

**MEETING MINUTES**  
Town of Heath  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
Community Hall  
August 27, 2013

**Called to order** at 7:40 p.m. by Sheila Litchfield, with Brian DeVriese, Bill Lattrell and Kara Leistyna, Town Coordinator and Don Freeman, Finance Committee Chair and Mike Smith, Highway Supt. present.

**Reviewed Agenda:** Added to appointments: School Committee, 8:15 p.m. to discuss Assessment Revisions.

**Reviewed Minutes:**

*No minutes reviewed at this meeting due to time constraints.*

**7:45 p.m. Gloria Fisher and Terry Walker entered meeting.**

**Mike Smith:** Brought forth a request for roadside mowing. Discussed. Kara will find out if Heath has approved whether residents may work for the Town in lieu of reduction on tax bill. The Board is in favor of offering this but need to find out details on whether it is allowed.

Also discussed request for sign on Judd Road. Mike estimates the cost at roughly \$150. On a motion by Brian DeVriese and seconded by Bill Lattrell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the erection of a NO PARKING ANYTIME sign at the wide spot on Judd Road as requested by a resident due to safety concerns.

Logistics of upcoming Clean Sweep day in Heath were discussed. Mike also updated the Board on the STRAP grant application. Everything going well. Postage for letters sent to abutters will be paid from Highway Misc. Expense account.

**7:53 p.m. Mike Smith and Terry Walker left meeting and Ned Wolf arrived shortly after as well as Karen Brooks.**

**Don Freeman:** Opened discussion on revised assessment for MTRSD. Don asked some questions for clarification. The Board explained that they are taking no action on the matter and therefore the MTRSD budget for FY14 remains as voted and approved. Discussed formula and why Heath is impacted. All agreed that the issue is really with the State and how the formula disproportionately affects small towns. Finance Committee will meet downstairs and resume meeting with the Board at 8:15 p.m. when School Committee arrives.

**8:04 p.m. Bob Gruen and Andy Draxler entered meeting.**

**Karen Brooks:** Updated Board on Clean Sweep Day and status of Recycling Committee. She distributed flyer and prices. Karen shared that she has widely advertised this event. She requested another person to help in addition to Mike Shattuck. Discussed coupon for residents with Temporary Occupancy permits. Board of Health approved the use of the coupon and felt it would act as incentive to use the Clean Sweep Day and the transfer station for recycling. Karen assured that the BOH revolving account had enough money to cover the event. Board asked if residents need a sticker and Karen said no, people can come in for free. Names and addresses will be logged by attendant at the event. The Board thanked Karen for her great effort with this event.

Karen shared that the Recycling Committee may need more members. Current members are not involved with the Clean Sweep Day. Despite numerous attempts, Karen has not been able to connect with members. The Board encouraged Karen to keep trying to gather the committee for a meeting. They

shared that members were very involved with several issues pertaining to the transfer station in the recent past.

Lastly, Karen notified the Board about Rowe's new designated E-Waste Site for electronic recycling. Karen will call to find out if Heath could use the site for CRT screens or chips.

**8:17 p.m. Karen Brooks left meeting and Finance Committee rejoined.**

School Committee: Bob Gruen and Andy Draxler attended in preparation for School Committee meeting. Bob updated the Board and reiterated that because Heath voted to take no action, the already voted budget has to be honored. Bob will attend the meeting prepared with statistics of assessments over the years. The group looked over the chart showing historical assessments. Discussed the affect on the tax rate if the revised amount of \$74,928 was accepted and it would increase it 84¢ on the rate. Discussed meeting, other town's views, hopes for state legislature and hopes for positive communication and support. Lastly discussed the formula and how it causes numbers to fluctuate and the need for clear explanation of how formula is worked/adjusted. If there exists a problem, it is difficult to determine the source. Discussed how legislators need to be contacted for improvements.

Board and Finance Committee will begin to review budget calendar for FY15 budget.

**8:50 p.m. Bob Gruen, Andy Draxler, Gloria Fisher, Ned Wolf and Don Freeman left meeting.**

**Mail/Email:**

1. Correspondence between Jan Ameen, Kara Leistyna and Karen Brooks regarding recycling at the transfer station
2. Email from Mike Smith asking from what account should the postage for abutter letters that went out to residents on 8A be paid. The Highway Misc. Expense account will be used.
3. Emails regarding Woodard dogs and the ongoing matter. Discussed recent inspection conducted by ACO and Asst. ACO. Kara will check to confirm whether they used the Order to ensure compliance line by line. Mr. Woodard still needs to get a kennel license and business license for his breeding business.
4. Letter and petition from Bruce Phillips supporting grant proposal for 8A
5. Email from Art Schwenger regarding Community Development Strategy and his willingness to help
6. Correspondence from Debbie Cavalier regarding police in Mohawk Estates and illegal fireworks
7. Letter from MIIA regarding delay in annual grant money availability
8. General Fund Revenue Report 8/18/13
9. Email from Andrea Woods regarding Diesel and Gasoline Tax and FRCOG coop contract
10. FCCIP monthly report
11. Advisory from ABCC regarding Pouring permits for farmer-breweries, wineries and distilleries
12. Summary of 2013 Clean Sweep Collection. Kara will forward to Sheila.
13. Email from Mike Smith regarding installation of sign on Judd Road
14. Email from Mike Smith regarding mowing and a possible operator
15. Email from Bill Lattrell – overview of BOH meeting held 8/20/13
16. COA meeting minutes 8/2/13
17. Letter from Baystate Roads Program regarding Mike Smith's achievement. Kara will prepare a letter of congratulations for the Board to sign.
18. Correspondence from FRCOG regarding MassWorks Applications
19. Meeting announcement MTRSD Special Meeting 8/28/13
20. Correspondence regarding student from Heath possibly attending the Smith Vocational School and transportation sharing option
21. 2013 Board of Directors Elections National Recycling Coalition
22. Announcement of 5th Annual Regionalization Toolkit Conference 9/16/13

23. Announcement of MMA's fall legislative breakfast meetings
24. Announcement of Hampshire County Select Board's Assoc. meeting 9/12/13 at 5 p.m.

Other Separate Documents:

1. List of those residents who have not purchased transfer station stickers yet

**Other Business:**

- ❖ HRA Community Block Grant/Septic Loan Program: Kara worked with Art Smith on Community Development Strategy.
- ❖ FY15 Budget Planning Calendar: Kara will make revisions and forward a copy to Assessors for input e.g. when to set tax rate.
- ❖ Transportation Sharing Options for Vocational Students: Sheila prepared a letter to be sent to Poppy Doyle with appreciation for including Heath in the collaboration if needed. This school year, there will be no students from Heath attending Smith Vocational School.
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**Signed:**

1. No Warrants this week
2. Letter to Poppy Doyle regarding transportation collaborative for Smith Vocational School students
3. Borrowing Note from Kris Nartowicz
4. Bill Schedule for STRAP Grant postage
5. Request for Leave

***On a motion by Brian DeVriese and seconded by Bill Lattrell, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:50 p.m.***

Next meeting scheduled for September 3, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kara Leistyna, Town Coordinator