

MEETING MINUTES
Town of Heath
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Sawyer Hall
June 28, 2010

Called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Tom Lively with Brian De Vriese and Sheila Litchfield present. Also present Town Coordinator Gloria Fisher and Community Hall committee members Dolly Churchill and Eileen Tougas.

Agenda was reviewed with Verizon bill scam, basketball court, and employee performance review added to new business.

Community Hall

Temporary Food Permit – reviewed and discussed the Board of Health’s request to attach a temporary food permit application to the Community Hall Use application. It was noted that anyone providing food for the public would need a permit. No permit would be needed for private functions. There are one or two points that need clarification from the Board of Health and some additions and revisions were made. The town coordinator will retype the applications and forward them to the Board and to Dolly and Eileen.

Building Inspection – discussed Building Inspector’s report and needed remedies before he will issue a certificate of inspection. Eileen was authorized to hire someone to fix the front door lock, the fire escape railing, and the missing emergency lights. The curtains on the stage also need to come down. Discussed how to pay for new curtains. Because lack of storage space is a problem, Eileen was asked to get some prices for an outdoor storage shed. The Community Hall Committee will contact the Historical Commission to find out if there are grants to be had for renovations and repair to the Community Hall. The Highway Dept. will be asked to remove the piano from the stage and to dispose of it.

7:35 Margo Newton and Kris Nartowicz entered the meeting.

7:47 Eileen and Dolly left the meeting.

Treasurer

Loader – the Board signed loan documents for the new loader. The loan will be for 5 years at 3 ½% interest.

Sherman Property – discussed the letter from a family member asking the town to do an RFP rather than auction the property. The tax title attorney said doing an RFP would require a town meeting vote. It was decided to auction the property, and the Board authorized Kris to hire an auctioneer for the sale.

Fournier Property – reviewed a copy of a letter from the Building Inspector to the property owners telling them to demolish or board up the property.

8:00 Kris left the meeting.

Police Business

Speed Limits – Margo reported that she has contacted the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) to ask them to do a speed study and for a cost estimate. Mass Highway needs the study before they will change the speed limits.

Reappointments – Margo recommended to the Board that they reappoint police officers Chris Lannon, Lee Lively, and Chris Mattson. Discussed whether there were any complaints made against any of the officers. Reviewed complaints and expressions of appreciation. Brian moved to reappoint police officers Chris Lannon, Lee Lively, and Chris Mattson for FY 2011. Sheila seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Stop Signs – Tom pointed out the need for a stop sign at the intersection of South, Bassett, and S. Schoolhouse roads. Discussed other places in town that may need a stop sign. Margo will investigate and report back to the board.

Verizon Scam – Sheila explained that a charge from a company called ERSI is appearing on some Verizon phone bills. This is a scam; people don't have to pay it. Those who have paid it will be reimbursed by Verizon.

8:28 Margo left the meeting.

Mail

- Copy of a letter to a resident from the Building Inspector regarding complaint about his house on Ledges Rd. The Building Inspector notes that the structure needs to be demolished or boarded and secured.
- E-mail from Mike Smith regarding awarding the bid for stone sealing. He requests that the Board award the bid to Gorman Group, the lowest bidder at \$2.95/sq. yard. Brian moved to award the bid to Gorman group as the low bidder. Sheila seconded. The vote was unanimous.
- Letter from John Kerry with information about the Mass Broadband Institute and asking town administrators to complete a survey.
- Memo from Kopelman and Paige notifying towns that the revised Open Meeting Law will be effective July 1, 2010.
- Memo from Kopelman and Paige with a copy of the updated Open Meeting Law Reference Card. The town coordinator put a copy in every committee/commission/board mail box.
- Newsletter about the Franklin County CDC celebrating 30 years of community development.
- Report from the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District with the May 2010 Clean Sweep Collection.
- Copy of a letter sent to the Town Treasurer regarding a property on Judd Rd.
- Letter from the Franklin Land Trust notifying the town of a recreational bike race to be held on August 21 and that goes through Heath.
- Community Hall Inspection report from the Building Inspector's Office noting conditions that needed to be fixed prior to issuance of a Certificate of Inspection.
- Letter from the Mass Executive Office of Public Safety asking the Board to adopt a zero tolerance enforcement policy for seat belt violations. This is a voluntary initiative that encourages officers to issue citations or written warnings rather than verbal warnings to those who are unbelted when stopped for something else.
- Dog complaint received.
- Bid from Dohn Sherman of \$597 for the Ford Tractor. He was the only bidder. Brian moved to award the bid to Dohn Sherman for \$597. Sheila seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Town Coordinator Report

The Town Coordinator reported that:

- Website – is up and running. Some pages need tweaking and others updating. She has been working with Karen Brooks, Board of Health, and John Clark, Ag Commission, on their respective web pages.
- Landfill – Researched and compiled water test results and soil boring and hydrologic maps and information for TRC and mailed it to them. Next landfill meeting is Wednesday, June 30, 7 p.m., Hawlemont Library.
- Both the Board of Health and the Building Inspector's office is concerned with a property on Ledges Rd.
- Whittemore Spring – The last test results came back with a coliform count of 4. Betty suggests two options. Give up on trying to fix it. Or get a backhoe in there and put some time and money into cleaning it, putting gaskets in, and making it higher so no surface water can get in. She suggests popping the lid and seeing if sludge is present. If it is, that is probably what is contaminating the spring and she recommends getting the sludge out and moving the tile.
- Internet - The T1 line is disconnected in the town hall. A tech support person was here for several hours on Friday. The town received the wrong DSL modem from Crocker; it was replaced with a loaner until Crocker

sends the correct one. Other problems with lines and routers were worked on. Crocker has been contacted asking them to e-mail the town coordinator that the T1 line is no longer in service.

- Filing and Organizing – efforts are ongoing and progress is being made.
- The town received reimbursement from Hawley for the landfill in the amount of \$1,930.11.

Old Business

- Microfiche – The Highway Dept. will be asked to remove and dispose of the microfiche machine in the Police Office.
- Dog Hearing – discussed whether to hold a dangerous dog hearing or meeting with the dog's owner. Tom will talk to Town Counsel for his recommendation on the best way to handle the situation.
- Pay As You Throw (PAYT) – discussed forming a recycling committee and having compost picked up from the Transfer Station. The goal for the committee would be for increased recycling and ideas on how to implement a plan. Discussed various means for educating the residents of Heath about recycling. Discussed the pros and cons of using purchased stickers for resident's trash bags rather than purchased town trash bags.

New Business

- Carpenter Award – discussed the conditions of the Read will and replacing the plaque currently at the school with something that would include all the award recipients names.
- Transfer Station Stickers – it was decided that someone who owns property in Heath, whether they have a dwelling or not, is allowed to purchase a transfer station permit sticker.
- Basketball Court – it was noted that the fence is falling down and the court is in disrepair. Bob Bourque mentioned that he would be interested in helping fix the situation. Discussed asking Bob Bourque, Andy Royer, Doug Mason, and Kate Bailey to be on a reconstituted Recreation Committee. Brian moved to appoint the above persons to the Recreation Committee pending the acceptance. Sheila seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Documents Signed – Warrants and documents were signed. Brian moved to approve the Highway Supt.'s Chapter 90 request. Sheila seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Brian moved to adjourn into executive session for the purpose of discussing the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence of an employee or dismissal of, or complaints or charges against a public officer, employee, staff member or individual and not to resume the open meeting. Sheila seconded. Roll call vote: Tom, Aye; Brian, Aye; Sheila, Aye. Adjourned into executive session at 10:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gloria Fisher, Town Coordinator