

**MEETING MINUTES**  
Town of Heath  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
Community Hall  
April 23, 2013

Called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Sheila Litchfield, with Tom Lively, and Kara Leistyna, Town Coordinator present.

**Reviewed Agenda:** Added to Other Business: Update on Dog Status and ATM Planning; Heath Herald

**Reviewed Minutes:**

*On a motion by Tom Lively and seconded by Sheila Litchfield, the Board voted unanimously to approve Select Board meeting minutes dated 3/26/13 as amended.*

*On a motion by Tom Lively and seconded by Sheila Litchfield, the Board voted unanimously to approve Select Board meeting minutes dated 4/01/13 as amended.*

*On a motion by Tom Lively and seconded by Sheila Litchfield, the Board voted unanimously to approve Select Board meeting minutes dated 4/09/13 as amended.*

**7:57 p.m. Jan Carr and Calvin Carr entered meeting as well as Mike Smith, Highway Supt.**

**Seaboard Solar:** Calvin would like to keep the Select Board apprised of a situation regarding a solar proposal. He shared that a solar developer is interested in purchasing property on Number Nine Road and would like to install a 2 megawatt solar array. Currently, Heath only allows 1 megawatt per parcel per the Zoning Bylaws. Heath would have to change the bylaw that was recently passed. Seaboard Solar's deadline is July 1. They need a total of 10 megawatts for their project and seem to be scrambling to get that fulfilled. They are promising Heath that if the bylaw is changed, Heath can serve as a host town and collect potential revenue of \$60,000 per year. One other town is working with this developer and has been for a year and a half and has not collected any money yet. Town Meeting is just around the corner and the Planning Board does not wish to rush into a decision. The land being considered is mapped as Bio Core habitat and according to Heath Bylaws, the solar array cannot locate there. There are also existing wetlands which requires the full, complete review by the Conservation Commission and the State. So, there is no guarantee for this proposal especially with the environmental restrictions. This developer was supposed to arrange a visit and look at other areas in town but never showed up. The Select Board advised not to change the bylaw but if this developer is serious with a solid proposal for the future, then the Town will pursue it. Cal will let the Selectmen know if any further information becomes available.

Also discussed the warrant article pertaining to the request to change the commercial wind decibel level. The Board feels 30 decibels is low and could set a precedent. Calvin shared that the Advisory Committee came up with this level and it's meant to protect abutters. Discussed possibly amending it on town meeting floor. Planning Board will address the question at their public hearing scheduled May 6, 2013.

**8:00 p.m. Finance Committee members Jeff Simmons, Gloria Fisher, Kathy Inman and Ned Wolf arrived and at 8:15 p.m. Jan and Calvin left the meeting.**

**Joint Budget Meeting with Finance Committee:**

- Finance Committee questioned Mike Smith about his request for new mower and highway materials line item and the increase for dust control. Mike has tried in the past to hire out for the

mowing and it has not been successful. However, he feels that hiring a dedicated person as opposed to a highway dept. employee, to operate the town equipment has been effective and productive. The mowing is necessary for eliminating brush encroachment that blocks visibility and signs; in the winter there is less shade so ice and snow melts better and the trucks are better protected (e.g. less broken mirrors) when brush is maintained. Discussed equipment options.

- Dust Control/Materials Line Item: Finance Committee approved \$3,000 of the \$6,000 requested for dust control. Mike shared that that cuts six miles of roadway that would be treated. The solution coverage is 500 gallons per one mile of roadway. Dust is an ongoing issue. It's a health issue and this treatment reduces erosion and helps to compact the roads leading to better traction and therefore safety.

#### **8:49 p.m. Mike Smith left meeting.**

- Reviewed warrant. Discussed proposed new position – Building Maintenance Coordinator.
- Finance Committee recommended raising and appropriating for articles 22, 23 and 24. More information is needed for Article 21 (Paper Compactor).

#### **9:07 p.m. Finance Committee left meeting.**

#### **Reviewed Special Town Meeting Warrant**

*On a motion by Tom Lively and seconded by Sheila Litchfield, the Board voted unanimously to approve and sign the Special Town Meeting warrant for May 11, 2013.*

#### **Mail/Email:**

1. Email from Doug Mason regarding paper compactor. Discussed. Board would like Mike Smith to verify dimensions and check specs to ensure all information is needed to make accurate estimate of cost of both installation and operation.
2. Email from Mike Smith regarding mowing and comparable towns. Discussed together with Finance Committee.
3. Letter from Shelburne Board of Selectmen regarding MTRSD budget
4. Mike Smith's update on highway garage doors. He would like a BOS representative to assess the job to ensure all is done according to contract.
5. Letter of resignation from Dorothy Sessions. And COA's request to appoint Eileen Tougas to COA. *On a motion by Tom Lively and seconded by Sheila Litchfield, the Board voted unanimously to accept Dorothy Sessions' resignation with regret and to appoint Eileen Tougas to serve on COA.*
6. Copy of public meeting notice from Planning Board
7. Email from Tracey regarding STM warrant. Issues resolved.
8. Email from Gregg Corbo regarding Dog Bylaw revision. Reviewed entire bylaw proposal, made changes. Discussed kennel definition and licenses. Sheila will follow up.
9. Quote from Cabot Risk Strategies for FY14 as well as last year's
10. Cherry Sheet Info.
11. General Fund Revenue Report 4/15/13
12. Notice from National Grid regarding Vegetation Management Plan (VMP). Kara will confirm map has been updated to include Sessions' property and pastures on Bray Road.
13. Request from Town of Dudley for support in allowing the conversation about the unsustainable Chapter 70 formula to begin on Beacon Hill
14. Email from FRCOG regarding opening fuel bids. Need approval either May 21, 22, or 23. Will revisit at next scheduled meeting.
15. Emails regarding COA request. Kara will confirm with Val that she understands the Board's decision to propose a revolving account for the COA meals program as well as a \$1,000 line item.
16. March 2013 Cash Book Summary
17. Email from Margaret Freeman regarding Historic Signs
18. Emails from Planning Board regarding Seaboard Solar. Discussed with Calvin Carr.
19. Copy of letter from Building Inspector sent to Robert Rode regarding building permit

20. Emails from Jan Carr regarding Maitlin Forest and assessors decision to tax this year. This is not in the purview of the Select Board.
21. FCCIP notice of proposed fee changes. Kara will inquire about tent fees.
22. Letter from Hilma regarding dog licenses. The Board appreciates this effort.
23. Town Coordinator report

**Other Business:**

**Dog Issue:** Tom reported that Margo was serving as contact with Ronnie Woodard. She inspected the property and says the enclosure is installed but there is no roof and fence is not buried 2 feet in the ground. The dogs have been seen walking two at a time with one adult per dog on a leash. Preliminary inspection requires follow up. Sheila will contact Margo. The insurance estimate for coverage pertaining to the ownership and potential damage from dangerous dogs still needs to be provided. Deadline for enclosures according to the Order of Decision is May 15, 2013.

**Signed:**

- Warrants
- Travel reimbursement request
- Vacation request

*On a motion by Sheila Litchfield and seconded by Tom Lively, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 11:08 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Kara Leistyna, Town Coordinator