

**SELECTBOARD AND BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
MONDAY, April 13, 2020**

Remote Zoom Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons Rich Kuklewicz, Chris Boutwell, and Michael Nelson, Town Administrator Steven Ellis, Executive Assistant Wendy Bogusz, Acting Director of Public Health Gina McNeely, Board of Health Chair Al Cummings, Town Planner Walter Ramsey, and Parks & Recreational Director Jon Dobosz

Meeting Being Taped

Votes May Be Taken

Chairs open the meeting, including announcing that the meeting is being recorded and roll call taken.

Approve Selectboard and Board of Health Minutes of April 6, 2020 if available

Nelson makes the motion to approve the Selectboard Minutes of April 6, 2020. Seconded by Boutwell, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Nelson makes the motion to approve the Board of Health Minutes of April 6, 2020. Seconded by Boutwell, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Cummings - 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

Jen Audley asked about the reasoning behind releasing COVID19 Numbers, Discussion was held (Meeting did not start being taped until 7:20 PM)

Update on Town responses to COVID-19

- **Town of Department and Operational Updates**
- **Board of Health Updates**
 - McNeely reports that we do not have any methods for broad testing thus far.
- **Operational Updates/Capital Projects**
 - **DPW Construction.** The Carpenters Union has taken all of its people off all jobs throughout the State. The project will likely be backed up for several weeks. Ellis met with the OPM, the architect, and the own of the construction firm to discuss how to amend the flow of work to try to reduce the delay in construction. This may present some budget costs.
 - **Unity Park Field House.** The roof is complete and we're very happy with the result. Ellis believes the insulation should be relocated, which would fit into the existing appropriation.
 - **Strathmore Abatement Project.** Our Legal Counsel stands by our assertion that this is an "essential" project., so this project will be proceeding.
 - **Complete Streets Construction Project.** The bump-outs on Avenue A have been added. Pouring concrete for the sidewalks will be done when the weather improves. The work in Montague Center is similarly proceeding.
- **Update and response to new State level orders or guidance**

Use of Peskeompskut Park - Entertainment Event, Movies in the Park - Add July 31st, 4:30 PM to 10:30 PM to the current scheduled dates (June 26, July 17, August 14, 2020, with rain date: August 21, 2020)

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Use of Peskeompskut Park - Entertainment Event, Movies in the Park - Add July 31st, 4:30 PM to 10:30 PM to the current scheduled dates (June 26, July 17, August 14, 2020, with rain date: August 21, 2020). Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved.

Board of Health Adjournment

Nelson makes the motion for the Board of Health to adjourn at 7:30 PM. Seconded by Boutwell, approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Cummings - Aye

Chelsea Little, WPCF Superintendent, Kevin Boissonnault, WPCF Chief Operator

Execute Revised GAP 2 Grant agreement with MA Department of Environmental Protection for the "Fine Bubble Diffuser and Blower Replacement Project"

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Boutwell makes the motion to execute and authorize the Chair to sign the Revised GAP 2 Grant agreement with MA Department of Environmental Protection for the "Fine Bubble Diffuser and Blower Replacement Project."
Seconded by Boutwell, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Special and Annual Town Meeting scheduled for June 13, 2020

• **Re-open Special and Annual Town Meeting Warrants through May 6, 2020**

*Nelson makes the motion to re-open the Special and Annual Town Meeting Warrants through May 6, 2020.
Seconded by Boutwell, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*

• **Consider proposed Act to Authorize "Remote" Town Meeting**

- Ellis, the Town Clerk, and the Town Moderator discussed the possibility of having a remote Town Meeting option available to us. Both the Town Clerk and the Town Moderator believe we should be supportive of this type of legislature.
- Nelson supports this as a very last resort.
- Boutwell feels that if we do this, we would need to divide Town Meeting into multiple days.
- Kuklewicz would like Ellis to ask our legislators to proceed, but there are a lot of logistics that would need to be worked out. He suggests paring down the articles to focus on just the essential Town business necessary for the Town to function.
- The Selectboard members agree that they are in favor of Ellis moving forward as a conversation with our legislative delegates.

Town Administrator's Report

• **Execute Agreement with Air Quality Experts, Inc., for Strathmore Mill Asbestos and Hazardous Materials Abatement & Stack Demolition, not to exceed \$450,000**

Nelson makes the motion to execute the Agreement with Air Quality Experts, Inc., for Strathmore Mill Asbestos and Hazardous Materials Abatement & Stack Demolition, not to exceed \$450,000; and to authorize the Chair to sign the necessary documents. Seconded by Boutwell, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

• **Update on Burn Dump Cap and Solar Field Project/Consider lease and pilot agreement with Kearsarge, LLC for Burn Dump Solar Array (if available)**

Boutwell makes the motion to approve and sign the lease with Kearsarge Montague BD, LLC for installation of a solar energy generating system on the so-called burn dump portion of the Montague Landfill site, being a portion of the property shown on Montague Assessors' Maps as Parcel 21-0-006, in the form presented at this meeting; and to authorize the Town Administrator to approve the form of the performance bond to be provided by Kearsarge in connection with the construction of the cap on the burn dump required for installation of the system and as directed by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

• **Capital Project Updates**

See "Update on Town responses to COVID-19"

• **Topics not anticipated in 48 hour posting/Closure of skate park and playgrounds**

Nelson makes the motion to extend the playground closure and skate park closure for an additional two weeks and to review it again at the April 27th Selectboard meeting. Seconded by Boutwell, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

*Boutwell makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 PM. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved.
Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*