

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES  
October 24, 2011  
Slade Building**

**Members present:** Ernest Newcomb, Chairman  
Michael Stauder, Vice Chair  
Matthew Castriotta, Clerk

**Staff present:** Elaine M. Peterson, Town Secretary

**Others present:** Tom Howlett, Walter Ducharme, Rick Swanson, Peter Jeffs, Barre Gazette

Meeting opened at 6:47 PM

Mr. Newcomb invoked the Rule of Necessity stating his conflict as a Highway Department employee and payroll being part of the warrant. As a result of disqualification of members due to conflict of interests, the Board lacked a sufficient number of members necessary to take a valid vote, and as a last resort that all those disqualified may now participate under the Rule of Necessity.

**Warrant #9**

**Motion:** M. Castriotta      2<sup>nd</sup>: E. Newcomb  
**To approve Warrant #9 in the amount of \$178,914.10**  
**Vote: All in Favor**

**Open Agenda:**

Rick Swanson, a consultant for Montachusett Regional Planning Commission, reported he has been meeting with the Board of Health concerning the Montachusett Regional Health District Planning Study. The study is funded by a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Public Safety. Mr. Swanson reported this study is to look at assets, needs, interests and concerns about possibly regionalizing public health services. There was a task force, the Montachusett Area Public Health Task Force that participated in regional flu clinics and was made up of Fitchburg, Gardner, Leominster and some school districts and Hubbardston had expressed some interest in it.

The region is going to apply for an Implementation Grant for \$100,000 the first year, \$100,000 the second year, \$75,000 the third year, and \$50,000 the fourth year. The program would have to be self sustaining by the fifth year as there is no further funding. The planning study has involved some surveys and also a work group that has met twice a month. Until recently, former Board of Health member Sandra Knipe had been attending the meetings. Mr. Swanson has met with the Board of Health but he did not believe they have voted on this to date. If Hubbardston wants to participate, the Board of Selectmen Chair, as Chief Executive, would have to vote to approve as well.

He presented the proposed framework for shared services. Within six months of receiving an Implementation Grant, the members will share centralized utilization of the

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Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiological Network (MAVEN) for communicable disease surveillance and case management. The network will provide reporting, tracking, and follow-up services for members on an as needed basis. It will develop health promotion and education programs to respond to health needs of towns in the district. Within the first year, the Network would launch an initiative to promote healthy weight incorporating municipal policy change and continue to provide flu vaccination clinics in coordination with Montachusett Area Public Health Taskforce. It will pursue partnerships with LUK and other agencies for substance abuse and mental health services by year two. Available services on a per diem basis will be food inspection, housing inspection, childhood lead poisoning, Title V, pool inspection, etc.

Each town would pay an annual membership fee of \$300.00 to be a member in Year 1 & 2 and pays for environmental services based on a fee schedule. Fees for environmental health services will be set according to "market values."

Two board members from each town would be appointed by the local Board of Health with one governing vote per town. The City of Fitchburg will be the lead agency, providing communicable disease tracking and follow up. Fitchburg's current public health nurse will act as program coordinator. If Hubbardston decided to be part of the grant signatures are needed by November 18<sup>th</sup> with the grant award results being announced in January 2012.

If awarded, Hubbardston would have one year to sign the intermunicipal agreement with a year notice to opt out.

Mr. Castriotta recommended notifying the Board of Health that the Selectmen has heard about the program and would endorse if the Board of Health would vote to approve. Mr. Swanson thanked the Board for their generosity of time and exited the meeting. The Board thanked Mr. Swanson for coming in this evening.

### **Rock Salt Contracts**

Ms. Peterson reported the Town can reserve the right to order 70% from one source and 30% from another when ordering rock salt.

**Motion: M. Castriotta 2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Stauder**

**To sign the agreement with International Salt Co, LLC, 655 Northern Boulevard, Clarks Summit, PA for delivery of approximately 500 tons of number one grade bulk mineral mined rock salt with anti-caking agents at the bid price of \$55.42 per ton and Eastern Minerals, Inc., 134 Middle Street, Lowell, MA for delivery of approximately 1200 tons of number one grade bulk mineral mined rock salt with anti-caking agents at the bid price of \$48.48 per ton**

**Vote: Mr. Castriotta- yes, Mr. Stauder- yes, Mr. Newcomb abstained**

### **Mass Highway Chapter "90" Final Report and Reimbursement Request**

Ms. Peterson presented paperwork for reimbursement of the final payment for the Highway Department's Street Sweeper.

**Motion: M. Stauder 2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Castriotta**

**To sign the Chapter 90 reimbursement paperwork for the final payment of the street sweeper in the amount of \$18,510.00**

**Vote: Mr. Castriotta- yes, Mr. Stauder- yes, Mr. Newcomb abstained**

**Appointments for Community Preservation Committee**

Ms. Peterson presented a request for appointments of Conservation Commission and Historical Commission representatives to the Community Preservation Committee.

