

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING**  
**MONDAY, August 31, 2009**  
**Upstairs Meeting Room**

#24-09

#24

Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons Patricia Pruitt; Patricia Allen, Mark Fairbrother, Town Administrator, Frank Abbondanzio; Administrative Secretary Wendy Bogusz; Robert Trombley, WPCF Superintendent, Arn Albertini, Recorder

**Approve minutes of August 17, 2009 (if available)**

Not available at this time

**Bob Trombley, Sign Change Order #12**

Majority of this change order has to do with electrical issues having to do with modifications to the supervisory control and data acquisitions system and the clean up change order for having to over excavate some material at the storm water chlorine contact tank, so we could put suitable material in below the tank. Part of that is also because we dug fewer test pits, it ends up being a \$900 credit against other items on the change order. This should be the last change order for the CSO project with the exception of solids handling, should that go forward.

*Allen makes the motion to approve change order #12 for the Combined Sewer Overflow project for \$32,134.86 for the reasons Bob Trombley has given. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Pruitt – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye*

**CSO Update**

CDM continues to move ahead on the preliminary evaluation of the solids handling issue. Although I don't have the final word on the geothermal technical issues around settlement in the area, first indications are that there isn't any unsuitable compaction issues at this point. Talking to a number of people who did the actual borings for the three soil borings, they felt from their experience they came across nothing abnormal. CDM is thinking so far, so good.

- We have previously talked about the ability of the plant to handle more than 4 million gallons a day into the facility, we have hit 5.4 million twice now at the plant. We handled all of it through the secondary system, not so well last Friday, we may have violated total suspended solids and we have to look at that. Per the engineers, the plant is designed to handle 4 mpg through the entire process and the remainder of that, whatever is above that goes out through the storm water chlorine contact tank into the river. If over time we can put more through the plant than that and maintain permit, that's even better, but we will have to wait and see.

-Hopefully by the end of the week the automated system will be up and running for a 30 day test period.

**Town Administrators Report**

**Select Consultant to Design Unity Park Improvements**

Town was awarded a Community Development Block Grant for \$579,775 of which \$51,270 was allocated for the design of the Unity Park improvements, not including the skate park. An RFP was put out in anticipation of the award, it was advertised appropriately and we received three proposals. Berkshire Design Group was the best proposal of the three.

*Allen makes the motion to award the contract for the Unity Park improvements for a fee of \$51,270 to the Berkshire Design Group, Inc. of Northampton, MA and authorize Patricia Pruitt as Chair of the Board of Selectmen to sign the agreement by and between the Town of Montague and the Berkshire Design Group, Inc. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Pruitt – Aye.*

**CDBG – Social Services RFP Process – update**

This deals with the FY10 Community Development Block Grant Application. We had a hearing a couple of weeks ago and we promised we would have a new RFP that would be going out for the Social Service Program. I've been working with the Regional Housing Development on developing the process for doing that RFP. We have scheduled a public informational meeting predominantly for the benefit of the social service agencies. I did a direct mail out to all the human service providers who do business in town including the two vendors that historically have done our social service programs, the Brickhouse and the Montague Catholic Social Ministries. This public meeting will be held on September 2 at 4:00 PM. Here at Town Hall to explain the RFP process.

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-Anyone interested in being on the RFP Selection Committee should send a letter of interest to the Board of Selectmen's Office attn: Wendy Bogusz. The Board would like 5 – 7 people on this review committee.

**Sign Memorandum of Understanding with Franklin County Solid Waste Management District and Household Hazardous Waste Program**

*Allen makes the motion to sign the memorandum of understanding by and between the Town of Montague and the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District for a joint Regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event on Saturday, September 26, 2009 noting the sites will be at Greenfield Community College and the DPW Garage in Athol. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Pruitt - Aye*

**Sign Letter Supporting Mass Tax Credit Application for 108 J Street**

I have a letter to the State Historical Preservation Officer at the Mass. Historical Commission supporting the Artist in Residence Associates tax credit application for 108 J Street in Turners Falls. This involves the rehab of the farmhouse (circa 1860-75) for use as artists living and work space. Abbondanzio reads part of the letter into the record. The most important thing about this project is it's part of a pilot for artists live and work space, a concept that River Culture is trying to encourage and we've had studies done in terms of identifying feasibility in potential sites. This is a good first project, so I ask the Board vote to sign and send the letter.

*Allen makes a motion to sign the letter in support of A.I.R Associates tax credit application for 108 J Street being sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer in Boston. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Pruitt - Aye*

**Regionalization Conference**

I will be attending the Regionalization Conference that the State Dept. of Revenue and the FRCOG is jointly sponsoring, which is being held at Holy Cross College on Thursday, September 3, 2009. As we go into probably the most difficult budget season, we are looking for potential alternatives for sharing resources either with other communities or programs that might work better with an economizing scale.

**Inter-municipal Agreement Draft - Status**

Having discussions with Police and Fire Chiefs, issues are being resolved. Town Counsel is reviewing the agreement. Carolyn's suggestions were integrated, the fact that we be billed monthly not quarterly, so overages can be dealt with monthly.

**Ambulance Contract/EMS Service Zone Plan – Status**

Information will be forwarded to the Prudential Committee. The Service Zone Plan has been sent to the Montague Center Fire Dept. for their review and we will be having proposed changes from both of them.

**Montague Center School - Status**

I understand we need to have a meeting regarding the school, and this will be discussed during our Capital Improvements Committee Meeting on September 10<sup>th</sup>.

**District Meeting**

The date is still up in the air; I spoke to the Supt. and Ray Godin this afternoon and the District Meeting will either be on September 30<sup>th</sup> with the Moderator from Gill, Ray Steel or October 1<sup>st</sup>, depending on Ray Godin being available to be the moderator. He will let me know later this week.

**Approve Application for – Use of Public Property – Chestnut Lane/Prospect Street Bridge: Patricia Pruitt**

Allen makes the motion to approve the Use of Public Property for September 12 from 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM for the bridge party at Chestnut Lane, aka the Prospect Street Bridge and the Police Chief has signed off on this. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Pruitt – Aye.

**Use of Public Property**

*Allen makes the motion to approve the use of public property for Burrito Rojo on September 12<sup>th</sup> at the Third Street parking lot near 50 Third Street for John M. Keating the contact person, for the grand opening of Burrito Rojo, and*

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*the form is signed by the Police Chief and the hours will be from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Allen – Aye, Pruitt – Aye, Fairbrother – Abstain*

**Burrito Rojo Sign Placement**

Pruitt: We have a request from Burrito Rojo to locate a wooden, sandwich board sign 29" x 33" on Avenue A and Third Street, Monday through Sunday daylight hours and weather permitting.

Keating tells the Board how people are having problems locating his business.

Pruitt explains how that corner is not as large as the corner diagonally across the street and would like Mr. Keating to provide a diagram showing the exact placement of the sign and the distance around it.

Keating inquires about putting the sign at a different location on Avenue A

The Board would like a diagram to be submitted of both locations he is requesting. This issue is pending.

*Allen makes the motion to go into executive session for 2 litigation issues and come out only to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 PM. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Pruitt – Aye.*

*Allen makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM. Seconded by Pruitt, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Pruitt – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye*