

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
Monday, March 13, 2017**

Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons Chris Boutwell, Michael Nelson, Rich Kuklewicz, Town Administrator Steven Ellis, and Executive Assistant Wendy Bogusz. Kuklewicz makes introduction and announces meeting is being taped.

Approve Selectmen minutes of February 27th and March 6th, 2017

- *Nelson makes the motion to accept the minutes of February 27, 2017 as presented. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.*
- *Nelson makes the motion to accept the minutes of March 6th, 2017 as presented. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.*

Public Comment Period: Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Board of Selectmen will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment

None

Personnel Board, Tom Bergeron, WPCF Supervisor

Nelson makes the motion to appoint David R. Adams, DPW Truck Driver/Laborer, UE Grade B, Step 1, \$16.53/hour, 40 hrs/week, effective March 27, 2017 pending a positive medical screening and a negative drug screening. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.

Town Administrator's Report

Execute letter to Town Clerk notifying her to place nonbinding question on 5/15/17 Annual Town Election

Ellis read out loud the letter advising the Turners Falls High School to retain the Indian logo, but alter the image to be more consistent with indigenous cultures in our region, as well as advising the Gill-Montague School District implement this change in conjunction with the expansion of its curriculum to include Native American history and culture collaborating the tribes and Indian organizations in the region. Two corrections may need to be made.

Nelson makes a motion to authorize the Chair to send the letter as presented and to submit it to the Town Clerk. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.

Execute letter to Richard Suchanek thanking him for service

Nelson makes a motion to send the letter to Richard Suchanek thanking him for 28 years of service. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.

Authorization to give away paper at the Strathmore Mill

Nelson makes the motion to authorize the Building Inspector to work with any adult individual, non-profit, governmental or business entity that would like to salvage paper from Strathmore. Arrangements are subject to the availability of the Building Inspector, and either proof of liability insurance or signing of a waiver of liability to enter the premises to remove the paper under his supervision. This authorization does not guarantee anyone access to the paper or to unlimited quantities of paper. This authorization is to expire upon signing of a contract to begin boarding in the mill complex. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.

David Jensen will be arranging times for people to pick up paper.

Smoke Alarm Battery Reminder

Ellis reminds people to change batteries in their smoke detectors. Also, the Turners Falls Fire Department has a limited number of detectors available. Anyone interested may contact Captain Kyle Cogswell, 413-863-9023 or kmcogs31@gmail.com.

Ariel Elan

Berkshire Gas DPU Case Update

Elan: Montague filed what they consider a moratorium case in the Berkshire Gas's forecast and supply case for their whole system. We are in there to get the moratorium ended as simply, cheaply, and quickly as possible. We have two expert witnesses that we were enabled to hire, and both filed testimony on the deadline day. One of the expert witnesses studied all of what are called demand side solutions, that are ways that you address the need that created the moratorium at times of peak demand, which is when the gas company got four times as much demand on their system as an average day. That pipeline in the eastern division gets crowded and they say they can't get enough through it. So on the demand side, if you lose energy efficiency and system

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management techniques, conservation for your customers, you increase that and then you need less. So you're doing more with every bit of gas that you have in this system. You're actually functionally doing more with it for all your customers, at least all the ones that participate. There are also some central office location type efficiencies that we didn't know about, but our expert witness found out about. On the other side of the equation, if they do still need to add more supply, we have the gas expert, John Rosencrantz, who did Montague's testimony in a previous case when the pipeline was up as a proposal. He once again found many smaller, cheaper, quicker ways that they can modify their infrastructure than what the company so far in this proceeding has proposed to do. The next step in terms of the legal process is that Berkshire is going to do discovery on our testimony. They're going to ask deeper questions where they're challenging some of the findings. Then on April 4th and 5th, there are in-person hearings, in which there will be direct examination by DPU staff of any witness that has presented testimony, there will be cross-examination of the witnesses by each other, cross-examination of Berkshire's testimony by our attorney, and cross-examination of our witnesses on the stand by Berkshire Gas. No one in the audience gets to say anything, but it is publicly open for coming and observing. After that, the attorney will prepare the brief based on everything that has been said and investigated, and on the way of preparing the brief, he'll be meeting with the Board in Executive Session about the strategy, about the strongest recommendations that we can put forward to Berkshire Gas for how they really need to adopt our recommendations.

Topics not anticipated in the 48 hour posting requirements

- Town Hall will be closed on Tuesday, March 14, due to the snowstorm.
- Ellis reported that of part two of the three-part series on in-depth procurement training will have him out on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Executive Session under G.L. c30A, Section 21 (a)(3) to discuss potential litigation, regarding Penta Corporation, Votes may be taken

Nelson makes the motion to enter Executive Session under G.L. c30A, Section 21 (a)(3) to discuss potential litigation regarding Penta Corporation. Votes may be taken. We will be leaving Executive Session only to adjourn the regular meeting. Boutwell seconded. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz -Aye.

The Chair determines that having such discussion in open session would be detrimental to the Town's position.

List of Documents and Exhibits:

- Personnel Status Change form to appoint David Adams
- Letter to Town Clerk regarding nonbinding question
- Letter thanking Richard Suchanek for 28 years of service