

MEETING MINUTES
Town of Heath
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
COMMUNITY HALL
September 27, 2012

Called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Sheila Litchfield, with Tom Lively, Brian DeVriese and Kara Leistyna, Town Coordinator present.

Reviewed Agenda: Added to Other Business: Speed Limit change in Town Center; Franklin County Selectmen's Assoc. Update on recent meeting. Ken Elstein, HCOG Municipal Aggregate Program for Electricity (to residents) postponed.

Reviewed Minutes:

Brian moved to approve 9/18/12 of Select Board meeting as amended. Tom seconded. Vote was unanimous and motion carried.

7:20 p.m. Margo Newton, Police Chief, entered meeting.

Police Vehicles: Margo provided an update on police dept. activity. She purchased a used Crown Victoria and it is already in service. The Board discussed with her the disposal of equipment/procedures for old cruiser and motorcycle. Margo feels the springtime is best time to try to sell the motorcycle. The old cruiser is only good for parts. The Subaru is getting new struts and the electrical problem has been fixed and the vehicle is in good shape and running well and Margo feels this vehicle will last a few more years.

Heath Fair Police Coverage: The Board raised a question about police coverage at the Heath Fair. The town has been covering this expense in recent years since the loss of a Community Policing grant that used to cover the detail. The Board suggested that either the Agricultural Society should plan to budget for this in the future, or the question on the Town budgeting for it should be brought to voters at an Annual Town Meeting. Margo will determine the actual 2012 cost for coverage. Discussion tabled until more data is received. Sheila will inform the Agricultural Society of this conversation. Margo will find out what the procedure is to dispose of surplus goods (the old cruiser).

New Hire: Margo recommended hiring another officer for detail work.

Brian moved to appoint Gordon Cutter as Detail Officer for Town of Heath @ \$14.99/hour and \$40/hour if hired by Verizon, National Grid, etc. Tom seconded. Vote was unanimous and motion carried.

Speed Limit in Center of Town: This conversation was revisited to understand what is needed to change the speed limit in center. Margo said that an engineer study is needed to make any changes. FRCOG declined assistance to do engineering study and referred Margo to District 1, DOT in Lenox, MA. Because cost is prohibitive to do study, this issue will not be revisited at this time.

Town Buildings: Margo raised the issue of mold/mildew in Town Hall and Community Hall. Discussion ensued about what needs to be done. Board agreed that the front porch should be cleaned and painted. Also approved the cleaning of all carpets in Town Hall. The old, used carpet in the second floor offices will be removed as well as the carpet in the entry way. This area that is prone to mildew will be replaced with a rubber, slip resistant matting. The wood flooring under the carpet will be refinished. Kara will get prices for all areas.

7:58 p.m. Margo Newton left meeting.

Mail/ Email:

- Town Coordinator Report

- Mike Smith email Re: Disclosure of Information regarding Bay State Roads and Mike's intention to work as an instructor on chainsaw safety. Mike handled matter well and took initiative and spoke with Ethics Commission.
- Email from State Ethics Comm. re: 2011 amendment to the Conflict of Interest Law re: gaming.
- Letter from Berkshire Enviro-Lab – no change in service/billing. Premier Laboratories will provide services.
- Note and newsletter from FRCOG Regional Health Services: Info. session for CIC grants on Oct. 1 at 10am.
- Response from Town of Rowe to Board of Selectmen's letter inviting Rowe to educate their students with Heath students. Kara will forward letter to Ken Rocke and ask for his suggestions as to next steps.
- Mohawk Trail Regional School District Accountants' report for Year ended June, 2011.
- Update from Graveyard Guild.
- Response from Joanne Blier regarding Tech School change Sect. 89.
- Charlemont MOU: Need to determine whether it is a private organization or part of Town of Charlemont. Kara will research.
- Letter from North Heath Cemetery Corp. asking for 50% reimbursement for mowing. Discussed. Issue could be raised at Town Meeting. Need a figure for next year's budget. Sheila will contact Claire Rabbitt.

Status Update on Ongoing Action Items: Reviewed and revised.

- Added FY12 Projects to list
- **Highway Salaries:** revisited to determine if this should be put on a warrant. Review matter and discussed best way to resolve issue. Need to follow up with Finance Comm. and learn what their research revealed and revisit during budget planning time. Tabled discussion until information from Finance Comm.
- **Garage Doors:** Brian is in process of preparing tech drawings to put with bid package. There are no structural issues. Brian will complete sketches and forward to Mike.

Other Business:

Special Town Meeting Warrant: Reviewed warrant and made revisions. Finance Committee will join meeting next week to review and vote on warrant articles. Board will add a request for a revolving account for nurse to purchase vaccines. Sheila will forward wording to Kara.

Three-Town Landfill Annual Monitoring: Discussed correspondence with environmental consultant Bill Hoyerman and his conversation on Heath's behalf with Dan Hall at DEP. Reviewed price estimate for this year's monitoring. Bill agreed to send three separate bills to each town. Sheila will follow-up with some questions regarding the estimate. Kara will send him billing addresses for Charlemont and Hawley. Once the modification to the post closure monitoring requirements are made by DEP, and the costs for monitoring is determined, the Board will discuss with Charlemont and Hawley to obtain their concurrence.

Franklin County Selectmen's Assoc.: Tom attended the meeting and gave a recap. He mentioned that they are revising the rail in Greenfield and they hope to have a stop in Greenfield by 2014 on the North and South Route. Projections plan for upgrading the rail to accommodate 75-80 mph trains including transport to Montreal, Quebec. There are plans to have a commuter rail to and from Springfield in the future as well.

Items Signed:

- Weekly warrants were signed
- UN Proclamation 2012

Brian moved to adjourn at 10:28 p.m. Tom seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Next meeting scheduled for October 2, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. Kara will invite Town Accountant to the meeting to discuss warrant articles, audit and revolving account for recycling.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kara Leistyna, Town Coordinator