

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
TUESDAY, February 21, 2012**

06

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; Chris Curtis, Greenfield Recorder, David Detmold, Montague Reporter

Approve Minutes of February 13, 2012 if available; votes may be taken

Minutes are not available at this time

Personnel Board, Schedule II Changes, votes may be taken

Set new pay range for Police Reserves

Allen makes the motion to set the pay range for Part Time Police Officers at \$14.50 - \$17.00 per hour. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously, Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Set new pay range for Part Time Dispatchers

Allen makes the motion to set the pay range for part time dispatchers to \$13.00 - \$15.00 per hour. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously, Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Additional BOS budget request for 10 hours clerical help

Abbondanzio: I believe FIC is looking for approval in concept only. The additional 10 hours of clerical help was requested because we originally thought the Town would be receiving extra state aid, but it does not appear that this will be happening. If money is available to augment staff we would be inclined to look at going through a temp agency as we did in 2005. Several departments have requested additional positions under this "ideal budget". Several positions existed in Town at one point before cuts.

J. Golrick asks about options explored to getting help without costing the town any money (i.e. Tech School, volunteers)

Allen thinks it adds a good template of looking at where we are trying to get when you look at all the positions. Boutwell does not think this will be possible.

B. Miller: Points out that when she submitted her request for the IT Position it wasn't part of the ideal budget, it was a request she has been reviewing for the past 3 years that she has been doing the work and it just so happens to have come through at the same time. I feel I am doing the work and have been doing the work for 3 years and it needs to be recognized with pay appropriately. I would rather it not be considered as part of the "ideal budget".

In general, the Board doesn't feel any of the requests are considered part of the "ideal budget"

P. Golrick thinks the function of a job should be looked at rather than the position.

The Board has made it pretty clear that the Town is not able to do this at this time.

Computer Administrators request for \$5,000 stipend

Allen likes the idea of a part time computer person even though we cannot afford it this year. In favor of \$2,000 to get it back where it was before. Fairbrother in favor of a stipend also.

Miller: When I created the IT job description I did that so the title had a proper job description that went along with it. It wasn't with the intent of hiring a part time person, I still intended on maintaining the duties of that position, I just think it should have a title and if I should leave, you really need to fill two spots. I don't necessarily think a stipend is appropriate. I just found out that people were given a stipend to do this job in the past.

Discussion about position

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Allen makes the motion to recommend a \$2,000 stipend for the portion of computer work that is being done by the Computer Administrator for the next fiscal year, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Reclassification requests, votes may be taken

Building Inspectors Secretary

Abbondanzio: I'm in the process of preparing an RFP for a Pay & Classification Study and I have gotten a lot of support from the Finance Committee to try and get that on the next special town meeting. The last time this was done was in 2001. We are looking at a special town meeting the end of March beginning of April.

J. Golrick inquires why we have to have a meeting for this when it is so costly? Allen responds that it is because of timing

Allen makes the motion to create an RFP to hire a firm to do a pay and classification study for the various departments in the Town of Montague and put the item on the next special town meeting. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye

Terry Marashlian, Artist, Riverscaping Proposal for an art installation on the façade of Strathmore Mill Building 11, votes may be taken

Marashlian: I'm the person who won the Turners Falls portion of the Riverscaping project. Concept is through art we want to tie four communities together. The river has always been a vital part of all these communities along the river. There is an underlining connection that the Connecticut River watershed is vital to living things along the river. I'm trying to bring awareness to this project. (see handout A River Runs Through It: Awareness and Unity through Art). Examples of previous projects shown. Description of how project will be installed is given. The project will be ready to be put up in May, 2012. It will be up to the Selectmen when it comes down. I will have an insurance policy that will cover for the installation and deinstallation of the project. Contract is being reviewed by Five Colleges Lawyer and will be available shortly, but needs approval of aesthetics by the Selectmen first.

J. Golrick: Asks if this is intended to enhance the building and what will it do to future lookers at the building and when will building be boarded up

Fairbrother: This will be ready to go up the end of April beginning of May. It is up to the Selectmen how long it stays up and can be reviewed at any time.

Marashlian: Cares about the project and will fix it if anything should happen to the project.

Jensen feels this is quite clever and a plausible idea, although it is installation sensitive.

Marashlian and his team will be installing it.

Ramsey: I wanted to address concerns about how this fits into the redevelopment strategy. We expect this to attract artisans from the region and internationally as Riverscaping is an international project. There will be a lot of eyes on this project and this is our way to say to creative people "Hey, this is a site we have and it's ready to go and be redeveloped and try to change the perception of the site".

P. Golrick inquires if the Airport has been contacted about this project since it is in the flight path as there may be a glare off of the building. Airport Manager will be notified

Allen makes the motion to endorse the Riverscaping Proposal by Terry Marashlian has presented for the façade of the Strathmore Mill building #11. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

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Sewer Commissioners, Robert Trombley, WPCF Superintendent, Pump Station Survey Recommendation

Trombley: Money was approved for the Pump Station Survey at two town meetings \$20,000 first time and \$10,000 second time. Have two proposals, CDM Smith \$28,000 and Hoyle Tanner \$29,965. The goal is to provide a review of the existing 8 pump stations and provide a preliminary, pre design estimate of the cost. They will look at what we have as compared to modern technology. Dollars are sensitive because of the economy. This would aid us in what potentials are. Includes only the 8 large pumps, not the smaller ones that can go by gravity.

Allen makes the motion to award the pump station survey contract to CDM Smith for \$28,000 to accomplish goals delineated by R. Trombley. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

WPCF Other

Dept of Environmental Protection, at the request of the EPA, sent us a request to assist them in completing a Clean Watersheds needs survey which is done approx. every 4 years and outlines capital needs over the next 20 year period to support clean water programs in the state. It is their intent to hire our engineer directly through funding provided by the Clean Water Abatement Trust to prepare the 2012 survey form. I would reply with CDM, money is from EPA.

Fairbrother signs documents related to closing out stag grant for CSO. This closes out the audit

Frank Abbondanzio, Town Administrators Report

Temporary Increased resident population to the A.B.C.C., votes may be taken

The Board signs the document to A.B.C.C regarding the temporary increased resident population in Montague as of July 1, 2011

Warrant for Presidential Election Primary, March 6, 2012

Allen makes the motion to sign the Warrant for the Presidential Primary of March 6, 2012 at the usual precincts for Presidential Preference, State Committee Man and Woman and Ward or Town Committee. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye.

Allen makes the motion to go into Executive Session at 8:10 PM under M.G.L. c.30A, §21 (a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to Millers Falls Pump Station Litigation; votes may be taken; and only coming out to convene the meeting. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye