

MEETING MINUTES
Town of Heath
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Sawyer Hall
November 10, 2015

Called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Sheila Litchfield, with Brian DeVriese, Bill Lattrell and Kara Leistyna, Town Coordinator present. Also present: See attached sign in sheet.

Reviewed Agenda: Add to Other Business: Possible Conflict of Interest matter; Community Compact; Review minutes of 10/20/15.

Minutes: *On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Bill Lattrell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of 10/20/15 Select Board meeting as amended.*

On a motion by Bill Lattrell, and seconded by Sheila Litchfield, the Board voted unanimously, with one abstention, to approve the minutes of 10/29/15 Select Board meeting as amended.

Mike Smith/Exit Interview: The Select Board posed some open-ended questions to Mike Smith regarding his prior employment as Highway Superintendent and Fire Chief for the Town. Mike was thanked and appreciated for his work over the past 34 years in both capacities. Sheila reminded all in attendance that there will be a chance to gather and celebrate at the Community Hall, on November 21, 2015 at a potluck dinner, 5:30-8 pm.

7:50 p.m. Mike Smith left meeting.

STM Warrant: Reviewed warrant articles. Assessors submitted a request to increase Assessor Adm. Asst. weekly hours from six to ten for remainder of FY16. Pursuing land purchase for Safety Complex even though grant remains in limbo. 6.4 acres is proposed off Colrain Stage Road. The rest of the 17 acres will be conservation land/Land Trust will have development rights. Select Board also asking for authorization to sell Bray Road property to help off-set purchase of Colrain Stage Rd. property. Discussed cost. Maps of both properties will be viewable. Discussed easements for bridge projects and the process for the Town. After Town Council review & discussion, Articles 10 and 11 include language on appropriation for possible costs associated with the easement process rather than a separate article on the warrant. Often, no money is needed due to gifting. The motion on the floor will be to transfer from free cash to pay for any expenses associated with easements. Doug Wilkins is okay with all articles being raised at a Special Town Meeting. Finance Committee voted to recommend all articles, 1-10. Mark Reich, Town Counsel, will be asked to attend in case questions arise.

Will discuss Capital Planning at next scheduled meeting.

8:17 p.m. Doug Wilkins left meeting and Finance Committee left shortly thereafter.

Other Business:

1. MA DOT Bridge Repairs: Kara will reach out to Karen Axtell to ensure that she touched base with Dist. 1 Bridge Engineer, Mark Devylder to arrange a meeting with property owner(s). Also, Kara will request a color coded copy of map of Dell Rd. project. Sheila will email questions to Mark Bastoni.
2. Conflict of Interest Matter: Select Board previously voted to appoint all who serve as Special Municipal Employees. Will investigate whether it's necessary to also vote exemption or can the

Special designation encompass all? Kara will inquire with Town Counsel. ***On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Bill Lattrell, the Board voted to approve Betsy Kovacs' exemption from her interest in MGL Chap. 268A, sect. 120*** – “This section shall not prohibit an employee in a town having a population of less than three thousand five hundred persons from holding more than one appointed position with said town, provided that the Board of Selectmen approves the exemption of his/her interest from this section.” A municipal employee who holds more than one paid position, must be issued an exemption to hold both positions. This is a special exemption allowed for Towns with a population under 3,500. Betsy will also complete a 23(b)(3) disclosure statement.

3. Community Hall: Discussed the recent finding that the furnace was turned off at the Community Hall. Community Hall Committee and Tim Lively are custodians of this building and no one else should be accessing the utilities. Tim will post a sign on furnace switch. Kara will ask Tim to repair the malfunctioning toilet in the men's room.

Mail/ Email:

1. Cash Book Summary – October
2. Letters from Hampshire Council of Govts. Re: new aggregation option. Kara will schedule a meeting.
3. Letter from MMA re: MunEnergy program/Constellation for another option for energy strategy
4. Sr. Center Chair info. ***On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Bill Lattrell, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the use of \$350 from Comm. Hall Maint./Utility account towards the purchase of chairs for the Sr. Center/Community Hall.***
5. Email from David Young, Warwick re: Recycling Escrow
6. Email from Bill Hoyerman – Landfill Sampling complete; awaiting results
7. Letter from Heath BOH – re: 911 Street List discrepancies - task force suggested to tackle issue. Sheila will inquire with E911 Coordinator whether a Task Force will be useful.
8. Emails re: Foot Clinic. According to Tracey, they are all set till April at which time they can address it at ATM. Board needs to discuss with Sr. Center staff during FY17 planning. Questions arose: Does the money funnel through nurse's account? Can more be allocated however, if money from Town, clinic must be open to all residents.
9. Email from Robyn Provost-Carlson – Assessor's STM request
10. Email from Sheila re: Renewal Notes
11. Email from Bill re: Appraisals. Estimates for Dell parcels, \$250-\$500; for Sadoga (larger), \$1,500. Wise to use a firm that also offers the review process.
12. Email from Al Canali re: WiredWest Financing Plans (spreadsheet attachment on flash drive)
13. Notice of meeting with Shelburne Select Board re: Understanding your Town's Minimum Contribution to a Regional School District, Dec. 10, 6:30 p.m. Bill and Sheila will attend; Kara will register both.

Other Separate Documents:

14. Town Coordinator Report. ***On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Bill Lattrell, the Board voted unanimously to change the Transfer Station hours, effective after Memorial Day, 2016 to be as follows (to simplify: Mondays are dropped during winter hours)***
 - ***Summer: Saturday, 8am-4pm; Monday, 9am-1pm, Wednesday, 12 noon – 4 p.m.***
 - ***Winter: Saturday, 8am – 4 pm; Wednesday, 12 noon – 4 p.m.***
15. Exit Interview Questions
16. Accountant's Cash Reconciliation
17. WiredWest Borrowing Options
18. Draft of Plot Plan for Conlon property
19. WiredWest Operating Agreement

SIGNED:

1. Treasury and Payroll Warrants
2. STM Warrant
3. Vacation Requests
4. MA DEP Sustainability Grant Paperwork

Next meeting scheduled for Nov. 17, 2015 at 7 p.m.

On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Bill Lattrell, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kara Leistyna
Town Coordinator