

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES  
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM  
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA  
MONDAY, August 26, 2013**

*Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons, Mark Fairbrother, Chris Boutwell, Mike Nelson; Town Administrator, Frank Abbondanzio; Administrative Secretary, Wendy Bogusz;*

Meeting being Taped

**Approve minutes of August 19, 2013**

Minutes not available at this time.

**John Wesolowski, Concerns related to the decision made by Board of Selectmen at August 19, 2013 Vicious Dog Hearing, votes may be taken**

Mr. Wesolowski (1<sup>st</sup> person bit by dog), statement read into the record by his fiancé Christine: I'd like to tell you about the incident on Winthrop Street concerning the pit bull Ulysses. I have been riding my scooter and now wheelchair on that street for 9 years. About 1-1/2 year ago Ulysses came out and circled my wheelchair but the Billiels got the dog away from me. On the day in question I was coming out of Winthrop Street and could hear something coming up behind me. I turned around and it was Ulysses, I put my foot out to prevent him from coming up on my upper body, neck and face, there was no kicking involved. At that time neither Billiel came over to me to express concern or offer an apology. I would like some reassurance that it is safe for me to continue riding on Winthrop Street; it is my opinion that I have more rights than their dog. I feel they are not in compliance with your order.

Fairbrother: We told them the dog must be restrained at all times. If you see him unrestrained let the police department know. The slate has not been wiped clean but they have been given the opportunity to do XY and Z. Until we see that they have not done that, we have to assume they are doing it.

Nelson would like Chief Dodge to have someone check on the muzzle and the non breakable leash being in possession.

The Board will keep Mr. Wesolowski updated.

**Robert Trombley, WPCF Superintendent**

**Approve State Revolving Fund (SRF) application**

*Nelson makes the motion to approve the State Revolving Fund application for 2014. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Nelson - Aye*

**Authorize WPCF to advertise for laborer position that was recently vacated**

Nelson makes the motion to authorize the Water Pollution Control Facility to advertise for the Laborer's position recently vacated. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Nelson – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye

**Sarah Doyle, Discovery Center Friends, Source to Sea Event, Request to erect signs for the Source to Sea River Clean-up in Peskeompskut Park and Montague Center Common**

*Nelson makes the motion to approve the request to erect signs for Sarah Doyle on behalf of the Northfield Mountain Source to Sea River Clean Up beginning on September 14 and ending on October 6 on Peskeompskut Park and Montague Center Common. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Nelson - Aye*

**Michael Muller (montague Community Cable, Inc.); Barbara Miller and Garry Earles (Montague Cable Advisory Committee) Discussion of options for providing cable origination capacity at Unity Park**

Cancelled

**Frank Abbondanzio, Town Administrators Report**

**Discussion of the effectiveness and value of having pre-town meetings**

Abbondanzio: This goes back many years, back in the 1980's they were well attended; over the years attendance of the pre-town meetings fell off and in recent years we mostly only have department heads attending them.

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Ms. Golrick offered to send out post cards announcing the Pre town meeting and feels it saves time with the regular meeting on the floor.

Fairbrother would just as soon have a pre town meeting if for no other reason than the Millers Falls/Industrial Boulevard situation because we will be asking for a significant chunk of change. Letting it all get hashed out on Town Meeting floor will make for a long meeting.

Meeting to be set up for September 10<sup>th</sup> in the upstairs meeting room.

**Appoint Judith Lorei to Cemetery Commission**

*Nelson makes the motion to appoint Judith Lorei to the Cemetery Commission effective immediately through June 30, 2014. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Nelson - Aye*

**Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds for 2013 Town of Montague Housing Rehabilitation Program, Community Development Block Grant**

Abbondanzio: Housing Authority is issuing a Notice of Intent to request a release of funds for 2013 Town of Montague Housing Rehabilitation Program through the Community Development Block Grant. This will be posted in the Greenfield Recorder on August 23, 2013, deadline for comments is Tuesday, September 3, 2013. Anything that involves Federal money has to go through the environmental impact assessment and as a result there is a statutory checklist that is designated and generally the Housing Rehab programs don't have any problems meeting the requirements on that checklist.

**Reminder of Special Joint Meeting with Erving Selectmen on August 27, 2013 in Erving at 6:30 PM**

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**Topics not anticipated covered in the 48 hour posting requirement**

Abbondanzio: There are changes being proposed by the FRTA that would result in service particularly the line going down to UMASS through Turners Falls and Montague Center. I have received a lot of calls on that. What is being proposed doesn't do the Town of Montague any justice at all. That line has been around a long time and a lot of people depend on it. Now they are going to be required to go to Greenfield, then to South Deerfield through the PVRTA to Amherst. It will take a long time and several transfers. Jeff Singleton suggested there be a tie in with a PVRTA line over in Sunderland and the line continue to come through Turners Falls and Montague Center instead of going directly to Amherst go down 47 over to tie in with PVRTA in Sunderland. That would save time and money. People came forward at the hearing to protest reduction of the line as well as people called.

Fairbrother is Montague's representative and was not happy that he was not notified of the hearing. There will be more hearings coming up

Brief discussion about possible routes

-Ms. Golrick asks for Wage and Classification information prior to Town Meeting. Some information may be released prior to the Pre-Town Meeting. Will be looked into

*Boutwell makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:03PM. Seconded by Nelson, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Nelson – Aye.*