

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TUESDAY, June 1, 2010  
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM  
AGENDA**

19

*Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons Patricia Allen, Mark Fairbrother, Chris Boutwell; Town Administrator, Frank Abbondanzio; Administrative Secretary, Wendy Bogusz; Bill Drake, Montague Reporter; Arn Albertini, Greenfield Recorder, Jeff Tirrell, WHAI*

**Allen makes announcements**

Memorial Day observance was a wonderful affair. This year there was a larger parade and many thanks to the Veterans for putting this on.

We were without power for a couple of days. Allen thanks the DPW, Dispatch, Police both Fire Districts, the Emergency Management Director, MEMA, Electric Utilities, Other tree removal companies, business owners and the citizens were all very patient and mostly had a good sense of humor even though they were working around the clock. It was a very prompt and appropriate response by everybody. It was nice to know that each department could be counted on to do what they needed to do without having to find out from anyone else.

Allen read letter into the record from the WWTP informing the Board of what went on during the storm.

**Approve Minutes of May 18, 2010**

*Fairbrother makes the motion to approve the minutes of May 18, 2010. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen - Aye*

**Elliot Terry, Petitioned Article he placed on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant**

Elliot: I brought this article forward and it is an effort by the Alliance for Peace and Justice in Northampton and the Alliance for Peace in Greenfield and a campaign that began in Maine to bring the war dollars home. This is part of an effort to advise our elected leaders in Congress.

Elliot reads petitioned article into the record and gives background information.

Allen has received calls and people feel that this would be better if the question was put on the Town ballot at an election.

Terry doesn't feel this would work as he is interested in a binding resolution. This is not to leave troops over there without funding, this is to bring troops home.

**Town Administrators Report**

**Recent Storm/State of Emergency**

*Fairbrother makes the motion to ratify the action taken to declare a State of Emergency in the Town of Montague effective at 11:20 PM on Wednesday, May 26, 2010 and ending officially at 5:00 PM Saturday, May 29, 2010. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen - Aye*

Allen; Transfer station was left open so people could bring their brush in over the weekend. You can bring your brush in on Wednesdays from 7:00 AM to 2:30 PM or Saturdays from 7:00 AM to Noon

Allen: The Tree warden felt there were 5 –10 trees that were heavily damaged and unsafe and he would like permission to take trees down without a hearing as it is a safety concern.

*Fairbrother makes the motion to authorize the tree warden to go ahead and take down the 5 – 10 trees that he feels are a danger. The Board would like to see a list brought into the office before removal and that if a tree is in front of someone's house that the abutter be notified. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen - Aye*

**Other**

Allen went around to businesses downtown over the weekend and was asked by the entertainment establishments if it would be possible to have seating outside while there was no power. I spoke to some people and we decided we would allow it because of the emergency situation and the problems for the downtown businesses that had entertainment and liquor license establishments could be out on the side walk provided of course they left space for pedestrian walkway and there be no music played outside and any music that was coming from within needed to be at a low level.

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*Fairbrother makes the motion to ratify the decision to allow the downtown businesses that had entertainment and liquor licenses could be out on the side walk provided of course they left space for a pedestrian walkway and there be no music played outside and any music that was coming from within needed to be at a low level. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen - Aye*

M. Canon expresses his concern about the visit that was made to his establishment. Allen states this will be discussed at a later time.

**Other**

- Allen: The Springfield Union told an employee who lives in Millers Falls who wanted to be a town meeting member that they weren't allowed to be a town meeting member because it was a conflict of interest. Allen would like Frank to find out if this is a real issue or a policy of the newspaper
  
- Richie Davis asked Allen about high speed internet access and Montague and Greenfield are missing on the map of the county. It is called "wired west" and Allen feels the Town should be on board with everyone else.

**Request to use Peskeompskut Park: Wedding: Hannah Peters and Leonard Doucette**

*Fairbrother makes the motion to grant a permit to use Peskeompskut Park specifically the band shell and grounds in front of it to Hannah Peters and Leonard Doucette of M Street in Turners Falls for a wedding. The event will be August 7, 2010 from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM prep and cleanup inclusive, the Chief of Police has signed off on the event and they have signed a release of liability with the Town. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen - Aye*

**Green Communities Update**

*Fairbrother makes the motion to authorize Frank Abbondanzio to sign the Green Communities Grant Application. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen – Aye*

Montague received designation of a Green Community, one of 35 communities. Thanks goes to the Energy Committee, Walter Ramsey and all those that worked so hard on this.

The Town will receive a solar compactor that will be placed at Unity Park and four signs saying Montague is a Green Community.

**Planner Position Update**

Abbondanzio: We are running behind on planner selection process due to the storm. The committee will be meeting on Thursday to shortlist the candidates to 3 or 4. We hope to have a recommendation for the board on the June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Other**

- Barrel stickers for the period of 7/1/10 to 12/31/10 are on sale in the Treasurer/Collectors office.
  
- Fairbrother: Frank and I were supposed to meet last Thursday with a rep from WMECO about the beaver pond "lake" off Chestnut Hill Loop. The meeting will be rescheduled at a later date. I'm guessing they are going to want us to appoint two people to a committee.

*Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Mark Fairbrother and another member of the Conservation Commission to be representatives of the Beaver Dam Committee. Seconded by Allen, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen - Aye*

- We are looking for another member of the EDIC and FRTA (1 each)

*Fairbrother makes a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of litigation and security at 7:40 PM. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen - Aye*

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*Fairbrother makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously.  
Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen - Aye*