

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, August 15, 2016, Goodnow Town Hall

Meeting called to order 7:04pm

Present Select Board Chair Beth Bandy, Members, Sarah Reynolds and Toby Gould

Beth motioned, and Toby seconded, to approve the following: updated Select Board policy for submitting concerns, Animal Control Officer (ACO) Ed Grinnell's stated language for fines and fees for Charlemont to exclude fees paid to the ACO and suggested new fine of \$25 for a "roaming dog sighted" by ACO, Administrator's new office schedule, and a letter to bond counsel from the Town Administrator, and approve and sign Select Board meeting minutes for meetings on 07-15-16 (8am), 08-01-16 1pm, 08-01-16, Payroll, Warrants, Partial Payment Request #5 from Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency for C. D. Davenport's invoice #4 to close out contract, Mass Works grant application, Executive Office of Elder Affairs Budget and Grant Statement of Authorization, and acknowledge the Department of Transportation past Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Department of Transportation's National Infrastructure Investments Under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, the Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program's monthly permits, a Transfer Station flyer/ announcement for the new rigid plastics recycling container, a letter from the Charlemont Sewer District notifying them of raised rates, approval from Massachusetts Department of Transportation Chapter 90 funds for Project Request #50757 for cracking sealing various roads, a notice of Public Hearing for the Earth Removal Committee for a gravel pit permit next to Fairgrounds, a thank you letter from the Northampton Cycling Club for Charlemont's support of the 18th annual Tour of the Hilltowns, and a letter from a resident thanking the Board for turning on a street light

Beth made a motion to appoint Rob Lingle to the Conservation Commission, Toby Seconded. Sarah will let him know.

There was a discussion of the Animal Inspector position. Beth makes a motion and Toby seconds to accept Erwin Reynolds Jr.'s resignation, and to write a letter thanking Erwin for his service, while expressing the Select Board's sadness. Beth makes a motion to appoint Ed Grinnell to the Animal Inspector position for small animals, Toby seconds, and Beth will notify Ed of the change. Beth will fill out the Animal Inspector paperwork. Beth will reach out to two possible candidates for the large animal inspection position, or the full position.

The Board discussed an issue of power outages at Country Aire Campground. Motion from Toby for Peg to draft a letter for Mr. Belanger to Nat'l Grid, stating they need more power in their campground, seconded by Beth.

Beth made a motion that she call the Superintendent at Franklin Technical School Superintendent asking that he submit a formal Chapter 70 data request to Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education, and that he let the Select Board know what he learns. Toby seconded. Passed unanimously.

For Tech bussing, the Town will put three students on the Heath/ Rowe bus. We are going to assume the Smith student's transportation is addressed, and will let the Vocational Education Advisory Committee (VEAC) know at a future date if not, and Peg is to let the VEAC know at the meeting.

At 7:15 was an appointment with Bob Handsaker for the purpose of reviewing three requests to Massachusetts Broadband Institute from the Select Board, for review by the Broadband Committee Wednesday August 17th. The first request is for poll survey expenses. Bob prefaced the second request, sharing a few different scenarios of take-rates and subscribers other towns are anticipating, and feels the Town needs more money, to be secured through more grants or through private investment. The second request asks MBI to coordinate a meeting with Comcast. The third request is asking MBI to recalculate the state funding due to initially inaccurate poll counts.

Beth made a motion that the Select Board approve and sign the draft letters, pending no changes of substance from the Broadband Committee. Peg to find out from Bob on Thursday if any changes were made at the Broadband Committee meeting Wednesday, print, and notify the Select Board to sign. Toby seconded. Passed unanimously.

In between appointments, the Select Board discussed the Information Session scheduled for this Wednesday August 17, and decided to cancel. Beth made a motion to put out a Reverse 911 call to let the Town know about the Special Election, “remember that this was voted by the Town at Town Meeting; to pass the Town needs to vote during the 08-23 election.” Sarah seconded. Peg to draft language for the Reverse 911, to Select Board for approval, seconded by Sarah. Passed unanimously. Beth made a motion to change Town Sign to notify of Special Election, Sarah seconded. Passed unanimously.

