

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
November 23, 2009
Slade Building**

Members present: Matt Castriotta, Chair
Kristie Casey, Vice Chair
Ernest Newcomb, Clerk

Staff present: Karen Chick, Accountant; Elaine Peterson, Town Secretary; Deb Roussel; Town Administrator

Others present: Hany Tadrous, Arthur Halkiadakis, and Javier Morales, National Grid representative

Meeting commenced at 6:10 PM

Town Accountant Karen Chick reported that she has requested to change her hours on Tuesdays to 1 to 6 pm instead of 8 am to 4:30 pm. The remaining three hours from Tuesday will be made up the other days of the week. Ms. Roussel stated her only concern is Ms. Chick's lack of availability to other departments until Tuesday afternoon. The Board granted approval of the change of hours.

The Board also directed Ms. Chick, an ex-officio member of CIP, to request another CIP member record the minutes, in order for her to concentrate on her duties as accountant. Ms. Chick reported free cash is in the process of being reconciled; she is waiting from more information from the treasurer.

Discussion ensued about the financial planning policy regarding capital purchases and targeted stabilization for funding a new highway dump truck purchase. A letter was written to the Board, Finance Committee and Capital Improvement Planning Committee from the Capital Finance Team consisting of Ms. Roussel, Ms. Chick and Mr. Dunbar recommending funding sources for the purchase and stabilization accounts for capital purchasing.

Ms. Casey entered the meeting at 6:18 pm.

Warrant # 11

Motion: K. Casey

2nd: M. Castriotta

To approve Warrant #11 in the amount of \$910,645.88

Vote: All in Favor

Ms. Peterson presented the Special Town Meeting Warrant for signatures. The Board will discuss speaking roles for articles at a later date.

Liquor license hearing for Transfer of All Alcohol Package Store License from Vasta Inc. to Hany Tadrous for Hubbardston Market, 32 Main Street, Hubbardston, MA

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The hearing opened at 6:45 pm. Mr. Halkiadakis introduced Mr. Hadrous to the Board and stated Mr. Tadrous owned two other stores in nearby towns. Ms. Peterson reported all required paperwork has been submitted for the application.

Motion: K. Casey **2nd: M. Castriotta**
To approve the transfer of an all alcohol package store license to Hany Tadrous for Hubbardston Market pending approval by the ABCC **Vote: All in Favor**

Pole petition for Abenacki Street

Pole petition hearing opened at 7:00 pm.

Javier Morales of National Grid stated the reason for the two new poles was that currently there are three sets of low hanging wires that come across the street to one pole that serves three houses. National Grid would like to remove the existing pole and replace with two poles to maintain better clearance over the road and eliminate wires hanging over another residence's driveway.

Motion: K. Casey **2nd: E. Newcomb**
To approve pole petition to install 2 jointly owned poles and remove one jointly owned pole on Abenacki Street beginning at a point approximately 537 feet northeast of the centerline of the intersection of Bemis Road and continuing approximately 75 feet in the northeasterly direction contingent on Highway Superintendent's recommendations **Vote: All in Favor**

Ms. Peterson presented a letter prepared by Ms. Roussel to Mark D. Marini, Secretary of Department of Public Utilities supporting CPU 09-77; a petition by Massachusetts regulated utilities regarding solicitation and execution of contracts for renewable energy.

Motion: K. Casey **2nd: E. Newcomb**
To sign the letter supporting the petition by Massachusetts regulated utilities pursuant to St. 2008, c. 169, section 83 **Vote: All in Favor**

Ms. Peterson presented a letter prepared by Ms. Roussel written to Thomas Waruzila, Massachusetts Highway District 3 Commissioner, advocating inclusion of a Route 68 paving and drainage project for the regional transportation infrastructure plan (TIP).

Motion: K. Casey **2nd: E. Newcomb**
To sign the letter to Commissioner Waruzila regarding Route 68 improvements
Vote: All in Favor

Ms. Peterson presented the December 8, 2009 Special Election warrant for signatures.

Motion: K. Casey **2nd: E. Newcomb**
To sign the warrant for the December 8 Special Election **Vote: All in Favor**

Highway Hire and Contract Award Recommendations

Ms. Peterson presented a letter from Highway Superintendent Gauthier recommending hiring Brian Sena and David Lancey as winter seasonal help/plow truck drivers.

