

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
March 07, 2016
Slade Building**

Members present: Daniel Galante, Chair
Pat Girouard
Mike Stauder
Jeff Williams

Staff present: Anita Scheipers, Town Administrator; Jeanette Elsevier, Executive Administrative Assistant;

Others present: Jeff Anderson, Ron Ruston, Tom Bratko, Jassy Bratko, Tara, Tom Robinson, Mark Cady, Nick DeDalt, Norman Brown, Rob Pelezarski, Susan Rayne

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Dan Galante. Mr. Galante announced that the meeting was being live broadcasted on the Peg Access channel.

Open Session:

Thomas Robinson – petition filed to change town charter re: voting, Ms. Sheipers reviewed – 20+ signatures – add to citizen’s petition. Ms. Sheipers will add it to the Articles.

Robert Pelezarski – representing Hubbardston Reclamation LLC – Remarks into record, submission, Norman Brown - preliminary engineering plan to then present at a later meeting to be put on the agenda. Board would have time to review it prior to next meeting. Copy to provide to planning board. Requesting time on the next meeting.

Jeff Anderson – High Street resident regarding signage of Senior Center. He feels it’s misleading as the project has not been approved. Mr. Galante stated that the intention was to say the “Proposed Site”. Feels the sign should come down and re-worded. Discussion around the grant money received and the use of that grant money. Putting on agenda for next meeting.

Rutland Regional Emergency Communications Center

Nick DeDalt, Director – discussion of use of spare radio tower owned by Hubbardston. Similcast radio system. Asking board to consider transferring tower to RRECC – location of Mount Jeff – allocating DPW to assist in moving the monopole, digging up the pole’s foundation. Originally procured with a grant – not suitable for the senior/public safety bldg. site. They do not know the dollar value of the tower, just approaching to put it to good use. Looking at alternate sites due to zoning and other issues. Needs full agreement to ask the other towns – assessment – have the monopole valued.

Motion: J. Williams

To get a value on monopole

2nd: M. Stauder

Vote: All in Favor

FY17 Draft Budget Update with FinComm

Still not a final budget, still waiting on state numbers and QRSD assessment. Ms. Sheipers reviewed. Snow & ice deficit spending still not necessary. Discussion regarding ambulance.

Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles

Review of known articles and citizen petitions. Add article for warrant – placeholder. Add petition. Reviewed – Annual Town Meeting. Reach out to Rietta to get some information on additional fee to defray cost on Sundays. Tentative article 10 is for Senior Center, tentative article 11 is for public safety bldg. Potential for override for QRSD.

Interim Town Administrator Process

Received two resumes for review. Ms. Siegel is eligible for consideration following a 30-day cooling off period from stepping down as a select board member. She is eligible as of March 25th. Special meeting. In the meantime, board contacting others on list to see if interest.

Town Administrator Appointment

Inspector of Animals – Marcel Chartier

Motion: M. Stauder

Waive the notification period and re-appoint Marcel Chartier

2nd: J. Williams

Vote: All in Favor

Town Administrator Report – See attached

Free Vehicles received under the Federal Government under the federal vehicle surplus program-

- a) Fire Department has received a 4WD 5-ton military vehicle from Fort Devens as a brush truck, at no cost to the town.
- b) DPW has received a 4x2, 1983 International cab and chassis and a water tank from the Town of Princeton.

Charter Cable License – Cable Advisory Committee met with the attorney last week to prepare for negotiations with Charter on the details to be included in their renewal license agreement. Ms. Scheipers finalized the Cable Program 10-year Business Plan, which will be used as a basis for requesting certain conditions from Charter as part of the agreement.

Tax Collector Fraud Case – Pre-trial hearing for Ms. Washburn Doan is set for March 17th. Town Counsel and Ms. Scheipers are still working with National Grange to collect payment on the Professional Liability Bonds.

QRSD Task Force – The town has offered use of the Community Compact Grant to help fund the task force consulting services.

School Delays & Closure Protocols

Mr. Williams asked Ms. Scheipers to request the protocol from Superintendent Marshall. Mr. Williams discussed his inquiring to police officers what typically occurs. Also, he is wondering if there is any sort of follow-up on delays, follow-up to check on the road conditions. Could be as easy as two phone calls, 1) to regional dispatch (Hubbardston, Barre and Oakham) and 2) State Police (Hardwick and New Braintree). Push forward to a future agenda as it is pending Superintendent's protocol. Ms. Scheipers mentioned that Chief Perron did say that if the delay stands, but the town doesn't feel our roads are good enough, he can put out a CodeRed telling people to use caution and discretion.

Committee Updates

Building Committee – Mr. Galante gave an update on the building committee. Certain amount of money that needs to be spent by June 30th. Detailed schedule of milestone dates that has to do with the tree clearing, well, access road, etc. Also, starting to see first designs of what the possible bldg. would look like.

QRSD Task Force – Ms. Scheipers provided an update on the last meeting and the presentation of school closures and consolidations. Committee is reviewing the information and meeting again on the 16th.

Town Center Committee – Mr. Galante gave an update. They closed the survey, received over 350 responses. Original survey only had 2 Main St occupants reply. Now we have many within Main St. We cannot do what we are charged with as a committee without a design and without some engineering assistance. This is why you see the warrant article for some funds for a schematic design.

Minutes

Motion: P. Girouard

To approve November 30, 2015 minutes

2nd: J. Williams

Vote: All in Favor

M. Stauder Abstained

Old Business

Previously discussed earlier in meeting

Public/Press Questions & Answer

Tom Bratko had a question regarding Town Administrator regular contract – term?

Motion: M. Stauder

2nd: P. Girouard

To enter into Executive Session pursuant to MGL C30A, s. 21, Exemption 2 to conduct contract negotiations with non-union personnel, and Exemption 3 to discuss strategy with respect to union collective bargaining or litigation with no intent to return to open session.

Vote: All in Favor

**Role Call Vote: Mr. Stauder - Yes; Mr. Galante – Yes; Mr. Williams – Yes;
Mr. Girouard– Yes**

*******Executive Session Minutes are Separate*******

**Respectfully submitted,
Tonya Martowska**