

MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
Town of Charlemont
Goodnow Town Hall

January 31, 2022
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The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Select Board Chair Marguerite Willis. Select Board members Dan Girard and William Harker, along with Administrator Sarah Reynolds also attended the meeting. This meeting was conducted via telephone conference pursuant to the Governor's March 12, 2020, and consistent with Gov. Baker's temporary modifications to the Open Meeting Law suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law.

1. Resident Cathy Buntin attended the meeting to discuss the speeding traffic along Main Street and any future traffic calming projects left to do. Administrator S Reynolds stated that the traffic calming project is due for completion next summer and MassDOT will be placing speed treatments and speed signs at each end of Town at the end of the project. A possible third speed sign may be placed in the village. Mr. Girard stated that he has spoken with Ms Buntin and they are asking the public to assist with the speeders by getting their phone numbers to call companies and to keep a log. The Police are issuing speeding tickets and are having the State Police come into Town during the day. The logs are to be brought to Court if the tickets are thrown out. Mr. Girard further explained that the loss of police officers due to the training program is a loss to the Town. Residents can help by keeping logs, making complaint phone calls to companies. The logs should state date, time, vehicle markings and company names. Mr. Girard will collect the logs monthly. The Town will work on obtaining speed signs for Main Street.
2. The resident of 164 Main Street explained that she has a blind child and would like signs placed on Main Street to warn motorist of a blind person. She has contacted MassDOT for a sign for several years but to no avail. The Administrator will contact MassDOT inquiring after the sign.
3. Robert Handsaker, Broad Band Committee Chair, attended the meeting to inform the Board that the Committee is hoping to finish testing of the fiber optic network at the east end of Town.
4. Administrator S Reynolds reported that the Town needs to vote a layout and easements with 2 property owners for the East Oxbow Road bridge project. A 25% design hearing will be held in March. Administrator S Reynolds will check to see if the hearing can be held at the Hawlemont School.
5. Administrator S Reynolds reported that she attended the FRCOG Planning Board meeting. The Town of Buckland has zoning revisions regarding accessory buildings. The East Oxbow Road bridge is listed on the TIP for next year and the Long Bridge is listed for 2026.
6. Administrator S Reynolds reported that she tried to order the compost shed for the Transfer Station, but it is out of stock. Jan Ameen suggested sharing the compost shed that Shelburne has obtained until the Town is able to purchase one.

7. Administrator S Reynolds stated that OEMS is hesitating on the response times for the Ambulance Zone Plan. It was suggested the Board approve and sign a letter to Shelburne Control regarding also toning Fire and EMS for Ambulance Calls. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Willis – yes, Mr. Girard – yes, Mr. Harker – yes to approve the sign the letter.
8. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Willis – yes, Mr. Girard – yes, Mr. Harker – yes to authorize Administrator S Reynolds to sign the various paperwork regarding the 8A North MassWorks Grant.
9. A request to place the video of Olympian Paula Moltzan on the Town website was reviewed. The Board stated they are in favor of placing the video on the Town website.
10. Ms Willis reported that she attended the Hampshire Group Health Insurance meeting and health insurance premiums will not be increasing for FY23.
11. Ms Willis reported that she attended the Woodlands Partnership meeting. She will be discussing with a Partnership board member where the Partnership is going.
12. Ms Willis reported that there is not a 2 District agreement between Mohawk and Hawlemont and Mohawk is looking for a business Administrator.
13. Ms Willis reported that she attended the FRCOG Council meeting. Overall, there is no increase in assessments. There is a 6% increase in FRCOG staff and the EQV has increased.
14. Ms Willis reported that she attended the ACO Advisory Committee meeting. The cost for Charlemont will be \$5,700.
15. Ms Willis reported that the new radio system for the Ambulance Department has a lifespan of 14 years.
16. Ms Willis reported that Charlemont has an additional student attending the Franklin County Tech School. The student moved to Charlemont mid-year.
17. Ms Willis stated that the Town budget should split out the Health Insurance line into Employee Health Insurance and Retiree Health Insurance.
18. The Board agreed that the Zoning Regulations will be included in the Annual Town Meeting which may run for 2 nights.
19. The Secretary to the Boards position advertisement will be placed onto the sign in the front of the Town Hall and on the home page of the Town website.
20. The Board reviewed the Annual Town Report submitted by Ms Willis. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Willis – yes, Mr. Girard – yes, Mr. Harker – yes to accept the report.
21. The Board discussed stipends for Town Boards. It was agreed to present to the Finance Committee the following: Board of Health \$650 per year per member, Conservation Commission \$650 per year per member, Planning Board \$650 per year per member, Park & Rec. \$650 per year per member, Finance Committee \$650 per year per member and to reduce the Select Board stipends to \$2,000 per year per member.

22. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Willis – yes, Mr. Girard – yes, Mr. Harker – yes to approve and sign:
- Payroll warrant #2229 for \$12,085.39
 - Vendor warrant #2229 for \$169,643.20
 - Payment of KP Law invoice.
 - Mass Cultural Council FY22 contract for \$10,000
 - Two Berkshire East Sewer project change orders (Mr. Girard recused from this vote)
 - FY22 Fire Dept. Grant for headsets for enhanced communications for \$9,953.76
 - FY22 Fire Dept. Grant for IT for \$2,700
 - FY 22 8A North Road contract for \$720.00
23. The Board received an official notice of retirement from Highway Superintendent Gordon Hathaway. The retirement date is June 30, 2022. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Willis – yes, Mr. Girard – yes, Mr. Harker – yes to accept.
24. Business being concluded, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Approved by:
Charlemont Select Board

Kathy A. Reynolds
Executive Secretary

This document is to be considered a draft until approved and signed by the Select Board.

Documents reviewed by the Board.

Vendor and Payroll warrants
KP Law Invoice
Mass Cultural Council contract
Berkshire East Sewer Project change orders
2 Fire Department grants
8A North contract
Retirement notice
Letter to Shelburne Control
Select Board Annual Town Report

