

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Monday, May 9, 2011
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM

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

Allen announces meeting is being taped

Announcement made of upcoming events.

Approve Minutes of April 11, 19 and 25, 2011

Fairbrother makes the motion to approve the Selectmen's minutes from April 11, 2011. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen – Aye

Fairbrother makes the motion to approve the Selectmen's minutes from April 19, 2011. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen – Aye

Fairbrother makes the motion to approve the Selectmen's minutes from April 25, 2011. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen – Aye

Greg Garrison, Northampton Cycling Club; Registration for Assembly, Public Demonstration or Use of Public Property: Cycling Race on Industrial Blvd., Montague

Garrison: Event will be for 6 weeks, starting May 18th running on Wednesdays until June 22, same set up as last year, sign up starts at 5:00 PM, we have permission to use parking lot at FC Tech School and also their bathrooms located next to the gymnasium. There are two races one starts at 6:00 the other at 7:00 PM, there will be between 50 – 80 riders and the sponsors will be local. Everyone has been notified in the Industrial Park. The event is insured again by USA Cycling, Inc., it is a sanctioned event.

Fairbrother makes the motion to allow use of public property, Industrial Boulevard on Wednesdays May 18, May 25, June 1, June 8, June 15 and June 22, 2011 from 5:00 PM until 8:30 PM to Greg Garrison of the Northampton Cycling Club. The insurance certificate is on file and the Police Chief has signed off on the document. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen - Aye

Robert Trombley, WPCF Superintendent, Industrial Discharge Permit Renewal, Australis

Trombley: Tonight I'm here to request approval to renew the Industrial Discharge Permit for Australis. The Industrial Discharge permit is a legal document that allows an industry to discharge certain waste that meets certain requirements into the Towns sanitary sewer collection system and the WPCF. Minor changes to the permit are as follows: Addition of personnel contacts information on page 1. Change of the name for discharge #3 from Manure Tank Supernatant by adding & Settling Tank Discharge on page 2 item #5. Reworded flow meter calibration concerns on page 4 item 5. Changed discharge limitations for Greenhouse Operations, page 8, and Processing Operations, page 10, from concentration based limits of milligrams per liter to a mass based limit of pounds per day. Top of page 11, changed to say 2 times per year for samples. The permits in the program similar to the Town National Pretreatment Discharge Elimination System permit are allowed to have a maximum 5 year renewal period. I am requesting that the Australis permit be renewed for 5 years from the date of approval by the Selectboard/Sewer Commission. More definition to the EPA classification on the top of page 1. As with the other 2 full permit industries there have been few discharge violations from the discharge of industrial process waste of Australis Aquaculture. There is a good working relationship with the Town. I am recommending the renewal of the permit with noted changes for a 5 year period. The permit can be reopened by either party during that period. This permit is one of 3 full permits within the Town Industrial Pretreatment Program; the other two being held by Southworth Company and Con Agra/Lightlife.

Fairbrother makes the motion to renew the Industrial Discharge Permit for Australis for a period of 5 years under the terms and conditions presented. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen - Aye

Walter Ramsey, Planner and Conservation Agent

Sign HUD Consortium Agreement

Ramsey: This is to memorialize Montague's participation in the regional planning process that has recently begun. HUD provided a grant to the FRCOG to produce a regional plan for sustainable development and Montague is one of the partner

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communities along with Greenfield, Orange and Deerfield. As a partner I am going to be dedicating some staff time over the course of three years to producing a regional plan. In return we will be getting funding for \$40,000 to do a downtown Turners Falls livability plan. The in-kind donation from Montague is Staff time in the amount of \$11,500 over 3 years. The regional plan is a severely important process as Franklin County has not had one to date. It starts off by doing an assessment, a lot of public participation in this and it is going to identify and prioritize infrastructure improvements over the next 15 to 20 years.

Fairbrother makes the motion to approve the Consortium Agreement for the Sustainable Community Regional Planning Grant Program and authorize the Chair to sign same. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen - Aye

Strathmore Updates and Redevelopment Task Force

Ramsey: I'm here to request the Selectboard establish a Redevelopment Task Force. This will be a group that is responsible for issuing and reviewing the request for proposals associated with the mill and ultimately making the recommendation to the Selectboard. At this point, I'm requesting that this group convene because the planning efforts are moving along on several fronts and we are at a position where we think it would be prudent to put out a request for expressions of interest, which is a precursor to the request for proposals. It is a way to send out a feeler and get a response for the market would provide for the mill and it would allow the town to gauge interest in the whole project without having a full blown RFP. I did check into this and it is perfectly legal.

Fairbrother makes the motion to set up the Strathmore Redevelopment Task Force with the following positions available: Town Planner, Town Administrator, Building Inspector, a representative from the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board and the Finance Committee and a representative from the various abutters in the community at large. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen – Aye.

Other

Ramsey: In case anyone is interested in following along with the process, the Town developed a website as part of a marketing effort to attract developers and keep interested people in the loop as far as what is going on at the mill. It is also a clearing house of all sorts of information about the project. The Town has had some remaining 43D money that we used to do a transportation option study to look at different ways that site can be accessed as well as the site assessment of the debris pile and we are still in the process of finishing those up.

Frank Abbondanzio, Town Administrator Report

Montague Center School RFP Update

Abbondanzio: We published a notice in the Central Register for the request for proposals on the MC School and are also advertising in some newspapers up and down the valley. The RFP responses will be due in on August 4 and a site visit has been scheduled for May 19th at 10:00 AM at the MCS. We have both a fee and non fee concept; the fee is minimum price that is tied to the level of investment, the more you invest, the lower the minimum price is in the proposal. In drafting the RFP, we wanted to make sure whatever goes in there is going to meet all the criteria for making it a good neighbor in Montague Center.

Sign Resolution in Support of Updating the Massachusetts Bottle Bill

Abbondanzio: This is something that was an initiative of the MASSPirg and a number of people in the community have contacted me and asked if we were going to get behind this. I think there are 16 communities in Franklin County and there are many more communities throughout the state that are signed onto this. Currently, the 5¢ deposit is on carbonated beverages only, this initiative would propose to expand it so the deposit would be placed on non carbonated beverages including water bottles, iced teas, sport drinks and vitamin water. The main goal is to encourage recycling. When the original bottle bill went in it resulted in 80% recycling rate for any of the beverage containers that deposits were paid as compared to 25% before that.

Allen thinks it's an excellent thing, Boutwell doesn't support it because it is all coming from Eastern Mass, there is no one from Western Mass listed on the updated bottle bill. Fairbrother feels it is long overdue. Boutwell also feels if a deposit is put on it, it will be taken out of the recycling that people bring to the transfer stations and it will be less money coming back to the Towns.

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Fairbrother makes the motion to adopt the resolution of support in updating the Massachusetts Bottle Bill. Seconded by Allen. Approved 2 – 1. Fairbrother – Aye, Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Nay (Opposed)

Request from Highway Dept. for Surplus Equipment Declaration

Fairbrother makes the motion to declare the 1994 Crown Vic Police Cruiser as surplus equipment. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen – Aye

Sign Colle Lease Agreement with Premier Education Group L.P.

Abbondanzio: This is to sign the 3 year lease extension at the Colle Opera House with Premier Education Group, LP. The terms will continue as the previous years.

Boutwell makes the motion that the Board sign the agreement of lease for the Colle building at 85 Avenue A, Turners Falls as presented which is basically just a roll over/extension from the previous contract with the Premier Education Group, LP with the spaces 103, 108 and 003 basement plus common areas. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen – Aye

G/M Bridge Lights Update

Abbondanzio: This is good news. I have a copy of a draft letter that is circulating in the Town of Gill that is to be signed. This is regarding who is going to pay for the cost of the electricity in maintaining the lights on the Gill Montague Bridge and Mass. DOT is going to assume all of those responsibilities. Gill is meeting today and will send the letter to us for signature.

Fairbrother makes the motion to approve the letter of May 5, 2011 to the DOT Mass Highway, District 2 requesting the State DOT commit to long term payment of all costs associated with the operations and maintenance of the traffic and pedestrian lighting on the Gill Montague Bridge and authorize the Chair to sign the letter. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen – Aye

Other

Abbondanzio: The Turners Falls Fire Dept. is applying for a Building Permit to perform certain renovations in the kitchen area at the fire station. The renovation work will be performed by firefighters while they are on duty and they are requesting the board waive the building permit fee which is roughly \$30 and David is recommending it.

Boutwell makes the motion that the Board waive the Building fees for the Turners Falls Fire Dept. for the kitchen area work that is being done except we can't waive the electrical inspection fees. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved 2 - 1. Boutwell – Aye, Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Nay

Registration for Assembly, Public Demonstration, or Use of Public Property: Toll Booth Fund Raiser, Relay for Life, Center of Montague Common

Fairbrother makes the motion to approve the request by the Montague First Congregational Church for use of Public Property, the Montague Center Town Common for a toll booth fundraiser for the Relay for Life on May 14th from 9:00 AM to Noon and the Police Chief has signed off on this and we have received a copy of their insurance policy. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen - Aye

Event Application for use of Montague Center Common: Memorial Day Observance

Fairbrother makes the motion to issue a permit to the Montague Center Firemen's Relief Association on May 29th from 9:00 AM to Noon with the actual event starting at 11:15 AM, it's a Memorial Day observance on the Montague Center Common to recognize local veterans for their service to our community. Insurance certificate on file, Police Chief has signed off on event and the fee to be waived. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen - Aye

Event Application for use of Montague Center Common: Montague Old Home Days

Boutwell makes the motion to issue a permit to the Montague First Congregational Church for Montague Old Home Days, on August 5 – 24, 2011 on the Montague Center Common, this is their annual fund raiser for the church which includes food vendors, crafts, children's games. Insurance certificate on file, Police Chief has signed off on event and the fee to be waived. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen – Aye

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- Feast for the Arts was a tremendous success; they actually had to turn people away. The luminary art piece was chosen and looks like a fun event.
- Crab Apple Blossom Festival is going on and the trees are in full bloom.
- Updated FRCOG fees for services given
- Monday is election day
- The next Selectmen's Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2011 due to the election on Monday.
- Date for Railroad Meeting is still in the works.

Fairbrother makes the motion to go into executive session for the discussion of real estate issues (Rule #6). Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen – Aye

Fairbrother makes the motion to go into executive session for purposes of collective bargaining discussions (Rule #3). Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Allen – Aye