

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM  
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA  
MONDAY, January 6, 2020**

Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons Chris Boutwell and Michael Nelson, and Town Administrator Steven Ellis.

Call to Order: Vice Chair announces that the meeting is being recorded by MCTV and asks if anyone else is recording the meeting

**Approve Selectboard Minutes of 12-16-2019**

*Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Selectboard Minutes of 12-16-2019. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - 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

**Chris Williams, Police Chief**

**Execute USDA grant to supplement 55% of purchase price of new cruiser**

*Boutwell makes the motion to authorize Steven Ellis, Town Administrator, to sign the USDA grant to supplement 55% of the purchase price of a new cruiser. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye*

**Charles Berg & Steven Grayhm, Mulholland Productions, Inc.**

**Use of Public Property, 127 Avenue A and 4th Street, January 8, 2020, 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

- *Boutwell makes the motion to approve the request of Charles Berg & Steven Grayhm, Mulholland Productions, Inc. for the Use of Public Property, 127 Avenue A and 4th Street, January 8, 2020, 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye*
- *Boutwell makes the motion to amend the prior motion to also add January 12, 2020 from 4:00 to 10:00 PM for additional filming. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye*

**Cassandra Holden, Laudable Productions**

**Entertainment Permit: "Barbes in the Woods" Festival at 27 Center St., Montague Center on August 8, 2020, 1:00 PM to 11:00 PM**

- Laudable Productions presents detailed plans for parking and safety.
- Members of the audience give feedback on several topics:
  - access to the roads in the event of emergencies
  - varying opinions on the noise level
  - concern about people walking through private property
  - trash and composting
  - appreciation of discounted tickets to Montague residents
- A neighborhood email list has been created to encourage better communication.
- The Shea Theater is involved in a dialogue regarding ways to participate in the event.
- Concerns were expressed regarding the time to end the event; several people would like it to end at 10 PM instead of 11.
- Approximately 1300 people attended last year. Holden suggests capping the ticket sales to somewhere between 3,000 to 4,000.
- The Board approves the holding of the event on August 8, 2020. A provisional permit is not given at this point as other details need to be worked out.
- Another meeting with Laudable Productions is scheduled for February 3rd.

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**Town Administrator's Report**

- **Execute MOU with MassHistoric for the 5th Street Pedestrian Bridge replacement**  
*Boutwell makes the motion to authorize the Acting Chair to sign the MOU with MassHistoric for the 5th Street Pedestrian Bridge replacement. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye*
- **Execute Amended Grant Agreement with the MA Office of Housing and Economic Development**  
*Boutwell makes the motion to execute the Amended Grant Agreement with the MA Office of Housing and Economic Development. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye*
- **Winter Special Town Meeting**  
Ellis informs the Board of the consideration of a Winter Special Town Meeting. Preliminary date is February 26. Potential items include establishing stabilization funds for cannabis impact and cannabis retail sales fees, a proposal to modernize the personnel bylaws, rescinding the borrowing authority that was set aside for the WPCF solar array, and looking carefully at the budgets.
- **Expected public information session relative to the General Pierce Bridge Rehabilitation**  
The General Pierce Bridge is in its design phase currently and construction on the bridge will begin in the near future. DOT wishes to have a public information session. Ellis is working with the school district to confirm holding the session on February 4th at 6:30 PM at the high school.
- **Southworth Update**  
The building is now formally owned by Tom Cusano. The Town has received the checks for all of the lien bills, which total approximately \$475,000.
- **Topics not anticipated in 48 hour posting**
  - **Supplement to Chapter 90 funding.** The Town will receive a supplemental amount of \$48,928 from the State to our original FY20 Chapter 90 funding.
  - **Bonding.** Standard and Poor's has reaffirmed the Town's AA rating, which is important to our ability to bond this time and in the future.
  - **WPCF Superintendent.** The individual who was going to be appointed as the new WPCF Superintendent has opted to remain in his present position in another community. The Search Committee will be developing a set of next steps to identify a new candidate.

*Boutwell makes the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye*

**Documents and Exhibits:**

- Execute USDA grant to supplement 55% of purchase price of new cruiser
- Charles Berg & Steven Grayhm, Mulholland Productions, Inc.; Use of Public Property, 127 Avenue A and 4<sup>th</sup> Street, January 8, 2020, 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- Cassandra Holden, Laudable Productions, Entertainment Permit: "Barbes in the Woods" Festival at 27 Center St., Montague Center on August 8, 2020, 1:00 PM to 11:00 PM
- MOU with MassHistoric for the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Pedestrian Bridge replacement
- Amended Grant Agreement with the MA Office of Housing and Economic Development
- Expected public information session relative to the General Pierce Bridge Rehabilitation