

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM  
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA  
MONDAY, February 11, 2019**

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

**Approve Minutes of January 28 and February 4, 2019 if available**

*Nelson makes the motion to approve the Minutes of January 28 and February 4, 2019. Seconded by Boutwell, 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

**Jon Dobosz**

**Night Sledding at Unity Park, February 16, 2018**

Dobosz announces the Night Sledding Event on Saturday, February 16 from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. The hill will be illuminated with light towers, there will be a campfire, and refreshments will be available.

**Personnel Board**

**Discussion and anticipated vote regarding whether to commence the process to change health insurance benefits under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 32B, Section 21-23**

Ellis reiterates that the Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust voted to make changes to the healthcare plan that our employees have an opportunity to participate in.

*Nelson makes the motion for the Town of Montague, through its Selectboard in accordance with 801 CMR 52.02(1), to commence the process to change health insurance benefits under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 32B, sections 21-23. Seconded by Boutwell, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*

**Tom Bergeron, DPW Superintendent**

**Discussion regarding 3rd Party Transfer Station Inspection Report and Corrective Action Form**

- Bergeron reports that we are purchasing a port-a-potty for the Transfer Station attendant.
- We have the correct signage, which will be paid for by the account for recycling.
- *Nelson makes the motion to authorize the Chair of the Selectboard to sign the Corrective Action Form. Kuklewicz seconded, approved. Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Boutwell - recuse*

**Green Bridge Update (5th Street)**

Bergeron states that last week's schedule included welding, fitting, and spacing. This week concrete will be poured. After a seven-day cure, the bridge will be opened up.

**General Pierce Bridge**

- The Fire Department has to put in for special permits to cross the bridge.
- Bergeron only allows his pick-ups to cross the bridge for cleaning purposes.
- Bergeron will ask Chief Williams if there's anything that can be done about enforcing the weight limits.

**Discussion of GMRSD Efficiency and Regionalization Grant Study Findings**

Discussion:

- Ellis reports that he and Kuklewicz attended a meeting last Tuesday regarding the Gill Montague Efficiency and Regionalization Grant Study.
- Ellis states that there was a strong level of interest expressed in forming a larger district/region.
- Kuklewicz feels that combining the two school districts, Pioneer and Gill-Montague, is not the way it would happen; rather, the communities/towns would work together to form a new district.
- Kuklewicz: Things cannot stay the same because we are already spending 50% of our taxable income on keeping the school districts afloat. We need to give our youngsters the education they deserve. If we can form a larger group of people, that would give us a larger pool and more resources, which would enable us to restore programs that would benefit the district and the students.

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**Town Administrator Business**

**Turners Falls Power Canal Service Outage, 10/7/19 - 10/12/19**

Ellis gives notice that the annual Turners Falls Power Canal Service outage is scheduled for 10/7 - 10/12/19.

**Topics not anticipated in 48 hour posting**

**Grant for Millers Falls Town Center**

Ellis states that the Town has been awarded a Downtown Initiative Technical Assistance Program grant for \$15,000 for consulting services to assist the Town with an economically cultural revitalization strategy for Millers Falls Town Center.

**Executive Sessions:**

**Anticipated Executive Session in accordance with G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3), to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining (NEPBA), votes may be taken**

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The Chair states that holding these in open session would be detrimental to the Town's position.

*Nelson makes the motion to go into Executive Sessions as the Chair just read; we will leave both Executive Sessions to adjourn the regular meeting. Seconded by Boutwell. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*

**NOTE**

- Just a reminder that the look of tax bills will be changing over time this year. Don't hesitate to call the Tax Collector's Office with any questions.
- There will be a Special Town Meeting next week on Tuesday, February 19 at 6:30 PM at the Turners Falls High School.
- The next regularly scheduled Selectmen's Meeting will be held on Monday, February 25, 2019 at the Montague Town Hall, 1 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA

**Documents and Exhibits:**