

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING AUGUST 11, 2015

Chairman Hevy called the meeting to order in the Senior Center at 6:10 PM with Mrs. Walter and Mr. Smith also present. He reminded those in attendance that the meeting would be both audio and video taped.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **June 24, 2015**
- **June 24, 2015 Executive Session**

It was agreed to defer action on these minutes to the next meeting.

- **July 27, 2015**
- **July 28, 2015**
- **July 28, 2015 Executive Session**
- **August 5, 2015**

Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Smith seconded, a motion to approve the aforementioned minutes as written. So voted.

- **August 6, 2015**

It was agreed to defer action on these minutes to the next meeting.

II. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

- **School Warrant #1005 for \$80,812.58**
- **General Warrant #1006 for \$101,260.65**
- **Payroll Warrant #3 for \$204,011.45**

Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Smith seconded, a motion to approve the aforementioned warrants. So voted.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- **The public has the opportunity to briefly comment on agenda items through the Chairman**

Mr. Hevy announced that anyone in attendance could speak on any of this evening's subjects by going through himself as chairman.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- **None**

There were no financial reports.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Harbormaster appointment

Mr. Hevy reviewed a letter from Doug Blood asking to be reappointed as Harbormaster. (Attachment #1) Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Smith seconded, a motion to appoint Mr. Blood. So voted.

B. Town Beach appointments

Since no one was present for this, it was agreed to defer this item to later in the meeting. Near the end of the meeting Anne Adams came in. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Smith seconded, a motion to appoint Ms. Adams. So voted.

C. Requests for Holden Hospital funds

The Board reviewed requests for money from the Holden Hospital Fund from the Emergency Squad and also from the Police Department. (Attachment #2) There is currently \$14,867.00 in the account. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Smith seconded, a motion to award \$10,000.00 to the Emergency Squad, and \$2,000.00 to the Police Department. So voted.

D. Request for letter of support

This item was deferred to a later date.

E. Vacancies on town boards

Mr. Hevy read a list of vacancies on town board. (Attachment #3) He stressed that the town cannot function without volunteers, and urged that any resident interested contact the Selectmen's office.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Electronic policy

The Selectmen reviewed the current Electronic Communications and Computer Usage Policy. (Attachment #4) It was agreed to see if there is a sample policy from Kopelman and Paige that is more related to social media. This item will be put on the next agenda under old business.

B. Fee for one-day liquor licenses

The town currently does not charge for one-day liquor licenses. Leslie will check with other towns to see what they charge. This item will be put on the next agenda under old business.

C. Request for one-day liquor license

The Selectmen reviewed a request from Brookfield Orchard for a one-day permit to sell beer at their Harvest Craft Fair on Saturday, September 12th. (Attachment #5) Martha Nydam from the orchard noted that Rapsallion Brewery of Sturbridge would be selling their beer at the event. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Smith seconded, a motion to approve the license. So voted.

D. Road paving hearing @ 6:30 PM

At 6:30 PM Mr. Hevy called to order a public hearing on the Highway Department's plans to pave certain roads in town. Highway Superintendent Gary Jean was present to explain the impact that the paving work will have on residents. He noted that he plans to pave Mt. Guyot Street, Willow Street, Walnut Street, Union Street, Spring Street, Summit Terrace, Bell Road and Bell Street. Work is tentatively scheduled to begin on August 13th. First will be the reclamation of the road, then the manhole covers will be

raised, then a binder coat will be applied, and then finally the top coat will be applied. There will be a police detail on each road, and on Bell Street 1,200' of sidewalk will be repaired. Mr. Jean noted that under current state guidelines sidewalks need to be 5.5' wide in order to qualify for state aid.

Resident Gino Carmiello was the only resident present for the hearing. He asked if Mr. Jean could install a stop sign at Willow and Forest Streets. Mr. Hevy asked if Mr. Jean could work on handicapped accessible curb cuts for sidewalks. Mr. Jean said that he would do the best he could, but in some areas of town there is not enough clearance.

There being no further business, at 6:45 PM Mr. Hevy adjourned the hearing.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Town Forest informational woods walk**

Mr. Hevy reviewed an e-mail from Ross Hubacz regarding his intent to conduct an informational woods walk on Saturday, October 3rd at the Town Forest on Route 67 and 148. The rain date will be October 4th.

- **Assessors' notice**

Mr. Hevy read a notice from the Board of Assessors announcing that proposed new assessments for FY16 are now available. (Attachment #6) The notice explains that the new assessments are based on fair market sales for 2013 and 2014. The proposed assessments are available on the town's website, or may be viewed in the Assessor's office during business hours.

- **Town House Friends update**

Mrs. Walter noted that she recently spoke with former senator Steve Brewer and thanked him for the \$500,000.00 earmark for the Town House restoration. At a recent meeting of the Friends of the Town House, a new vice-president position was added. On September 22nd Albert Rex will be at the Selectmen's meeting to provide an update. After Labor Day discussions will begin regarding the lease of the Town House to the Friends. The Capital Campaign should begin around October 1st.

VIII. PENDING/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- **See attached list**

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7 PM Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Smith seconded, a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss strategy related to negotiations with non-union personnel. Roll call: Hevy, yes; Walter, yes; Smith, yes. So voted. Mr. Hevy noted that after a brief closed session, the Board would reconvene in open session.

At 7:30 PM the Board came out of Executive Session. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Smith seconded, a motion to promote Officer David Churchey to the rank of Sergeant effective tomorrow, August 12th. So voted.

Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Smith seconded, a motion to amend existing policy and allow the Town Collector to use her own discretion in waiving a lifetime ban on the use of personal checks after a tax payer bounces a check. So voted.

There being no further business, at 7:45 PM Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Smith seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Scott Burton
Administrative Assistant

PENDING/FUTURE SELECTMEN'S ITEMS

Solterra Agreement
NBDDP/Aztec
Gilbert Street Stormwater issues
Cable license renewal Oct 2015
Purchase Orders
Creation of Financial Advisory Committee
Personnel policies
Cemetery Road
Meeting with Gobi and Berthiaume