

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

May 20, 2019
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The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Chair Sarah Reynolds. Select Board member Marguerite Willis and Jay Healy also attended the meeting.

1. The Broad Band Committee reported that an application for a variance to the ZBA for the installation of the generator at the Town Hall, along with an RDA to the Conservation Commission is needed. A letter of support from the Board for both applications is required as well. The Board unanimously voted, Ms S Reynolds – yes, Ms Willis – yes, Mr. Healy – yes, to approve and sign the letters of support and for the Chair to sign both the RDA and ZBA applications. The Committee explained that they will be applying for a USDA 50/50 ReConnect Grant. The Town's share can come from the State funds already received. The Board unanimously voted, Ms S Reynolds – yes, Ms Willis – yes, Mr. Healy – yes, to resolve that the ReConnect Grant Administrator be named as a Special Employee of the Town of Charlemont as outlined in MGL, Chapter 268, Section 1, Paragraph n and that Cheryl Handsaker be appointed to the position of ReConnect Grant Administrator. The Town Clerk will certify the Board's vote. Ms S Reynolds will try to put out a robo call for the May 23rd meeting with property owners of Hawk Hill and Heath Stage Terrace.
2. Annie Rancourt, Marcia Tucci and Bill Tucci attended the meeting to discuss the condition of Harris Mountain Road. The Road is closed 6-8 weeks per year during mud season. This can be a safety issue for the whole Town as the road is an alternate route if Route 2 is closed. Ms S Reynolds informed the residents that Town Meeting will have an article for \$40,000 that is specifically for roads. Also, funds associated with the Tucci's Host Agreement can potentially be used to repair Harris Mountain Road.
3. Bill Coli, Norma Coli and Bambi Miller, members of the Historical Commission attended the meeting to weigh in on the Broadband project at the Town Hall. The Commission suggests a living fence be planted around the generator on the west side of the building and suggests branches from abutters trees be trimmed as they are touching the Town Hall. The Commission recommended removal of the conduit on the west side of the Town Hall that is not being used and they are willing to draft a letter to MBI with the suggestion the Town and MBI share the same underground conduit to the Town Hall to minimize visual impacts. The Board unanimously voted, Ms S Reynolds – yes, Ms Willis – yes, Mr. Healy – yes, accept the offer of the Historical Commission to write a letter to MBI.
4. The Board received a suggestion that a policy be created regarding telephone poles. It was noted that in some places there are double poles, poles abandoned on the ground and poles left standing without any wires. The Board will revisit this subject after April.

5. Mad River Solar would like to move forward with their lease agreement. The Board unanimously voted, Ms S Reynolds – yes, Ms Willis – yes, Mr. Healy – yes, to have Mad River Solar work with the Town attorney regarding the lease agreement.
6. The Board received a letter from Greenfield Savings Bank that explains they are donating an elm tree to the Town. The tree will be planted at the Little Red School House. Ms Willis read a poem she wrote, thanking the Bank for this donation. The Board unanimously voted, Ms S Reynolds – yes, Ms Willis – yes, Mr. Healy – yes, to send the poem to the Bank.
7. Ms Willis stated that there are disagreements with the State radio system, but the Towns can not afford to buy their own.
8. Ms Willis will attend a meeting on June 5th regarding the 2020 Census.
9. Ms Willis feels the Town website needs photos and suggested holding a contest with photo submissions. Ms Willis will suggest the contest at the Town Meeting.
10. Ms Willis reported that the current Special Events Application is not working. The Fire Chief has a sample application and will be working with the Police and Ambulance Departments on updating the current application.
11. Ms S Reynolds reported that the Highway superintendent has written an update for the pre-town meeting articles.
12. The Highway Superintendent sent a request for the Board to review the salaries and wages for the Highway Superintendent. A survey of the Highway Superintendents from 12 surrounding Towns was included with the request. Ms S Reynolds will ask the Super to discuss his request with the Board.
13. The Board unanimously voted, Ms S Reynolds – yes, Ms Willis – yes, Mr. Healy – yes, to schedule the next meetings for June 3 and 17, July 1, 15 and 29.
14. The Board discussed the potential need for additional clerical assistance. It was agreed that a grant writer position is imperative for the Town. The Board will consult the accountant to see if the salary line item of the FY 2020 budget for the Administrator could be changed to Adm/Clerical Asst.
15. Mr. Healy will conduct a robo call for the Annual Town Meeting.
16. Todd Gerry has offered to replace the tin on the roof ridge of the jail for free to prevent rain from entering the building. The Board unanimously voted, Ms S Reynolds – yes, Ms Willis – yes, Mr. Healy – yes, to accept the offer.
17. The Board received information and an opposing opinion regarding joining the Woodland's Partnership.
18. Ms Willis will follow up on the FY 2020 Community Development Block Grant eligibility.
19. Ms Willis has conducted research regarding Culvert Repair Process and Improvements. The research will be sent to Linda Dunlavy at the FRCOG along with Senator Hinds and Representative Paul Mark.
20. The ESC Race Special Events application was approved by all departments except the Fire Chief. The Fire Chief will not approve of the application unless Fire Fighters work detail for this Race. Ms S Reynolds stated that the ESC is not

- asking for Fire Fighter detail and she will share this with the Fire Chief. The application was approved by the Board.
21. The Board reviewed a wi-fi flyer that has been sent to residents. The Board stated that the flier is putting the cart before the horse as the Town has not received an application for a wi-fi pole to be installed. The Board was provided with a petition to not allow such a wi-fi pole in Charlemont. A large group attended the meeting with multiple attendees speaking at the same time. Chair Sarah Reynolds stopped such conversation several times to gain order of the meeting. Ms S Reynolds stated that there are Federal and State laws that the Town is required to follow and that a request for such a pole has not been received. Mr. Healy stated that the conversation is preemptive. It was suggested that the group go to Wi-Valley with their opinions. It was stated that Wi-Valley has other plans that will work for other than placing a pole on Legate Hill Road. Hussain Hamdan, Town of Hawley Select Board, stated that this statement is not accurate and that Wi-Valley does not have any confirmed alternative plans.
 22. Ms S Reynolds, Ms Willis and Mr. Healy will attend the COA Volunteer Recognition Luncheon.
 23. The Board unanimously voted, Ms S Reynolds – yes, Ms Willis – yes, Mr. Healy – yes, to approve and sign:
 - 5-6-19 meeting minutes
 - Payroll warrants #1947 for \$24,004.69, #1945 for \$7,471.74 and #1946 for \$25,311.79
 - Vendor warrants #1946 for \$11,505.45 and #1945 for \$9,317.97
 - Annual Town Meeting Warrants (4)
 24. The Board unanimously voted, Ms S Reynolds – yes, Ms Willis – yes, Mr. Healy – yes, to approve a vacation request from the Executive Secretary/Town Clerk for the week of June 10th.
 25. Ms S Reynolds will consult with the Secretary to the Boards regarding the Secretaries vacation and carry forward benefit time requests.
 26. Business being concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Kathy A. Reynolds
Executive Secretary

Approved by:
Charlemont Select Board

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

Documents viewed at the meeting.

ZBA Variance and Con Comm RDA applications
Letters supporting the ZBA Variance and Con Comm RDA
Suggestion for a telephone pole policy
Tree donation letter form Greenfield Savings Bank
Highway Super salaries and wages survey
Woodland's Partnership information
Special Events Application for the ESC Race
Wi-fi flyer and petitions
COA Volunteer Luncheon invitation
Minutes
Vendor and payroll warrants
Town Meeting warrants
Vacation requests
Carry forward of benefit time request