

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
MONDAY, June 4, 2012**

18

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 (absent); Administrative Secretary, Wendy Bogusz; Janel Knockleby, Montague Reporter, Chris Curtis, Recorder

Boutwell announces meeting is being taped

Approve minutes of April 30, May 7 and May 22 if available

Fairbrother makes the motion to approve the minutes of April 30, 2012, seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Fairbrother makes the motion to approve the minutes of May 7, 2012 seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye

Fairbrother makes the motion to approve the minutes of May 22, 2012 seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Anna Viadero and Rosanne Martoccia, Franklin County Home Care Corporation, Request to sign a public proclamation in honor of this year's World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15th

Fairbrother makes the motion that the Board of Selectmen sign the proclamation he reads into the record about World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15, 2012. Seconded by Allen, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Viadero asks for permission to put purple ribbons on light posts between Food City and Town Hall for two days. They will also take these down

Personnel Board

Request to hire Full-time WPCF laborer – Scott Coombs

Fairbrother makes the motion to hire Scott Coombs of Colrain to the full time WPCF Laborer position at Grade 2 Step 1 at the \$13.67 per hour, 40 hours per week, starting July 2, 2012 contingent upon Mr. Coombs passing pre-employment physical. Approved unanimously. Allen- Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Request to hire Full-time Police Dispatcher – Recommendation of Police Chief

This will be taken up at the next meeting

Carolyn Olsen, Town Accountant

Approve revisions to the Capital Asset Policy

Olsen: We last revised the Capital Asset Policy in 2006 and as I was working on the policies and procedures manual for finance related departments which is what the auditors have been asking us to do for several years, I was looking at that because it is going to be part of the overall procedures manual. The current version lists 2 ½ pages of over 25 types of equipment which boil down to either DPW equipment or not DPW equipment. I thought it would be nice to consolidate down to one page.

Fairbrother makes the motion to vote to approve the approved changes to section 7 of the Capital Asset Policy, seconded by Allen approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye

Frank Abbondanzio, Town Administrator

Approve MOU with FCSWMD regarding Hauling of Recyclables; Hauling and disposal of solid waste, Bulky Wastes, scrap metal and appliances

Recycling: Waste Management, \$137 per haul, \$214 per tandem haul (\$107 per box), Admin. Fee: \$430/year flat user fee, \$3 ton. Bulky Waste: Waste Management, \$145 per haul, \$214 per tandem haul (\$107 per box), \$64 per ton, \$30 per month per roll off rental, \$25 each mattress, \$430/year flat user fee, \$3/ton. Recycling Roll off Replacement: Annual Cost \$1,383

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18

Fairbrother makes the motion to accept Attachment A, Fiscal Year 2013 Hauling and Disposal Prices of the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District memorandum of understanding to be in effect July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013 as described above. Seconded by Allen, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Alternate appointments to the FRCOG and the FRTA Boards

Allen: I am the representative to the FRCOG and the FRTA Boards and what we are finding on both boards at times is we have issues getting quorums. I would like to have somebody be the alternate to both those boards in case I can't be there, because Montague in both cases is a pretty high percentage of the vote counts.

Allen makes the motion to appoint Mark Fairbrother as the alternate representative to both the Franklin Regional Council of Governments and to the Franklin Regional Transit Authority. Seconded by Boutwell, approved. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - abstain

Montague EDIC Appointments, Linda Ackerman, 3 year term, expires 6/30/12; Lynn Reynolds, 3 year term, expires 6/30/14,

Fairbrother makes the motion to reappoint Linda Ackerman to the Montague EDIC Finance seat for a 3 year position (with 2 years remaining) and Lynn Reynolds to the Montague EDIC Real Estate seat for a 3 year position (with 2 years remaining), both terms expire June 30, 2014. Seconded by Allen, approved unanimously.

Event Application for use of Montague Center Town Common, Montague Old Home Days, August 17 – 19, 2012

Allen makes the motion to approve the request by the First Congregational Church of Montague to use the Montague Center Town Common on August 17 – 19, 2012 (set up August 4, take down no later than August 25) for the 53rd Montague Old Home Days, insurance certificate has been received, police chief has approved and the fee is to be waived. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Allen – aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Other

Allen: We've received a request from the Labor Day movie folks because the weather has not been cooperating. They are asking if they could add to their application either Monday, June 11 or Tuesday, June 12 be added as possible rain dates. They will be sure to notify us as well as Millers Pub as soon as they can commit to a date.

