

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING APRIL 17, 2018

Chairman Hevy called the meeting to order in the Senior Center at 6 PM with Mr. Kiley and Mr. Petraitis also present.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **March 27, 2018**

Approval of these minutes will be deferred until the next meeting.

- **April 3, 2018**
- **April 10, 2018**

Mr. Kiley moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve these minutes as written. So voted.

II. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

- **Interest Warrant #1047 for \$40,675.00**
- **School Warrant #1048 for \$72,364.68**
- **General Warrant #1049 for \$115,871.48**
- **Payroll Warrant #21 for \$303,493.80**

Mr. Kiley moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve these warrants. So voted.

III. FINANCIAL ITEMS

- **Reserve Fund requests**

The Board reviewed a request for a Reserve Fund transfer for \$15.29 from the School Department. (Attachment #1) Mr. Kiley moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve the request and send it along to the Finance Committee for final approval. So voted.

The Board also reviewed a request for a \$2,500.00 transfer for the Veterans' Benefits account. (Attachment #2) Mr. Kiley moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve the request and forward it to the Finance Committee for approval. So voted.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Sign May 11th Town Meeting warrants

Mr. Kiley moved and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to sign and post the warrants for the May 11th Annual and Special Town Meetings. (Available in the Selectmen's office) So voted.

B. Laflamme response

Mr. Kiley noted that at the last televised Selectmen's meeting Bob LaFlamme read a letter directed to the North Brookfield Railroad Commissioners. Mr. LaFlamme stated that he would sue the railroad and it would "cost the Town a lot of money." Mr. Kiley feels that it is only fair that residents be informed about the railroad and that it does not affect the Town at all. The railroad is a quasi-municipal entity that derives no support,

either directly or indirectly from the Town. The railroad relies on rental income from land it owns to pay its full tax burden to North Brookfield and also to East Brookfield. Mr. Kiley noted that if Mr. LaFlamme chooses to file suit against the railroad Mr. Kiley will represent the railroad at no cost. It will not cost the Town anything.

C. Request to use Town Beach

Mr. Hevy reviewed a request to use the Town Beach on Saturday, April 21st for an Earth Day cleanup event. (Attachment #3) Mr. Kiley moved and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve the request. So voted.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Award bid for North Common Street project

Mr. Petraitis read a letter from Pioneer Valley Planning Commission recommending that Pioppi Construction of Southbridge be awarded the bid to do the work on the North Common Street Improvement Project. (Attachment #4) The base bid amount is \$611,919.00. Mr. Kiley moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to award the bid as recommended. So voted.

B. Cynthia Henshaw and Laura Dusty re: Wendemuth Meadow

Laura Dusty, chairman of the Cultural Council, was present to let the Selectmen know that the committee is working with the EQLT on three programs to be held at Wendemuth Meadow on the last Sunday of the month during the summer. (Attachment #5) Programs being considered are health and wellness and arts related.

Ms. Dusty asked if they could direct people to park on McCarthy Road, and she was directed to fill out a Request for Town Resources form from the website and submit it to the Board.

C. Request for information re: Town House

Mr. Kiley read a letter from the Massachusetts Historical Commission asking for an update to the ownership information for the Town House. (Attachment #6) The Selectmen responded to questions stating that there are no renovations being contemplated at this time, and that the building is not a museum.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Town Election schedule

Mr. Hevy reviewed the schedule for the May 7th Annual Town Election. The deadline for nomination papers has passed, and the last day to register to vote is April 17th until 8 PM in the Town Clerk's office.

B. Earth Day cleanup

Mr. Kiley reviewed the schedule for Earth Day events on Saturday, April 21st. Trash collected from the roadsides can be brought to the Highway Garage from 9 AM to 3 PM, and there will be a free breakfast for volunteers at the Senior Center.

C. Veterans Services workshop

Mr. Petraitis announced that there will be a free workshop on services available for veterans on Thursday, April 26th at the Episcopal Church.

VII. PENDING/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

It was decided to add the Aztec/Mass Development grant to the list.

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Hevy announced that the public has the opportunity to briefly comment through the Chairman, with a two-minute limit.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:45 PM Mr. Kiley moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss complaints against a public official. Roll call: Hevy, yes; Kiley, yes; Petraitis, yes. So voted. Mr. Hevy announced that the Board would exit Executive Session only to adjourn.

At 7:30 PM the Board came out of Executive Session. Mr. Kiley moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Scott Burton
Administrative Assistant

PROJECT STATUS AND PENDING/FUTURE SELECTMEN'S AGENDA ITEMS

PROJECT

NBDDP/Aztec
Solar contracts on Municipal Property
Personnel policies
Electric aggregation
Town House restoration project
Bates Observatory

STATUS

Done
Pending
In progress
Pending
FOTH Capital Campaign
Pending