

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MINUTES**  
**June 27, 2016**  
**Slade Building**

**Members present:** Daniel Galante, Chair  
Michael Stauder, Clerk  
Patrick Girouard  
Jeffrey Williams  
Richard Haddad

**Staff present:** Raeanne Siegel, Interim Town Administrator; Jeannette Elsevier, Executive Administrative Assistant;

**Others present:** Mark Kataisto

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:**

Mr. Kataisto approached regarding check for interest. Administrator Siegel explained that Kopeleman & Paige said there was no response so money will not be refunded, agreement is null in void. Mr. Kataisto stated that the letter was never sent to the proper address, his lawyer said it wasn't a registered letter so how is it null in void? Mr. Kataisto stated that if it was sent to Worcester Rd and not High St, it would have been received. Ms. Siegel states that it went to the address that was given to the town. Further discussion regarding multiple letters and addresses continued. Ms. Siegel then explained the attorney position is that the agreement is null in void because no one has come forward on this interest since the letter in 1998. The interest is then rolled over into the \$10,000 bond and sits there until the gravel pit is closed. Once the gravel pit is closed, it goes to the owner, if the owner is deceased, it goes to the heirs. Additional discussion followed regarding the interest and whether the agreement can be re-enacted or how to get them the interest. Deferring to the town counsel again.

**New Templeton Culvert**

Martin Ellowitz – New Templeton Rd Culvert. Ms. Siegel had met with DPW Director Tim Kilhart and Mr. Ellowitz and agreed that the town would move the culvert back onto town property and then Mr. Ellowitz would be responsible for diverting the water. Since that meeting, Mr. Ellowitz has come back and said that he spoke to his wife and wants to know if there can be an abatement of 5 acres of the land. Several things with that, one is that it is setting a precedent for other people with culverts having same issues. Option 1 is go with original plan of moving the culvert back to town property. Option 2 is to not move the culvert and give an abatement, which is what Mr. Ellowitz wants. The abatement would be \$214.65. Option 3 is to give an abatement for a certain # of years or whenever house is built, but do we still move the culvert? Mr. Galante still recommends moving culvert, with no abatement.

### **Community Compact Grant**

This one is going to work with housing and economic development and infrastructure. Commonwealth is going to help us with looking at our zoning, permitting and land assembly as well.

**Motion: M. Stauder**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: J. Williams**

**For Chair to sign the Community Compact Grant paperwork.**

**Vote: All in Favor**

Recommending we establish an economic development committee – Use same manual, needs a few revisions. Ms. Siegel to provide a draft of 5-member, the make-up and charge to present at next meeting.

### **Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual**

Changes to review: Changed Personnel Board to Human Resource Advisory Board throughout the document. Also we changed Department Head or Select Board to Town Administrator in certain areas because of the town charter. There were updates to the section that included Code Red, Social Media and Open Meeting Law. Everything else will stay the same. If accepted this evening, it will be sent out to all the employees, they will sign the back page and it will be kept in their file.

**Motion: M. Stauder**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: J. Williams**

**To accept Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual as presented**

**Vote: All in Favor**

### **QRSD**

Discussion – Mike Stauder reviewed and overview of lack of confidence in Superintendent Marshall. He is frustrated by the school committee's lack of participation. He thinks the town should consider asking the school committee to start looking for new leadership. It may be time to have new eyes on things. Nothing against Dr. Marshall's past accomplishments, it just is no longer the best for the town to have a part-time superintendent and a bunch of assistant superintendents. Mr. Stauder is worried that people do not have faith in the district anymore. Mr. Williams questioned what a new person would resolve. He thinks the towns in the district need a new perspective and attitude toward education. Ms. Siegel read responses from other towns as follows: Oakham 2 of the 3 members are in favor of it. New Braintree are all approving it as well. Barre is hard to do because they only have two selectmen, they are not even asking the selectmen at this time, they have too much on their plates. Ms. Siegel reports that the majority of the towns in the district are in favor of looking for new leadership. Draft a letter to have the boards of the other towns sign at a joint meeting to together, recommend to the school committee to look for a new, full-time, strong superintendent.

### **Appointments/Wage Authorizations**

**Motion: J. Williams**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: P. Girouard**

**To approve Richard Charland as member of the Council on Aging**

**Vote: All in Favor**

**Motion: M. Stauder**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: P. Girouard**

**To approve BOS appointments as presented with Rick Green added to the Building Committee.**

**Vote: All in Favor**

**Motion: M. Stauder**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: P. Girouard**

**To approve TA appointments all but DPW Director**

**Vote: 4 of 5 in Favor**

**1 Opposed**

### **Committee Updates**

250<sup>th</sup> Committee – Michael Stauder only reported on movie night. Said it went well, made about \$700.

Building Committee – Dan Galante gave an update on meeting last Friday. We have essentially the full documents of what will be the final design from the architect. Once that is done, the project manager is going to do another formal estimate. We will then start putting together bid documents.

QRSD Task Force – No updates, meeting was cancelled.

Town Center Committee – No updates

**Town Administrator Report – See attached**

Town Administrator Search Committee - Ms. Siegel updated the board on the Town Administrator Search Committee. It has been formed with nine members. Meeting scheduled for July 18<sup>th</sup> and at this point it looks like there will be a forum.

Rutland Dispatch – Director of Rutland Dispatch is leaving. Ms. Siegel, Chief Perron and Chief Hayes attended a meeting in Rutland on June 15<sup>th</sup> which discussed the transition period. Rutland is in the process of establishing a hiring committee for his replacement. Hubbardston will be represented by Sgt. Ryan Couture.

Regional Dispatch – The Town is in the process of finding funds to finance the FY’16 shortfall. Ms. Siegel stated that it has been done. There was a reserve fund transfer for about \$6000 to cover the shortfall. We are currently exploring other towns that would be interested in joining in a new regional dispatch arrangement.

Berkshires to Boston Bicycle Tour – Nothing needed from the town, just letting the town know that there will be an abundance of cyclists in town on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Jeff Williams brought up brand new basketball court and how kids are wearing cleats on the court and riding skateboards, etc. He is concerned that they are going to ruin the brand new court. Discussed putting up a sign as to what is allowed on court. Ms. Siegel will request a sign but it cannot be put up until there is a fence.

**Old Business**

Cell Service - Richard Haddad brought up cell service. Discussion of installing a cell tower. M. Stauder stated 1<sup>st</sup> step would be to contact cell companies to see if they even have any interest in putting a tower in town.

Ambulance - Mike Stauder asked Ms. Siegel status on town getting an ambulance. Bob is on vacation so no updates.

**Motion: M. Stauder  
To adjourn at 7:27 p.m.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: P. Girouard  
Vote: All in Favor**

**Respectfully submitted,  
Tonya Martowska**