Allen makes the motion to add Monday, June 11 and Tuesday, June 12 to the possible rain dates for the request by the Labor Day movie folks, Josh Slates the assistant location manager. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye

Emily Monosson and North Street residents

Rebuilding of North St. Bridge (impact on traffic and parking issues)

Sign out sheet passed out

Mary Melonis, 18 North Street, The contingent behind is the majority of residents from North Street. We have polled all the residents and we've gone over all the information we've talked about and they support our conclusions. Thank you for having us and giving us the time to talk. For those of you who have not been down North Street, it is a dead end ending at the conservation area and is only 1-1/2 car widths wide, it is a very narrow street. Since we have had the conservation area rather than private property, we have seen a huge increase in the number of traffic parking and it has become rather intolerable because people are speeding down the street and parking in front of parking signs, in front of fire hydrants, on peoples lawns, many times with loose dogs. Because we have a family with young children and elderly we have come to the conclusion that something needed to be done. We have a few suggestions. First, the speeding, as far as that is concerned, maybe a 15 mph sign. The big issue is mostly for parking area, it is a safety issue, there would be no way a fire truck could get to the fire hydrant, even an ambulance could not make it down. If there was a sign at the head of the street that indicated there was no parking in the conservation area, that it was a ticket area and people should walk, and have leashes on their dogs, it would stop people from going looking for a parking space and solve the speeding problem because they wouldn't be going down there to look for parking, and that would leave the safety issues open. I'd like to thank police

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18

department who are starting to ticket cars, their presence has made a difference. Thinks the issue of forbidding parking at the end of the street would be a solution to problem. Only other question related to bridge, which I encourage building, I was told 2 parking spaces had been requested for the use of the people who want to use the conservation area which is in contrast to having no parking, the same issues will still exist. I read in the town reports the Town is taking over the maintenance of the new bridge, does this include liability as well as maintenance?

Josh Goldman: Liability is with the land owner, so the state would be responsible

Melonis: Was the fact that this bridge has been taken out twice in past 25 years, come into discussion of the Town's responsibility to pay for a new bridge?

Fairbrother: We'll cross that bridge when we come to it

Melonis: Would like new signs for conservation area put up, people don't know difference between recreation and conservation area

Monosson: We hadn't heard that it was being rebuilt until after it was already passed, that is what got people concerned. I think it's great and people should have access to this land. For years there were speed bumps which were great deterrence, biggest concern is the speed and more people coming in who don't know the neighborhood, has mixed feelings on having 2 parking spots.

Goldman: With respect to the question of it being a surprise to people, I apologize, but I'm surprised after it was in the paper 3 times, before town meeting, I was at the conservation commission meeting twice and the Selectboard; so there were opportunities to hear about the process. I also reached out to a lot of people in the community personally. This process has been underway for 4 to 5 months. With respect to parking it was in response to the concerns I heard from people on North Street informally that we didn't have a good way to deal with parking. I think it is a great idea to not have parking down there at all, as it addresses the concern in a complete way. I would like to have a sign down there that garners the communities' requests in that area (draft read)

Bergeron: At the end there are 3 or 4 no parking signs and 2 going up North Street and sign stating no parking here to end of road. Posts are painted orange, has been an issue for nine years. Road is only 14 feet wide. My plan was to pave this road this summer

General discussion about hours conservation area would be open.

Jane Stevenson: If you decide not to have parking at the end of North Street, would like to propose speed bumps

Fairbrother feels yellow speed bumps that were by park would be very effective

Bergeron: I will put the sign at the beginning of the street; will try to get it made in bright green.

Monosson: Now that the lines of communication are open it would be great to keep this going, would appreciate someone giving them a heads up.

Fairbrother: two best things that could happen down there would be putting in speed bumps and very aggressive ticketing on the street down at the end. That gets people's attention quick. Once you leave North Street you are on Fish and Wildlife property and if they choose to have parking spots there, we can't control that because it is their property.

Melonis: I was told that fish and game had to have 24 hour access. Think solution is no parking .

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18

Allen: Walter Ramsey states in his notes that Fish and Game is supportive of Mr. Goldman's proposal for additional parking provided that an emergency access lane is provided.

The request is made to Tom that old signs be removed.

Bergeron: Wont put speed bumps in until July or August after road is paved

Discussion about no on street parking, signage, loose dogs

Al Ross suggests that the issue be looked at in a couple of months to see if this is working out

Selectmen are saying to set the speed limit to 15mph

Allen makes the motion to appoint Mark Fairbrother as temporary Chair for the next two items on the agenda. Seconded by Boutwell, approved. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Boutwell goes and sits in the audience

Liquor License Hearing, Annual on Premise, §12 Restaurant, Wine and Malt, Shady Glen Inc., Charles J. Garbiel, II as Manager, 7 Avenue A, Turners Falls

Allen makes the motion to send the paper work to ABCC for the request for the Annual on Premise, §12 Restaurant Wine and Malt license at the Shady Glen, Inc., 7 Avenue A, with Charles Garbeil as Manager. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Liquor License Hearing, Annual on Premise §12 Restaurant, Wine and Malt, Black Cow Burger Bar, Pamela Tierney as Manager, 125 Avenue A, Turners Falls

