

**MEETING MINUTES**  
Town of Heath  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
Community Hall  
December 4, 2012

Called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Sheila Litchfield, with Tom Lively and Brian DeVriese present. Also present: Margo Newton, Police Chief

**Reviewed Agenda:** No changes.

**Reviewed Minutes:** *On a motion by Brian DeVriese and seconded by Tom Lively, the minutes of the 11/13/12 Select Board meeting were approved as amended.*

**Performance Review, Margo Newton, Police Chief.**

**7:45 p.m. Mike Smith, Highway Superintendent:** Reviewed highway wage comparison with nearby towns. There is room for improvement with Heath salaries. Discussed variations in each town of job responsibilities. Data helpful and Mike will use it when considering proposed rates for FY14. Also discussed the Dodge truck. It is off the road and Mike would like to put it out to bid that it is okay to dispose of.

*On a motion by Brian DeVriese and seconded by Tom Lively, the Board voted unanimously to authorize Mike Smith to dispose of truck as needed.*

**8A Bridge:** One-lane and stops signs are in place notifying drivers that a one-lane road is ahead.

**8:00 p.m. Finance Committee (Kathy Inman, Jeff Simmons, Ned Wolf and Gloria Fisher) entered the meeting and at 8:15 p.m. Mike left the meeting.**

**Budget Issues:** Reviewed joint budget memo for FY14. Confirmed joint meeting with Assessors on 12/11/12 and Kara will check on date for Classification Hearing. Kara will make changes to budget memo and send out to all department heads with individual budget worksheets and general fund report. Discussed email regarding pole taxes from FY09 with Verizon. Heath will be impacted. The abatement may be paid from overlay surplus. Tabled until next scheduled meeting. Everyone read Don Freeman's update from the meeting at MTRSD meeting with Mark Abrahams. Discussed agreement history, savings, etc.

**8:35 p.m. Finance Committee (Kathy Inman, Jeff Simmons, Ned Wolf and Gloria Fisher) left the meeting.**

**Other Business:**

**Dog Control Matter:** Hilma Sumner, Margo Newton and Kara did some research on confiscation of dogs and whether a warrant is necessary. The Select Board can issue a blanket warrant annually to the Dog Officer. Discussed status of matter.

**Mail/ Email:**

1. Email from Sheila regarding Assessors 12/3/12
2. Western Mass. Report Dec. 2012

3. Email from Sheila to Don Freeman and Don's report from meeting with Mark Abrahams and MTRSD
4. Email from Don Freeman regarding budget and draft of budget memo (to be approved 12/4/12)
5. HCOG Fall/Winter 2012 Newsletter
6. Mass DOT Bridge inspection reports 10/26/12
7. Mass DOT State Aid Ch 90 Payment Voucher Submittal #20
8. DCR workshop on Emerald Ash Borer, Amherst Dec. 18, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
9. Memo from Tracey regarding increase in mileage from IRS.

***On a motion by Brian DeVriese and seconded by Tom Lively, the Select Board voted 2/3 to accept the standard mileage rate set by the IRS in the amount of 56.5¢/mile for calculating reimbursement to individuals who use their personal vehicles for business reasons, effective January 1, 2013.***

***Motion passed.***

10. Flyer for Children's Shopping Spree (benefits Heath School)
11. Documents from Don Purington regarding donation to library.

***On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Tom Lively, the Select Board voted unanimously to accept a donation in the amount of \$1,000 from Attorney Mark K. Jones, dated November 9, 2012, representing payment of a bequest under the Last Will and Testament of Hazel Simons. This donation will benefit the Heath free Public Library and to be deposited into existing municipal account #295610-001.***

**Status Update on Ongoing Action Items:** No updates.

**Items Signed:**

1. Weekly warrants
2. The Board voted unanimously to sign the MIIA 2 year Guarantee Proposal.
3. Mileage Reimbursement
4. ConCom Bill Schedule for Bill Lattrell, Consultant
5. The Board voted unanimously to sign the DEP Grant paperwork (Sustainability Grant for recycling bins) through the FC Solid Waste Management District.

Brian moved to adjourn at 9:41 p.m. Tom seconded. Vote was unanimous.

**Next meeting scheduled for December 11, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kara Leistyna, Town Coordinator