

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, March 7, 2016,
Goodnow Town Hall,

Meeting was convened at 7:00 P.M. by Beth Bandy, Chair.

In attendance: Sarah Reynolds, Toby Gould, Peg Dean

1.The Select Board unanimously voted, to approve, sign, the payroll; warrant; minutes from 2/8/2016, 2/10/2016, 2/16/2016, 2/26/2016; DEP grant contract for rigid plastics roll-off container; Franklin County Solid Waste Management District wood pellet bag fee-for-service program memorandum of understanding; letter of support for FRCOG Deerfield watershed grant application; BETA proposal to complete roads assessment

2.The Select Board voted Ms Bandy, yes, Mr, Gould, yes, Ms Reynolds, abstaining, to reappoint Erwin Reynolds, Jr., as Town Animal Inspector

3.The Select Board unanimously voted, to approve Kopelman and Paige invoice nos. 107127 and 107128; using Solid Waste District Assessment account for (4) quarterly solid waste district assessments; Town Administrator attending two Massachusetts Emergency Management meetings; audit through Scanlon to be completed during FY17

4.The Select Board unanimously voted, to acknowledge Final version of RFP for Engineering Services for Road Assessment to assess Town road conditions; Town Clerk as Census project point person for Phase 1 block boundaries; Franklin Regional Council of Government's Budget Advisory Notice; letter from resident in response to Mohawk Trail Regional School District budget; letter from the Town of Buckland to Mohawk Trail Regional School District requesting more information about the cost to provide pre-kindergarten to Buckland students; Mohawk Trail School System proposed articles; Franklin Regional Council of Governments Emergency Communications System assessment; letter from National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians congratulating new EMT

5.The appointment with Gordon Hathaway, Highway Superintendent concerning the purchase of a pickup truck for dirt road plowing was postponed until Friday Joint budget meeting

6.Emily Boss and Alain Peteroy, Franklin Land Trust brought the proposal to create a conservation restriction for the Shields and Fedor parcels on South River Road. After an in depth deliberation, the Conservation Commission endorsed these restrictions. Lands are in agricultural use right now. Current and Future owners would not be able develop the land. The tax on the land will remain the same (Chapter 61). MA DOT has allocated a certain amount of money to conserve land around the Scenic Byway, program since 2009- ending this year. A requirement is that this land has to be held by public entity. Also in conversation with Dept of Fish and Game. The only funding required would be to have counsel look over the agreement. The Franklin Land Trust will prepare the restriction and be responsible for the annual administrative review of the restriction.

7.The Select Board unanimously voted to approve moving forward with the Town holding Fedor and Shields Conservation Restrictions with assistance from the Franklin Land Trust. Franklin Land Trust will plan to come to the Select Board with any new developments on the project.

8.Jay Healy brought a discussion of creating wood bank Mr. Healy stated that a few towns in VT are doing this.as well as the town of Petersham. When the towns are cutting brush along the Highway, it's usually left or chipped by abutter. If the abutter does not want the wood, there would be a location where wood is dumped, then have a work bee to cut up, and make it available to the community based on need. Mr. Healy suggested using the National Grid bill showing a reduction based on need as proof for eligibility for fuel assistance. The wood would be free. Some towns do it in conjunction with the Highway; some do it privately. Mr. Healy has a spot on his property. To deal with liability concerns, Mr. Healy would be responsible for cutting and splitting

the wood. There could be a work party to put into individual containers. Sean Mahoney, the DCR Forester has seen this work in other towns. Discussion – The Select Board likes the idea of keeping at Healy’s property rather than at the Transfer Station. Like the concept of people helping people. Clarify what the Town can do. Discuss what the Highway is willing to do. Jay suggests determining what radius is worth it for the Highway to drop. What amounts – dispose vs. chip. Jay willing to talk to the private sector tree companies. Select board is willing to talk to Tree Warden and Highway, and write a letter of support to the private sector. There is a need to publicize, using the website, Avery’s, Post Office. The Select Board will add to the agenda for future discussion. Mr. Healy would like to put this into place by this summer to have wood dry in time.

