that promote and directly result in implementation of regional cost sharing. The FRCOG requests that the Board prioritize the towns needs and respond by February 10.
- Notice from the Mass Forest Landowners Assoc that the Dept of Conservation and Recreation is holding a series of public forums to get comments about proposed recommendations for future land stewardship of the 308,000 acres of DCR land. Forums will be held on Sat. Feb. in N. Adams and Pittsfield and on Tues., February in Amherst.
- Certificate from the Mass DEP certifying registration of the Heath Town Hall and Senior Center as a Registered Public Water Supplied in Massachusetts.

- Letter from the Town of Charlemont asking for a three-town landfill meeting on Feb. 9 or Feb. 16 at 5:30 p.m. The Town Coordinator reported that she notified the Charlemont Select Board that a meeting on February 9 was impossible for the Heath Select Board. The Board is able to attend a meeting on February 10 at 7 p.m.
- E-mail from the Town of Charlemont re: three-town landfill meeting stating that neither Feb. 9 or 16 would work and suggesting meeting dates of Wednesday, February 10 or February 17, at any time between 5:30 and 7 p.m.
- Memo from Jan Ameen, Franklin County Solid Waste Management District, with calendar year 2009 reports for Mass DEP for recycling rates. Heath's recycling rate went up .7% from cy 2008.
- Agenda for February 4 MMAC meeting received from Mohawk Trail Regional School District. Discussed Mohawk's budget and the MMAC meeting.

### **Town Coordinator Report**

The Town Coordinator reported that:

- **Website** – She is making every effort to have the new website go live this weekend. She was presented with some technical difficulties last week, but has figured them out.
- **Town Accountant Budget Hearing** – The Town Accountant had previously been scheduled to have her budget hearing and annual performance review on February 16. She has recently learned that the town will have to purchase new accounting software for FY 2011. She would like know if the Board would still like to see her on Feb. 16. Yes, they would.
- **Municipal Conference** – Sen. Rosenberg's annual municipal conference will be held on March 27. More details to come.
- **Ambulance Meeting** – EMD Tim Lively attended the January 26 ambulance purchasing meeting in Charlemont. The Town has appropriated \$32,300 for Heath's share of a new ambulance; the ambulance will cost Heath \$32,282.00. Tim's notes are in your folders. It was noted that it was generous of Rowe to donate extra money that would reduce each town's portion.
- **Property, Liability, and Workmen's Comp Insurance** – The Bank of Western Massachusetts has a new insurance division and can provide all but Health insurance to the town of Heath. Would you like to schedule a meeting with their representative to discuss getting a quote from them? Yes.
- **All Boards Meeting** – She has been in contact with the Town Clerk, who will be attending the All Boards Meeting. The Town Coordinator has been working on summarizing the new Open Meeting Laws to use as a handout at the meeting. The Town Clerk let me know that Open Meeting Law information has to come from the Town Clerk (by law) and that she has to get people to sign that they received it.
- **STAM Meeting** – She will be attending a STAM meeting on Thursday, February 11, in Hadley.
- **FCSWMD Meeting** – She will be attending a FCSWMD budget meeting on Wednesday, February 10.
- **Budget** – She has been working on the budget worksheets for FY 2011.
- **Annual Report** – She has been working on the 2009 Annual Report.
- **Filing and Organizing** – is progressing, slowly, but it's progressing.

### **Old Business**

- Appointments – there are vacancies on both the Board of Health and the Cultural Council.
- All Boards Meeting – Discussed and reviewed the agenda. Discussed putting together a yearly calendar for BOS meetings with each board/committee. It was noted that some boards/committees fulfill this during their yearly budget hearing. Reviewed the Guidelines for Boards and Committees; they were revised. Brian moved to approve the revisions. Sheila seconded. The vote was unanimous.

### **New Business**

- Annual Report – discussed who the report should be dedicated to.
- Transfer Station – noted the need to post a help wanted notice for Transfer Station Attendant. Tom will speak with Mike about this.
- BOH Health Agent – discussed the letter from the BOH to the Health Agent.

**Documents Signed** – warrants and a building permit were signed.

Discussed the funeral of Bob Herman. Brian moved to allow any town employee who wished to attend the funeral time off to do so. Sheila seconded. The vote was unanimous.

**Minutes**

Brian moved to approve the minutes of the January 26 meeting as submitted. Sheila seconded. The motion passed.

Brian moved to adjourn. Sheila seconded. The motion passed.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 9, at 8:00 p.m. or immediately following the All Boards Meeting; to be held at Sawyer Hall.

Adjourned 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gloria Fisher  
Town Coordinator