

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
MONDAY, September 17, 2018**

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

Approve Selectboard Minutes of August 27, 2018 and September 10, 2018

- *Nelson makes the motion to approve the minutes of August 27, 2018 with changes. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*
- Minutes for September 10, 2018 will be approved next week.

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

Bergeron gives updates on the green bridge over the canal:

- Mass DOT will do as many repairs underneath as they can this week; the bridge will be closed during that time.
- The deck is not built yet, but hopefully will be sometime in mid-October. Until then Ellis has asked them to put some black top down to make ramps on both sides.

Suzanne LoManto, Cultural Coordinator

Joining the Shea Theater Board/Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Nelson makes the motion to approve the participation of Suzanne LoManto on the Shea Theater Board as a non-voting member. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Richie Richardson, FAB

Use of Public Property, Fashion Show at Peskeompskut Park on October 13, previously scheduled for September 15, 2018

This event will not be happening at the park this year, but will still be held at the church.

Personnel Board

Appoint Cody Reynold, Airport Grounds Maintenance, 10 hours per week, \$11.00/hour, effective September 10, 2018

Nelson makes the motion to appoint Cody Reynold, Airport Grounds Maintenance, 10 hours per week, \$11.00/hour, effective September 10, 2018. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz-Aye

Appoint Jacob Dlugosz, Police Permanent Intermittent Reserve Officer, Non Union, 8 hours/week, \$17.00/hour effective 9/18/18

Nelson makes the motion to appoint Jacob Dlugosz as a Police Permanent Intermittent Reserve Officer, which is a Non Union position, 8 hours/week at \$17.00/hour, effective 9/18/18. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz-Aye

Appoint John Ollari, Police Permanent Intermittent Reserve Officer, Non Union, 8 hours/week, \$17.00/hour effective 9/19/18

Nelson makes the motion to appoint John Ollari as a Police Permanent Intermittent Reserve Officer, which is a Non Union position, 8 hours/week at \$17.00/hour effective 9/19/18. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz-Aye

Bruce Hunter, FCRHRHA

Approval of Proposal for modifications to existing bid ready plans and specifications FY17 CDBG: Rutter's Park Improvement Project - Phase 1, \$3,100

Nelson makes the motion to approve the Proposal for modifications to the existing bid ready plans and specifications FY17 CDBG regarding Rutter's Park Improvement Project - Phase 1 in the amount of \$3,100. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz-Aye

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Execute FY2018 Community Development Fund Response to Special Conditions letter

Nelson makes the motion to authorize the Chair to sign the letter to Mark Southard of DHCD regarding the FY2018 Community Development Fund Response to Special Conditions letter. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz-Aye

Joseph Coll, Millers Falls Rod & Gun Club and Brian Westbrook, RPM fest

Discussion regarding recent RPM fest held at the MF Rod & Gun Club

- Nelson recuses himself as he has personal and financial commitments with the Westbrook family.
- The RPM is a heavy music festival held at the Rod & Gun Club.
- There were five complaints regarding the noise and many on facebook. All establishments should be treated the same
- Coll states that they followed the guidelines regarding having the music off by the correct times, and they received no complaints. They purposely aimed the sound toward the south, and they had decibel meters which indicated they were within the bounds.
- There were officers on detail on Friday and Saturday.
- Westbrook states he has plans for next year to reduce the sound level.

Chris Williams, Acting Police Chief and Tom Bergeron, DPW Superintendent

- **Complaint received regarding Greenfield Cross Road intersecting Greenfield Road and Hatchery Road**
 - Bergeron received a letter regarding an incident that resulted in road rage at the Greenfield Cross Road intersection.
 - Williams states incidents like this are common in that area.
 - Williams and Bergeron are in favor of the road being closed for safety reasons.
 - Ramsey states that in the past, closing the road was an act of the Selectmen. It should be posted that the road is not being maintained by the Town. To formally abandon a road is an act of Town Meeting.
 - Bergeron explains that the road had not been abandoned before because there is a sewer line under the road.
 - Bergeron suggests that the road be closed from the second resident's property to Hatchery Road.
 - Ramsey recommends posting it as a bicycle and pedestrian route.
 - *Nelson makes the motion to authorize the DPW to close but not abandon Greenfield Cross Road as discussed at the earliest convenience of the DPW. Boutwell seconded, approved. Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz-Aye, Nelson - Abstain*
- **Complaint received regarding Montague Center traffic**
 - For the last six to eight months, residents have expressed concern regarding a dangerous sidewalk.
 - Singleton states that it is the homeowners' job to consistently clean the sidewalks during the winter. Kuklewicz suggests that perhaps the residents may want to work together to try to keep the sidewalk clear.
 - There have been requests for stop signs on Main Street, which would be a problem for truckers.
 - Residents have requested that reflective posts or cones be put up. Bergeron feels that they would be wiped out by the trucks. He asks for patience while the Town works on a solution to this issue. He will look for signs that may help, and will look into getting a more permanent speed limit sign.

Authorize signing of Cannabis Control Commission notices relative to 253 Organic LLC recreational marijuana license applications

Nelson makes the motion to authorize the Chair to sign the three notices from the Cannabis Control Commission relative to 253 Organic LLC recreational marijuana license applications. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Richard Hubbard, Executive Director of Franklin Land Trust

Authorize the Conservation Commission to hold a Conservation Restriction through the MA Scenic Byways Program for agricultural land owned by Elaine and Janice Kachavos at 80 Sunderland Road. The area is approximately 17 acres and is identified as Assessors Map 51 Lot 52

Nelson makes the motion to authorize the Conservation Commission to hold a Conservation Restriction through the MA Scenic Byways Program for the agricultural land owned by Elaine and Janice Kachavos at 80 Sunderland

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Road, which is approximately 17 acres and is identified as Assessors Map 51 Lot 52. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Walter Ramsey, Town Planner

• **DCR Tree Grant Update**

- The grant was awarded to Greenfield, Montague, and North Adams; it will provide 800 trees over the course of three to five years.
- There was a kick-off meeting last week with Franklin Land Trust, Greenfield, the Tree Warden, and the Tree Committees from both towns.
- The FRCOG will be hired to do a tree planting plan over the winter.
- For trees planted in private yards, the Town will be responsible for maintaining them for the first year, after which the homeowners will be responsible.
- This is a federal program so there will be good record-keeping. Signed permission forms will be on file.
- We are coordinating with the Franklin County Tech School, which has recently started a tree nursery, to see how the two programs can fit together and supplement each other.

• **Review Kearsarge Phase II design**

- Phase I is complete and solar array is partially operating; we are waiting for Eversource to give us the go-ahead to turn on the rest of the solar array. It has been generating energy since June.
- Everett Tatelbaum from Kearsarge Energy reviews Phase II, including an overview of the burn dump cap and solar project, the design and benefits to the Town, approvals and permitting, a proposed modification, construction and completion, and the next steps.
- Permitting will start next month and construction will be in Spring 2019.
- *Nelson makes the motion (1) to give permission to submit a revised site plan to the Planning Board as well as any permits that are required by the Montague Conservation Commission, (2) to authorize submission of post-closure use to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, and (3) to direct the Town Administrator and relevant Town staff to negotiate the ground lease agreement. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*

• **Proposed Projects for Complete Streets Implementation Grant Application**

- The approved Prioritization Plan has been submitted to the State for their review. If the State reviews and approves the plan in three weeks, we will be able to apply for the Complete Streets Implementation Plan Grant, which is due on October 1st.
- There were about 30 proposed projects. After taking public feedback and working with various Town departments, we were able to identify the top five priorities: Montague Center sidewalks, safer routes to school, intersection at the top of the hill by Scotty's, bicycle safety on the main roads, and the speed of traffic off the Gill-Montague Bridge
- Ramsey reviews the plan to address the priorities (Main Street Pedestrian Improvements, improvements to the Unity/High/Millers Falls Road Area, additions to the Avenue A Crosswalk at First Street, and accommodations for bicycles from the Gill-Montague Bridge to the General Pierce Bridge).
- Ramsey reviews projects that are not being currently addressed, but hopefully will be in future rounds (Canal District Area, a sidewalk gap in Montague Street, traffic signals at A/3rd and A/7th, sidewalk on First Street, and 30 other smaller projects).
- The total grant application is \$397,400; the required Town Commitment for Design is approximately \$40,000.
- *Nelson makes the motion to authorize the Town Planner to submit the application and authorize the Chair to sign the necessary documents. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*

• **Berkshire Gas Moratorium Update**

- Two weeks ago representatives from Berkshire Gas met with Ramsey and Ellis and informed them that the moratorium is going to continue indefinitely. They had looked at two technically feasible alternatives that would provide natural gas (a new distribution line that would tap into the main pipeline and new liquefied natural gas facility), but neither are financially feasible. They also explored several smaller measures, but concluded that they were not enough to lift the moratorium.

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- Kuklewicz expressed that he has some reservations on the validity of some of their comments and would like to invite people from Berkshire Gas who may have some different perspectives to come and have more of a discussion.
- Elan expressed concerns about "inconsistencies" with Berkshire Gas.

Jeff Singleton

Discussion Regarding Upcoming FRTA Board Meeting

- Regarding Sandy Lane project, they are not getting as much money as they thought they were getting. Singleton will let them know that Ramsey needs an update.
- Regarding the FY19 State budget, regional transit authorities are being allocated \$88 million; \$2 million is being allocated to RTAs that are running a deficit and \$4 million is going to a special fund. A special committee is going to be appointed to try to figure out what to do with the special fund. A group called the Transportation Advisory Committee (made up of riders and other interested advocates) will try to urge them to spend some of that \$4 million to insure that all regional transit authorities have some minimal level of weekend service.
- Singleton would like to meet with Kuklewicz and Ellis regarding a complaint that was received.
- Regarding Tina Cote's letter and her comments about funding, Singleton states that he has a proposal that would be revenue-neutral.

Town Meeting Warrant - To review draft warrant, attached hereto, and to make recommendations on all items in the warrant; votes may be taken

- Kuklewicz read aloud the Articles.
- The Selectboard will go over the warrant in more detail next week.

Town Administrator's Business

Topics not anticipated in 48 hour posting

Issuance of Injunction/Southworth building

A note was received through Fire Chief Zellman that no one from Southworth attended the preliminary hearing on Friday. Nelson reads aloud the injunction, which gives specific orders to make the building safer within seven days.

Nelson makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 PM. Boutwell seconded, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Documents and Exhibits:

- Appointment: Cody Reynold, Airport Grounds Maintenance, 10 hours per week, \$11.00/hour, effective September 10, 2018
- Appointment: Jacob Dlugosz, Police Permanent Intermittent Reserve Officer, Non Union, 8 hours/week, \$17.00/hour effective 9/18/18
- Appointment: John Ollari, Police Permanent Intermittent Reserve Officer, Non Union, 8 hours/week, \$17.00/hour effective 9/19/18
- Proposal for modifications to existing bid ready plans and specifications FY17 CDBG: Rutter's Park Improvement Project – Phase 1, \$3,100
- FY2018 Community Development Fund Response to Special Conditions letter
- Complaint received regarding Greenfield Cross Road intersecting Greenfield Road and Hatchery Road
- Complaint received regarding Montague Center traffic

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- DCR Tree Grant Update
- Review Kearsarge Phase II design
- Proposed Projects for Complete Streets Implementation Grant Application
- Berkshire Gas Moratorium Update
- Upcoming FRTA Board Meeting
- Town Meeting Warrant – To review draft warrant