9. The Planning Board, Chair, Robert Malone, Gisela Walker, Carlene Millet presented proposed zoning bylaw revisions. The purpose of revisions is to streamline process to get building permits. The Select Board doesn’t need approval, but it needs to be in Select Board minutes that the Select Board is aware that the Planning Board is proposing a zoning change. The Planning Board will have a public hearing before Annual Town Meeting. The Select Board voted unanimously to refer back to the Planning Board the bylaw amendments for the May 24, 2016 Annual Town Meeting.

10. Ms Walker asked if the town would consider changing the bylaw to allow those serving on the planning board to also serve on other committees such as the school committee. The town bylaws need to be examined as well as MA laws. This will be added to the agenda when the Town Clerk is present.

11. The Select Board unanimously approved proposed new hours for the accountant, first Wednesday, 8-10 A.M., and third Friday 8-10:3 A.M. plus pick up bills every Thursday

12. The Select Board unanimously approved the Tax Collector’s request to upgrade Tax Collector’s Point Software

13. The Select Board unanimously approved using \$160 from Technology Expense fund for Town Admin’s new Microsoft and Kaspersky subscriptions, multi-user license option

14. The Select Board discussed the agenda for the All Board Meeting, Tuesday March 15. The agenda will include bridge repair, the capital improvement plan, an ambulance update and a possible recreation tax.

15. The Town Annual Report will be reviewed by the Select Board at its next meeting. We will identify missing pieces, discuss printing options, outline next steps

17. The Select Board unanimously approved a request to FRCOG Brownfields Committee to complete a Phase 1 Site Assessment for Map 13 Parcel 21 and 24, properties adjacent to the Sherman property, totaling 42.26 acres

18. The discussion and vote on the Finance Committee’s Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) adjustment for Fiscal Year 2017 was deferred to the February 11 meeting with the Finance Committee.

19. The Select Board unanimously voted to defer Finance Committee recommendations on Annual Town Meeting and election dates to the next meeting when the Town Clerk will be present.

20. The state of town bridges priority was discussed. Ms. Reynolds spoke with the Department of Conservation and Recreation. They use their temporary bridge for logging and it’s not available for rent. Ms. Reynolds is looking into other sources for temporary bridges. The bridge assessment contract was signed on February 26.

21. The Select Board unanimously approved the bid by CD Davenport to make repairs to the Mountain Road bridge.

22. The National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBIS) Underwater Bridge Inspection for St 8A Hawley Road/Deerfield River (“The Long Bridge”) will be added to the bridges creadsheet as a note.

23. The Select Board will pull together a list of talking points for Berkshire East’s meeting with the Governor’s staff concerning Charlemont’s needs in ambulance service, bridge replacement and repair, school costs, and broadband needs.

24. The Select Board unanimously approved an update on the ambulance situation

25. Volunteerism. The Select Board discussed ways to publicize volunteer handbook and vacant positions, including with distribution of nomination papers, on website, and on Town Hall announcement sign. Ms. Reynolds recommended passing it out with the distribution of election papers. Anyone who volunteers for a

new committee or board needs one.

26. The Select Board unanimously approved spending up to \$200 on repairs to handicap bathroom faucet, and spending \$72 for handicap pushplate

27. Broadband: Review draft letter to Lt. Governor's Office – see bridge discussion

28. The Select Board unanimously approved sending a letter to National Grid to assess the situation of all the street lights in town. This discussion was brought about by a letter received from Heath Stage Road residents regarding the street light at Heath Stage Road and Route Two which has been out for some time.

29. The Select Board unanimously approved asking Ms. Reynolds to find a volunteer to bring the 250 celebration materials to Town Hall.

Executive Session:

The Select Board voted Ms. Bandy, yes, Ms. Reynolds, yes, Mr. Gould, yes. to enter into Executive Session to approve Executive Session minutes from 2/24/6 meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Toby Gould