

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
MONDAY, March 2, 2020**

Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons Chris Boutwell and Rich Kuklewicz, Town Administrator Steven Ellis, and Executive Assistant Wendy Bogusz.

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

Approve Selectboard Minutes of February 24, 2020 if available

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Selectboard Minutes of February 24, 2020 as presented. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. 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

St. Stanislaus B & M Society, 6 K Street, Turners Falls

Change of Manager and Change of Officers for Annual On Premise, Section 12, All Alcoholic Beverages Liquor License

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Change of Manager and Change of Officers for Annual On Premise, Section 12, All Alcoholic Beverages Liquor License. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.

Chris Williams, Police Chief

- **MOU between the GMRSD, Montague Police Department and Town of Montague relating to providing a Comfort Dog Team for the GMRSD**

Kuklewicz makes the motion to approve the MOU between the GMRSD, Montague Police Department and Town of Montague relating to providing a Comfort Dog Team for the GMRSD. Seconded by Boutwell, unanimously approved. Kuklewicz - Aye, Boutwell - Aye

- **Request to set up account for donations for care and training of Comfort Dog**

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the request to set up AN account for donations for care and training of the Comfort Dog. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.

- **Other/Update on Vandalism on Avenue A**

Kuklewicz states that the Board does not tolerate vandalism. Williams reports that officers are working diligently to solve the case of who the person was that caused the vandalism around town this past weekend.

John Zellmann, Turners Falls Fire Chief

Emergency Medical Dispatching

- A study was done several years ago regarding our dispatch situation. Zellman proposes going to Shelburne Control to help coordinate us as a department in the county. He also suggests that the Town have EMD services done through Shelburne Control. This should take several minutes off the response time.
- Zellman asks for a letter from the Board to be sent to the State Police, stating that the Chief has brought this issue to their attention. Then there is programming that needs to happen.
- Zellman states that Pat Pickering has no issue with Shelburne Falls EMD-ing our calls and feels that this is in the best interest of everybody. Ellis would like a formal note from Pickering confirming that there won't be a contractual conflict before we send the letter to the State Police.
- *Kuklewicz makes a motion that upon receipt of confirming information from AMR that there is no contractual conflict, that we support the change that Chief Zellman presented, and authorize the Town Administrator to write the letter of endorsement. Seconded by Boutwell, unanimously approved. Kuklewicz - Aye, Boutwell - Aye*

Personnel Board

Appoint David Brule to Montague Historical Commission until June 20, 2023

Boutwell makes the motion to appoint David Brule to the Montague Historical Commission until June 20, 2023. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye.

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Montague Bogusz, Executive Montague

Event Application: Use of Peskeompskut Park, Montague Public Libraries, Puppet Show, July 31, 2020, 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Event Application: Use of Peskeompskut Park, Montague Public Libraries, Puppet Show, July 31, 2020, 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Town Administrator's Report

• **WPCF Superintendent Search Update**

Ellis reports that the Search Committee expects to have a candidate for the Board's consideration next Monday.

• **Proposed revision of STM Article 7 relative to oil tank and vault removal from \$76,000 to \$136,000**

Boutwell makes the motion to authorize the proposed revision of STM Article 7 relative to oil tank and vault removal from \$76,000 to \$136,000. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

• **Update on General Pierce Bridge Plans**

Ellis states that we received feedback from both DOT commentary at last Tuesday's Transportation Planning Organization Meeting and at a subsequent meeting last Thursday which was attended by public safety officials, law enforcement and fire, and DOT agents:

- There are no plans on the part of DOT to be responsive to our requests for attention to be made to the area above the bridge deck.
- Restoration will involve fully replacing the deck, substantially replacing the undergirdings below it, replacing the railings, and replacing the pedestrian sidewalk.
- The Town of Montague and the City of Greenfield requested that any currently unplanned to-be-spent funds that were in that Capital Improvement Program project be used for restoration of the upper girders. We were told that it is considered to be a non-starter because it offers no material return of investment to DOT. They will make certain that the bridge is on replacement schedules.
- DOT did a very comprehensive inspection and they are confident that the upper portions of the bridge will remain safe through the expected life of this project.
- Final plans are still being worked on and things may be changed.
- DOT is still expecting to let this project out for bidding in mid-to-late March.

• **Other Projects**

- DOT is seriously considering an incentive for early completion, and are working to accelerate the work on the intersection improvements on the Route 2 side of the Turners Falls-Gill Bridge. They are considering installation of something that would have some traffic-calming effect coming into the Turners Falls Village. They are working to implement a number of different measures as planned preemption to allow public safety to get over the Turners Falls-Gill Bridge.
- We are hoping that the Crosswalk Project will be done by the beginning of the summer. We are expecting bids to come in on Wednesday. If there is a shortfall, we have a plan to apply for Chapter 90 money.
- A critical time in the life cycle of the project involving placement of the pedestrian bridge from Canal Road to Canal Street is going to be the week of September 14 when the Power Canal is drained. There could be some potential for traffic conflicts. That project is in the process of going out to bid.
- DOT will be installing speed signs on the G/M Bridge warning drivers to decrease their speed.

• **Topics not anticipated in 48 hour posting/GSB Event**

- Greenfield Savings Bank is inviting the Board to a 10th anniversary event at 2:00 PM at their Turners Falls building.
- *Boutwell makes the motion authorizing the Town Administrator to write a letter congratulating Greenfield Savings Bank on their 10-year anniversary. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*

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*Boutwell makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved.
Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye*

Documents and Exhibits:

- Selectboard Minutes of February 24, 2020
- St. Stanislaus B & M Society, 6 K Street, Turners Falls, Change of Manager and Change of Officers for Annual On Premise, Section 12, All Alcoholic Beverages Liquor License
- MOU between the GMRSD, Montague Police Department and Town of Montague relating to providing a Comfort Dog Team for the GMRSD
- Request to set up account for donations for care and training of Comfort Dog
- Appoint David Brule to Montague Historical Commission until June 30, 2023
- Event Application: Use of Peskeompskut Park, Montague Public Libraries, Puppet Show, July 31, 2020, 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM
- Proposed revision of STM Article 7 relative to oil tank and vault removal from \$75,000 to \$136,000