At 7:30 was an appointment with Amy Coates in regards to the status of Burnt Hill Road. Sarah provided them a petition from the Town of Charlemont in 1970 to the County Commissioners of Franklin County to discontinue certain roads including Burnt Hill Road. The Select Board let Amy know the Assessors’ GIS mapping shows the line ending at the turnaround. Chapter 90 looks to be funded to the turn around. The issue dates back 40 years. Per the Coates, Heath Assessors have Flag Hill documented as discontinued maintenance. Amy stating that the road was never a road to begin with. Per the Select Board, it was in the County record that one could go from Burnt Hill Road to the Heath, documenting that it was a Town road. Per Joe Gilbert, in the early 70s the turnaround was built. The Select Board discussed the difference between an abandoned road vs a discontinued road. The Select Board need to consult with counsel about what actions the Town needs to take before it can take any other steps. Sarah will follow up with Amy tomorrow after talking with the attorney. They will discuss at a future date doing a site visit.

At 7:45 the Select Board met with the Parks and Recreation Commission for an appointment regarding the use of Glaze Gift Funds. Bill Harker is asking if they can have crack-sealing repairs completed using the Glaze Gift Funds. Tommy Shields was present as well. Per Sarah, the Highway is willing to help in any way they can. Bill shared that they forewent the Glaze funds for other repairs in the past. Toby moves that there is an allowance of up to \$1000 for the Park and Rec Commission to crack-seal the tennis court using the Glaze Gift Funds. There was discussion of whether \$1000 would be enough. If the cost goes over \$1000, the Select Board asks that the Park and Recreation Commission please bring the price change back to the Select Board for review. Sarah seconded. Passed unanimously.

The Select Board discussed bridges. The Town hasn’t received a report on Legate Hill Road bridge design from Gill Engineering yet. Regarding the email from Congressman Neal’s office, the Select Board recommend asking Francisca Hemming MassDOT District 1 Director if she can speak about the benefits and obstacles to using three-sided culvert design, which needs to be approved by MassDOT in Boston. Upper Maxwell Road bridge is a candidate. Per Sarah they are most effective for reducing the designs costs, as a custom-built pre-form concrete culverts. The Select Board gives permission for Peg to reach out to Francisca for statements about why they are suitable, and draft something to approve, and to ask if she’ll speak directly with Congressman Neal’s office.

Beth makes a motion that Peg gets the mail week of 08-15, Toby seconds. Passed unanimously. Select Board requesting “Post Office centralization” be added to the next agenda.

The Select Board will be meeting with four towns on Thursday September 15th to discuss sharing services. Beth will draft a memo.

The Select Board discussed how to approach discontinuing roads. Doing research, Sarah found Dodge Corner Road, Mine Road, Todd Mountain Road, Warner Hill, Burnt Hill Road, and Center Heath as discontinued roads

in the 1970 petition to discontinue roads. Beth willing to continue with research from where Sarah and Toby left off.

The Town discussed the Vocational Education Advisory Committee's questions. Beth will talk to the Superintendent about their questions. Toby made a motion, Beth seconded, that Peg not attend tomorrow's meeting to catch up on work after being out on vacation.

The Select Board discussed the Historical Commission's question about whether the Town would consider establishing a Community Preservation Fund. Beth make a motion that the Select Board send a letter to Bambi Miller letting her know that considering the expenses related to bridges, schools, and capital needs the Community Preservation Funds are unable to be considered. Toby seconded, passed unanimously.

The Select Board made a motion to create the position of Vice Chair and name Sarah Reynolds as the Vice Chair. Toby seconded. Passed unanimously.

The Select Board makes a motion that Toby write a letter to the editor of the Recorder thanking Paul Mark for his efforts to get the small bridge bill passed.

The Select Board reviewed the Town Administrator's change of hours. Toby made a motion, Beth seconded, passed unanimously.

Entering into Executive Session at 9:15 for reason # 7: To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law federal grant-in-aid requirements; and reason # 3: To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares

Documents viewed:

1. Three draft letters of request to Massachusetts Broadband Institute
2. 1970 Petition to discontinue roads
3. Discontinuing Town and County Roads, as found at <http://www.thetrustees.org/assets/documents/highland-communities-initiative/Discontinuing-Town-County-Roads.pdf>
4. Welcome letter from Assessors
5. a letter to bond counsel from the Town Administrator
6. Select Board meeting minutes for meetings on 07-15-16 (8am) and 08-01-16
7. Payroll #6 and #7
8. Warrants # AP1705, #AP1706, #AP1707, and #WP1643
9. Partial Payment Request #5 from Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency for C. D. Davenport's invoice #4 to close out contract
10. Mass Works grant application authorization letter
11. Executive Office of Elder Affairs Budget and Grant Statement of Authorization
12. Baystate Municipal Accounting Group, Inc Agreement for Services

Respectfully submitted by Peg Dean 08-16-16

Draft minutes until approved by Select Board