Allen makes the motion to send the paper work to ABCC for the request for the Annual on Premise, §12 Restaurant Wine and Malt license at the Black Cow Burger Bar, Pamela Tierney as Manager, 125 Avenue A, Turners Falls. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Boutwell returns to the Meeting at 8:10 PM

Kara McLaughlin, Gill Montague Community School Partnership, Presentation regarding underage drinking, best practices and town policy (presentation attached)

McLaughlin: We've been around 10 years now, and focus on improving the health of the community. Several years ago we received a federal grant all about improving the health, so we monitor our youth by surveying them and figuring out what they are struggling with and what they are doing well with. We continue to have an underage drinking problem. We've received our new numbers and there is good news that our drinking rates are dropping for underage drinking. Underage drinking is usually tied to most deaths that teenagers have. We want to do our best to have responsible drinking with of age people. There is new brain science out and it's even more of a responsibility for adults to become educated on what the brain science is and how it is impacting our young people. (further details about the effects of alcohol on the brain), Not advocating for everyone to stop drinking I'd just like people to be smart and healthy about drinking. Our organization does a lot of environmental strategies, we know that the more connected kids are to school the more less likely they are to act in risky ways and to drink alcohol. We work a lot on improving school community connections, we also know that policy in a community has a big impact on the youth. The more advertising young people see, there is a drink correlation to how likely they are to drink and how much they will drink. Just signs in windows at convenience stores or any place that sells alcohol. Many communities have increased their signage laws, I know we have very vague signage laws so we're considering having a conversation about that but at this point what we are hoping is for whenever the Board of Selectmen is doing anything related to alcohol, to reference these resources so knowing that not just the alcohol advertising you would see but when alcohol is drank on the street or in a community. There is a lot of information I've given you about at community festivals. We will not have alcohol at our events because it is a family friendly event. If there

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18

is alcohol at an event, to make sure there is not large advertising or signs, and it is really roped off and people are being monitored. How visible it is, impacts how your community is seen. We're hoping you will look over these best practices and when you have something that is precedence setting you will refer to these. I'm happy to say Montague had a 100% compliance rate during our recent checks.

**Hipolito Baez, The Gill Montague Community School Partnership
Registration for Assembly, Public Demonstration, or Use of Public Property for Block Party, Avenue A
between 1st & 5th St (close 2nd and 4th St.) on August 11, 2012,**

Baez: Event about community and positive effect with the youth. Businesses will benefit and money made will go to pay for porta potties and the police details. It is a great opportunity for family friendly event. More information available at gmpartnership.org and we have a facebook page specifically for this

Fairbrother makes the motion to grant a permit for use of public property, Avenue A from First St to 5th Street and a permit for public demonstration (Block Party) at the same location to Hipolito Baez from the Gill/Montague Community School Partnership. The event will be held on August 11, 2012 from Noon to midnight. Police Chief Williams signed off on the permit request and that permit fees be waived. 2nd and Fourth Street to be closed. Contingent upon receiving proof of insurance (We will check with our new insurance company about coverage. Seconded by Allen approved unanimously. Allen - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Application to place sign, object, other display or exhibition/vigil on Public Property for Block Party, Avenue A between 1st & 5th St, 6/1/12 - 8/12/12,

Fairbrother makes the motion to approve the request to place Block Party signs on Public Property as long as they meet the size requirements. Seconded by Allen, approved unanimously. Allen - Aye, Boutwell - aye, Fairbrother - Aye

**Tyanna Normandin, 84 Project Coordinator, Partnership Youth Coordinator,
Present data collected regarding the perception of youth tobacco use and availability, also present David and Leah**

Normandin: 84 represents the 84% of Mass. youths who choose not to smoke. There is a Massachusetts wide youth movement where communities youth are fighting for a tobacco free generation. We are a local chapter and there are 84 Chapters throughout the state. We send data to Boston for them to analyze and they send it back to us. We meet at school and have about 11 students who participate. Presentation given about other tobacco products that youths are using and how they are so cheap to purchase. Collected data by surveying people around town and at school. A lot of people did not realize how cheap these tobacco products were. Feel prices should be increased and sold in packs so youth would be less likely to buy them. Asking that the Board continue to support the youth to make healthy choices.

Boutwell informs the group that the Tobacco Coalition has been in touch with the Board of Health and Montague is in the process of revising their tobacco regulations which are going to stop single sales and address a lot of these items. One thing they cannot do is control the price of what an individual sells any product for. There is going to be a public hearing on June 20th. Legal notices will be going in the paper soon.

Survey results and mission statement given to the Board for their review.

Fairbrother makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 PM. Seconded by Allen, approved unanimously. Allen - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Fairbrother - Aye