

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
MONDAY, October 31, 2011**

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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 Bogus (absent); Jeff Tirrell, WHAI; Chris Curtis, Greenfield Recorder, David Detmold, Montague Reporter

Fairbrother opens the meeting and announces the meeting is being taped

Approve Minutes of October 24, 2011

Allen makes the motion to approve the minutes of Monday, October 24, 2011. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye

Update

Abbondanzio states how the only thing he has heard that the worst case scenario for people getting power restored will be on Thursday.

Walter Ramsey, Planner and Conservation Agent

Natural Hazard Mitigation Grant Application: Millers Falls road Soil Stabilization

Ramsey: Montague DPW had initially approached my office last year to seek FEMA/MEMA funding to stabilize this failing bank near Cemetery Rd. Since then, the Town has completed a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan and this mitigation project has been engineered by Milone + Macbroom through a regional grant. The Hazard Mitigation grant application (due 11/4) has been prepared by FRCOG. Through a detailed calculation it has been determined that the benefits of doing this project prior to bank failure outweigh the costs of a post-disaster repair. For the purposes of the grant application I am requesting a letter from the Board of Selectmen to A) support the project and B) request the project's 20% municipal match (\$77,000) at the next Town Meeting
This was discussed with the Board a couple of months ago.

Allen makes the motion to approve and sign the letter to Scott MacLeod Coordinator of the Hazard Mitigation Grants of MEMA in support of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Application: Millers Falls Road Soil Stabilization request and we go to town meeting to request approval of the appropriation to cover the Towns cost on that. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye

Execute DHCED Peer-to-Peer Grant Contract

This 100% reimbursable grant from Department of Housing and Community Development will allow a pre-approved consultant to commit \$1000 worth of services to expand The Town's Municipal Geographic Information System which is being developed in the Planning and Conservation Department. Work to be done this Winter and Spring.

Allen makes the motion to sign the Peer to Peer Technical Assistance Contract with DHCD and the Town for a value of \$1,000 in order to get the Peer to Peer Technical Assistance Grant Award. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Turnpike Road Energy Park Landfill Solar PV Update

The RFP consultant Selection committee has received bids from both RFPs and is in the review process. The Town received 6 proposals to conduct master planning of the area. The committee expect to have a final recommendation to the board for next week's meeting. The Town has received 4 Solar PV proposals for the capped landfill. The system would range between 1 and 1.3 MW. The committee will evaluate responses based on technical merits, firm success rates, and the economic benefit proposed to the Town. The committee is scheduled to make a recommendation for the Nov 14 BOS meeting.

Strathmore Mill Debris Pile Cleanup – Brownfields Program Revolving Loan

This has been discussed at a previous meeting.

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Appointment: Alternate to Agriculture Commission

Allen makes the motion to appoint Anthony Reiber of 161 Meadow Road as an alternate member of the Agriculture Commission for the term ending June 30, 2013. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye

Town Administrators Report

Sign Revised MOU with FC Sheriff's Office for Dog Kennel

Allen makes the motion to rescind our vote on the MOU between the Sheriff's Office and the Town of Montague concerning the regional dog control program and we now sign the MOU by and between the Franklin County Sheriff's Office and the Town of Montague which does not include the insurance section. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye

Retirement of Police Chief

Allen makes the motion to accept with extreme regret the announcement from Chief Zukowski that he is retiring as police chief of Montague. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye

Sign Civil Service Form 13

Discussion about whether to hire one officer or two. Want to set Chief's salary first to see if anyone in house wants to take the position. This issue will be discussed further at the next meeting. Abbondanzio suggests hiring one officer for now and then once the Chiefs issue is settled, go from there.

Allen makes the motion to request from civil service a department promotional and/or open competitive exam to replace one police officer at the Step 1, Grade 5 with a salary of \$16.35/hour. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye

Allen makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:29PM. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye