

**MEETING MINUTES**  
Town of Heath  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
Sawyer Hall  
October 20, 2015

**Called to order** at 7:05 p.m. by Sheila Litchfield, with Brian DeVriese, and Bill Lattrell and Kara Leistyna, Town Coordinator present.

**Reviewed Agenda:** Added to Other Business: Schedule A, Dept. of Revenue Recap form to review, and BOH/Fire Dept. House Burn Matter.

**Highway Dept.:** Discussed workday schedule. If return to eight hour day, the schedule would be 6 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. with unpaid ½ hour lunch. Or, 7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. was a suggestion. Mike suggested a 9 hour day, four days a week, and then a four hour day on Friday. Originally, the ten hour day, four days per week was a seasonal modification. If anyone has health issues, a note from a medical doctor may be submitted to supervisor. Board asked Mike to discuss with crew and report back.

**7:10 p.m. Bob Bourke, Dave Howland, and Peter Smith entered meeting.**

**Heath Veteran's Memorial Committee:** Dave began sharing the importance of research and proper documentation for the files. Few recollect who put together plaques in Community Hall. 211 names have been compiled of people whom have served from the Revolution to present. Conway School of Landscape Design has assisted in developing a plan for the common. Local stones will be used and existing memorials. A mason has been lined up for construction. The committee wants to involve Townspeople in the design. Because most people have stones on their property, perhaps they would like to offer some for the memorial. Ashfield Stone will be used as well. Three more large white stones are needed to accommodate the bronze name plaques. Design was presented to the Board for review. Fundraising efforts have begun with a goal of at least half the cost. Memorial will be wheelchair accessible. Committee will work in conjunction with the Parks & Recreation Comm. Phase I estimated cost is \$10,000 for inscriptions. Committee requested assistance from Highway Dept. for placement of stones. Work shall begin next spring.

**7:45 p.m. Bob Bourke left meeting and Betsy Kovacs entered meeting.**

Discussed path materials/options. A lot of the work can be done through volunteers. Matt Lively has offered his services to help move stones. Board thanked committee for their impressive work.

**7:49 p.m. Don Freeman entered meeting and Dave Howland, Jerry Gilbert, and Peter Smith left.**

**Finance Committee:** Don Freeman shared that his Committee voted to overspend winter accounts as needed. He has spoken with Chief Gilbert regarding the fire dept. transition. \$9,102 is total needed for new vehicle and \$3,215 needed for tires for brush truck. Because the pressing bill is the tires, the Finance Comm. has approved a request from Reserve Fund to cover this invoice. The expenses will be requested from Overlay Surplus or Free Cash to replenish the Fire Dept. Supplies/Training account. Historically, the Fire and Highway accounts have been blurred but for FY17 planning, they will be sorted for cleaner accounting. Overlay Surplus has been determined in the amount of \$11,503.11. Originally, the cost of the vehicle was to come from Highway Maint./Utilities but the accountant suggested using a Fire Dept. account for the source. Fire hoses have to be tested – and may need replacement. The cost at this time is not known. Face masks too require testing. Ken will get figures needed for Special Town Meeting.

**7:55 p.m. Jo Travis and Bill Gran entered meeting.**

*On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Bill Lattrell, the Board voted unanimously to approve request from Fire Dept. to pay brush truck tire expense in the amount of \$3,215 from Reserve Fund, to be replenished at Special Town Meeting.*

**Fire Dept. Burn:** Betsy Kovacs came tonight to discuss the recent plans for the Fire Dept. to burn a building at 15 Ledge Road at the request of the owner. The burn was canceled because a demo permit is required, as well as another permit from MA DEP. Burns are excellent hands on training opportunities, and as long as all required permits are in order and notifications made in advance, the Select Board supports the work of the Heath Fire Dept.

**Planning Board:** Bill Gran shared that a resident in Mohawk Estates has expressed concern to the Planning Board regarding an abutter and has sought remedy for an ongoing matter that is affecting his property including runoff and burning of brush. After review of bylaws with Building Inspector, there appears to be nothing applicable to Planning Board involvement. Discussed. Planning Board could consider future bylaws to include some language added to existing bylaws to require a special permit or subject to review/or permitting to clear land. However, this could be problematic with such small tracts of land. This is perhaps a situation for landowners to pursue in civil court and also through MEPOA Board – perhaps they have a conflict resolution in their bylaws. Bill Lattrell suggested for the landowner to add dense, high herbaceous growth or a series of infiltration trenches to slow flow of runoff. Bill Gran will follow up with landowner.

**8:32 p.m. Bill Gran and Jo Travis left meeting.**

*Minutes: On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Bill Lattrell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of 9/01/15 Select Board meeting as amended .*

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**Mail/ Email:**

1. Information from Karen Axtell regarding Town Meeting/Bridge Repairs
2. Email with Bill and Mike Shattuck re: Highway hours
3. Email from Kris Nartowicz re: STM request
4. Email from Betty Nichols re: Tax Rate
5. Highlights from REPC (from Tim)
6. Heath Nurse Report
7. Email from Mark Reich re: status of public records' request
8. Emails re: Fire Dept. Burn
9. Email from Ken Gilbert re: CAD System
10. Memo from Tracey Baronas re: Overlay Surplus Declaration \$11,503.11
11. Email from Bill re: Transfer Station infraction. Issue resolved.
12. Email from Paul Mark re: Safety Complex
13. Email invitation to CPHS (Community Public Health Service Annual Meeting)

**Other Separate Documents:**

14. Town Coordinator Report
15. MTRSD Lease Heath School – Due for renewal. Will ask School Committee if they have any concerns.

**Other Business:**

1. Fire Dept. ceiling tiles. Some mildew stained tiles need replacing. The sheetrock is holding up insulation. Need a contractor to complete this work.
2. Mike Smith will be scheduled for an Exit Interview.
3. Community Compact: Board interested in finding out more about this program. Will determine which Best Practice to implement for Town of Heath and then schedule a time with Phoebe Walker to find out ways to collaborate with other Towns e.g. Town Mechanic Services.
4. FY17 Budget: Kara will update budget calendar.
5. Highway: Bill will speak with Mike Shattuck and ask that signs be posted during roadwork/changes. Jeffrey Johnston will start training/working on Oct. 28.

*On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Bill Lattrell, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:25 p.m.*

**SIGNED:**

1. MA Cultural Council Contract for FY16 Allocation - \$4,400

Next meeting scheduled for Oct. 29, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kara Leistyna  
Town Coordinator