

MEETING MINUTES
Town of Heath
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SAWYER HALL
April 17, 2012

Called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Sheila Litchfield, with Brian DeVriese present. Also present, Town Coordinator, Kara Leistyna.

Reviewed Agenda: Board to review Town Meeting Warrants and cast final vote on 4/24/12. Add to Other Business update on Town Nurse.

Review ATM Warrant. Board of Selectmen would like to meet with Ken Gilbert to explore further the articles the Firefighters have submitted to the ATM warrant. Will also discuss articles with Finance Committee. Need a number from Mike for Dell Bridge engineering costs and need to further research needs for Sadoga Bridge.

7:35 p.m. Calvin Carr, Bob Viarengo and Jo Travis entered meeting.

Planning Board Update: Planning Board (PB) reported some inadvertent clerical omissions in the Zoning Bylaws. They have consulted with Town Counsel and it appears to be clerical error and can be corrected without formal vote at Town Meeting. The PB also reported that the creation of the solar bylaws will take roughly two months to complete and the wind bylaws three to four months later. The PB would like to inform town voters at the Annual Town Meeting (ATM) that they would like approval at a Special Town Meeting (STM) prior to State completing their Bylaws. They would like to submit a news article explaining the need for STM vote to further ensure that voters know the issue will be forthcoming. PB will contact Moderator to discuss request.

7:51 p.m. Calvin Carr, Bob Viarengo and Jo Travis left meeting and Don Freeman, Jeff Simmons, David Gott and Ned Wolf of the Finance Committee entered for Joint Budget Meeting.

Budget Meeting: Reviewed STM/ATM warrants by article. Article 13 (regarding transfer \$50,000.00 from Free Cash to the General Fund to reduce taxes in Fiscal Year 2013) will be adjusted pending review of overall budget. Article 16 (asking for \$40,000.00 for the purpose of funding the purchase of a new dump body for the 2003 International truck) could be funded with Chap. 90/ Stabilization funds or borrowing – need to discuss further; articles submitted by firefighters need more research to determine the financial impact to town. Regarding engineering costs for bridges, not recommended till further price research. Brian will talk with Mike Smith. The Board recommends using Town Counsel's recommendation for the BOH article regarding setting fees. Discussed special projects to highway garage and how they relate to Municipal Complex and Space Needs Task Force recommendations. Reviewed STM warrant and Finance Committee recommends all articles as written. Finance Committee Chair presented FY13 Projected Tax Levy vs. FY12 Tax Levy worksheet. Because the information was based on unconfirmed numbers, Don will prepare an update for next meeting. Finance Committee feels that borrowing makes sense for some of the requests since Heath is under \$1million and the limit is \$4 million and offer three options for analysis: 1) don't borrow at all 2) borrow for bridge engineering, garage doors and Municipal Complex feasibility study or 3) borrow only \$40,000 for engineering costs for bridges. Their suggestion for Community Hall storage needs is \$1,000 rather than \$7,000 and to make use of the interior of the building for storage needs rather than purchasing a shed. Another option recommended is to use the money for stackable chairs and donate the current wooden chairs which will free up some space. Kara will update Article 3 using the budget request from Highway Dept. (without a new

employee). Briefly discussed budget implications of requested hourly/wage increase by Town Clerk. Budget discussion will continue on 4/24/12.

Brian made a motion to approve Special Town Meeting Warrant as written. Sheila seconded. Vote was unanimous and motion carried.

9:58 p.m. Don Freeman, Jeff Simmons, David Gott and Ned Wolf of the Finance Committee left meeting.

Mail/ Email:

1. Hampshire County's 350th Celebration Notice
2. Wired West Update
3. Chart of Town of Heath Tipping Fees
4. Highway Dept. Report
5. FCCIP Moving Notice
6. Note from Eileen Tougas including list of storage priorities for Comm. Hall
7. Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust Minutes from 1/11/12
8. Notice from Mass Broadband announcing informational workshops
9. Mass Interchange Volume 26, #1 Newsletter
10. Retired State, County and Municipal Employees Association of MA Newsletter
11. Notice from Tim Lively requesting members of Heath Natural Hazards Mitigation Planning Committee to meet with Mary Praus, FRCOG between 4/23 and 4/25 or 5/3. Asking what times work best for people. Kara will ask for more information as well as a suggestion for Alternate Emerg. Mgmt. Dir.
12. Floor Refinishing estimate for second floor Sawyer Hall in amount of \$2,020.
13. Pre-school Support email from Sheila changing Heath's portion from \$15,000 to \$10,000 for FY13.
14. Resignation letter from Ken Gilbert from Parks & Recreation Comm. Brian made a motion to accept Ken Gilbert's resignation with regret. Sheila seconded. Vote unanimous and motion carried.

Warrant/Budget Info:

15. Email from Don Freeman regarding Escrow/DOR
16. Worksheet from Finance Committee
17. Don Freeman's note reporting House Ways & Means local aid estimates for FY13
18. General Fund *Revenue* Report as of March 31, 2012

Town Nurse: Sheila will fill in for Claire Rabbitt at no charge until she returns from leave. Sheila will make critical needs visits but not hold office hours. A notice has been posted on bulletin board.

Warrants signed.

Brian made a motion to adjourn at 10:22 p.m. Sheila seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Next meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2012 at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kara Leistyna, Town Coordinator