Motion: K. Casey **2nd: M. Castriotta**
To approve wage authorizations for Brian Sena and David Lancey at \$15.00 per hour conditional on passing a pre-employment physical

Vote: Ms. Casey-yes, Mr. Castriotta- yes, Mr. Newcomb- abstained

Ms. Peterson presented a letter from Highway Superintendent Gauthier recommending awarding the plowing and sanding contract for Mile Road to Riker Excavation, Inc.

Motion: K. Casey **2nd: M. Castriotta**

To award the Mile Road plowing and sanding contract to Riker Excavation, Inc., 65 Pitcherville Road, Hubbardston, MA, for \$3,200.00

Vote: Ms. Casey-yes, Mr. Castriotta- yes, Mr. Newcomb- abstained

Historical Commission Appointed as Agent for Historical Preservation Agreement

Motion: K. Casey **2nd: E. Newcomb**

To designate the Historical Commission as agent for administering the Preservation Restriction Agreement for the Williamsville Chapel **Vote: All in Favor**

Ms. Roussel presented a letter from the Teamsters Union Local #170 requesting her signature to amend the current collective bargaining agreement by adding “steel-toe work boots” under uniforms, as agreed to in collective bargaining.

Motion: K. Casey **2nd: M. Castriotta**

To authorize Ms. Roussel to sign the amendment on behalf of the Board

Vote: Ms. Casey-yes, Mr. Castriotta- yes, Mr. Newcomb- abstained

Ms. Roussel advised the Board forward to MIIA for review the updated Police Department policies submitted by Chief Perron. The Board will review them at their December 7th meeting.

The Board reviewed the letter submitted by Computer Advisory Committee Chair Kevin Motta regarding a policy discontinuing future purchases of desktop printers through attrition as Slade Building computers are now networked to a main copier/scanner/printer/fax machine.

Motion: K. Casey **2nd: E. Newcomb**

To accept the printer recommendations from the Computer Advisory Committee recommending discontinuing purchasing desktop printers for the Slade Building

Vote: All in Favor

The Board will approve minutes at the December 7 meeting.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

Ms. Roussel reported there is currently funding available for bonding transportation projects and recommended the Roads Advisory Committee review the specifics. Ms. Roussel reported on grant applications she was preparing regarding energy performance. Both grants are due by December 8, 2009.

Winter Plowing of A Private Way

Ms. Roussel reported this office is still waiting for 100% of Streeter Road residents' application forms. Highway Superintendent Gauthier has reviewed the road conditions and reported the road can be plowed after some improvements by residents. Amy

Stevens, Streeter Road contact person, is still working on contacting all residents to ensure applications are submitted.

Motion: K. Casey

2nd: E. Newcomb

To allow plowing and sanding of Streeter Road for '09-'10 winter and inform all residents if 100% of all applications are not submitted before the 2010 Annual Town Meeting, appropriation will not be approved

Vote: All in Favor

Town Common Legal Funds

Ms. Roussel reported the legal funding appropriated at annual town meeting as well as the First Parish Unitarian Church's legal funds has been depleted. Attorney Aveni, First Parish Unitarian Church's legal counsel, has not commented on draft agreement documents. Ms. Roussel reported the agreement to agree has lapsed. Ms. Roussel recommended meeting with the Church representatives. Ms. Casey will contact Mary Taylor and suggest a meeting between Ms. Taylor, Ms. Casey and Ms. Roussel on how to proceed forward.

Ice Storm Reimbursement

Ms. Roussel reported she is waiting for FEMA to contact her about the final costs for reimbursement of the ice storm debris removal. She stated Town Counsel will be sending a letter to Cook Company regarding the Town's position on the amount owed under the contract, per what FEMA has allowed.

Part-time benefits

Ms. Roussel reported she has researched which part-time employees would be eligible for pro-rated sick, personal, vacation and holiday benefits, noting the hours are based on previously approved line item accounts, and the cost to the Town would be loss of hours of productivity.

Motion: K. Casey

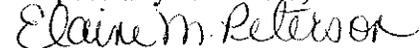
2nd: M. Castriotta

To enter Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and to adjourn after exiting Executive Session

Vote: Mr. Newcomb-yes, Mr. Castriotta- yes, Ms. Casey-yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,


Elaine M. Peterson
Town Secretary

Approved: January 4, 2010.