

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING JANUARY 8, 2019

Chairman Kiley called the meeting to order in the Senior Center at 6:05 PM with Mr. Petraitis and Mr. Tripp also present.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **December 20, 2018**

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

II. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

- **School Warrant #1032 for \$118,845.29**
- **General Warrant #1033 for \$105,005.94**
- **Payroll Warrant #14 for \$323,191.33**

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

III. FINANCIAL ITEMS

There were no Financial Items to discuss.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Letter from NBEMA re: director

Mr. Kiley reviewed an e-mail from Anne Adams asking to be appointed as the Emergency Management Director, and asking that current director Doug Blood be removed. When the Selectmen asked for three recommendations for the position, the only name put forth was Ms. Adams.

Mr. Petraitis said that he does not have a problem with appointing Ms. Adams if the Selectmen speak with her before about some administrative issues. Mr. Tripp asked if the Selectmen could ask for more volunteers and perhaps keep Mr. Blood. He would like to speak with Ms. Adams before appointing anyone. Mr. Blood came in to pay bills today, and he was at the Nursery Avenue fire last week. Mr. Kiley said that he would call Mr. Blood. It was agreed to put this issue under Old Business for the next meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Sign warrant for January 25th STM

Mr. Kiley reviewed the three article warrant for the January 25th Special Town Meeting. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to sign and post the warrant. So voted.

B. Request for Holden funds

Mr. Kiley reviewed an e-mail from Fire Chief Joe Holway asking for "as much money from the Holden Fund as possible." The Selectmen want Chief Holway to be more specific as to how much money he needs and what it will be used for. This will be under Old Business for the next televised meeting.

C. Melink request to extend solar agreement

Mr. Kiley explained that he has received an e-mail from Melink. Melink said that the state of Massachusetts has requested that a transmission level study be conducted by National Grid. Melink was just informed of this in late November, and is asking that their contract be extended beyond April 25th due to circumstances beyond their control.

Mr. Kiley stated that he does not think the “force majeure” clause being cited by Melink applies in this case, and he feels that the Board has been very patient throughout the process. He is not inclined to extend the contract. Mr. Tripp said that he agreed. Dennis Kelly and Peter Dupell stated their support for not extending the contract. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to inform Melink that their contract with the Town will not be extended beyond April 25th. So voted.

Mr. Kiley went on to explain that the Selectmen have been approached by representatives of Symbiont Energy about the possibility of locating a solar project on the former landfill site. There are currently several issues that must be addressed before DEP will consider allowing the project, but the Board of Health has the necessary funds available and is working to correct the problems. Mr. Kiley noted that the Selectmen have signed an “expression of interest” letter that will allow Symbiont to do further planning work for the project, but does not obligate the Town in any way.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Kiley announced that the public has the opportunity to briefly comment through the chair. Resident Brandon Avery asked about the possibility of having a town-owned parcel on Brickyard Road added to the Town Forest. Mr. Kiley explained that it would need to be voted at a town meeting.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Last day to register to vote at 01/25 STM

Mr. Tripp read a memo from the Town Clerk announcing that the last day to register to vote at the January 25th Special Town Meeting will be Tuesday, January 15th in the Town Clerk’s office from 9 AM to 8 PM.

B. Need help with home repairs?

Mr. Petraitis announced that the Town is applying for grant funds to continue its housing rehab program. A sign-up form is available on the Town’s website, and there will be an informational session on January 9th at the Senior Center.

C. Dog licenses are now available

Mr. Kiley announced that dog licenses are now available from the Town Clerk at a cost of \$6 for dogs that are spayed or neutered, and \$11 for those that are not.

VIII. PENDING/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

See attached list

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session scheduled.

There being no further business, at 6:55 PM Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Scott Burton
Administrative Assistant

Solar contracts on Municipal Property
Personnel policies
Electric aggregation
Town House restoration project
Bates Observatory
Cable license renewal
Disabilities Commission

Pending
In progress
Pending
FOTH Capital Campaign
Pending
Pending
Pending