**Motion: M. Stauder 2<sup>nd</sup>:M. Castriotta**

**To appoint Ernest Newcomb as Historical Commission representative to the Community Preservation Committee with term to expire June 30, 2013 Vote: Mr. Castriotta- yes, Mr. Stauder- yes, Mr. Newcomb abstained**

**Motion: M. Stauder 2<sup>nd</sup>:M. Castriotta**

**To appoint Anthony Coppola as Conservation Commission representative to the Community Preservation Committee with a term to expire June 30, 2012 Vote: All in Favor**

**Cultural Council Contract for allocation of \$3,870.00 for FY 2012 Local Cultural Council Funds**

**Motion: M. Stauder 2<sup>nd</sup>:M. Castriotta**

**To authorize Chairman Newcomb to sign the fiscal year 2012 Massachusetts Cultural Council agreement for funding in the amount of \$3,870.00 Vote: All in Favor**

**Minutes Approved**

**Motion: M. Stauder 2<sup>nd</sup>: E. Newcomb**

**To approve the minutes of October 11, 2011**

**Vote: Mr. Stauder-yes, Mr. Newcomb- yes, Mr. Castriotta abstained**

Ms. Peterson reported she had sent the Seaboard Solar materials to Joel Bard so he can review and discuss with their representatives.

**Other Business**

Ms. Peterson reported Claudia Provencal, Council on Aging Director, has requested permission to assign a phone extension for reserving Senior Meals from Montachusett Opportunity Council at the Senior Center. The Board requested Ms. Peterson check with other towns to see how they handle this situation or propose to MOC that they rent an extension for \$15.00 per month. Ms. Peterson will contact the supervisor and present the option to rent the extension to her.

**CLASS II LICENSEE LAPSES-** Ms. Peterson presented a letter from Building Inspector Brandt calculating the bylaw violation amount for Mr. LaJoie and Mr. Jonsson from January 1, 2011 to present at \$20 per day totaling \$5,340.00. He also offered to write a letter to send to them with the fine details and have the Board signatures on it. Mr. Castriotta stated he preferred to see the actual fine per vehicle per day. Mr. Stauder stated the bylaws actually list *per violation per day*. The Board requested he compose the letter and have the Board members sign the letter with a final deadline. The Board would also like to invite them to the meeting after receiving the letter.

Ms. Peterson reported Mr. Brandt will be composing a letter to the Board of Assessors stating the Heerwagon lot is unbuildable so they can assign a realistic value to the property for donation purposes.

Mr. Brandt has informed Ms. Peterson that he would require four to five hours research per Pinecrest lot in tax title and would they want him to proceed? The date of recording is needed, as well as the size of the lot with respect to abutting property in order to determine if the lot is buildable in accordance to zoning requirements. Mr. Ducharme has offered to look up the particular deeds on the website for Mr. Brandt.

The Board stated they would like to see this resolved but to start the process whenever he has time.

### **Resolution in support of HB1972**

The Board reviewed the letter from Town Clerk Joyce Green regarding the request to support the Resolution in support of HB1972 "An Act Regulating Election Primaries" concerning how it would impact the Annual Election and Annual Town Meeting. Ms. Green stated ATM date would have to be changed and since the annual election falls one week after the proposed date for the combined primary election, she would recommend that annual election date be moved further away from the state primary. Discussion occurred regarding political party town committee members being taken off the ballot.

**Motion: M. Castriotta 2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Stauder**

**To not support the Resolution in Support of HB1972**

**Vote: All in Favor**

Ms. Peterson stated John Hume is replacing Jennifer Siciliano at MRPC regarding the **Town Center Public Water and Sewer Feasibility Study** prepared by Weston & Sampson and MRP. They have an appointment in November with the Board to review the report.

Ms. Peterson reported the email with the final deadline regarding the Right of First Refusal and the bylaws of the United Universalist Association was sent to Church Representative Mary Taylor. She stated Joel Bard and Kate Klein of Kopelman and Paige, PC, phoned this morning and requested an okay to forward the email deadline on to Attorney Aveni, legal counsel for the First Parish Unitarian Church. The Board concurred.

### **Old Business:**

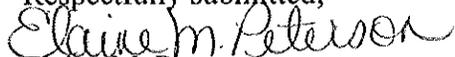
Mr. Castriotta questioned if Town Meeting approval was required to have the private burial at 64 Pitcherville Road. Ms. Peterson will follow up with the Board of Health and Town Clerk.

Ms. Peterson reported the personnel complaint will be addressed at the November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting when Mr. Bullock has returned.

Ms. Peterson reminded the Board of the informational meeting at the Senior Center regarding the proposed Town Charter on Saturday morning. They will be coming to the Board on November 7<sup>th</sup> to present the final draft version and management letter.

**Motion: M. Castriotta 2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Stauder**  
**To adjourn the meeting at 7:47 pm**  
**Vote: All in Favor**

Respectfully submitted,

  
Elaine M. Peterson

Approved: November 7, 2011

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