

SELECTBOARD AND BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Due to COVID-19 Public Participation is by Zoom

January 25, 2021

Remote Zoom Meeting was opened at 6:30 PM. Present were Selectpersons Rich Kuklewicz, Michael Nelson, and Chris Boutwell, Town Administrator Steve Ellis, Executive Assistant Wendy Bogusz, Board of Health Chair Al Cummings (joined a few minutes later), Director of Public Health Daniel Wasiuk, DPW Superintendent Tom Bergeron, Fire Chief John Zellman, Town Planner Walter Ramsey, and Airport Manager Bryan Camden.

Link to Zoom Meeting: <https://vimeo.com/504867807>

Selectboard Chair opens the meeting, including announcing that the meeting is being recorded and roll call taken.

Board of Health Vice-Chair opens the meeting, roll call taken.

Approve Minutes:

Joint Selectboard and Board of Health: January 19, 2021

- *Boutwell makes the motion for the Selectboard to approve the Joint Selectboard and Board of Health Minutes: January 19, 2021. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*
- *Boutwell makes the motion for the Board of Health to approve the Joint Selectboard and Board of Health Minutes: January 19, 2021. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye*

Public Comment Period: Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Selectboard will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment

None

Pole Location Hearing

Eversource is requesting 2 new poles along Unity St. and Broadview Heights to reduce excessive span distances for line upgrade and voltage conversation. Poles will be located along existing 3-phase line underneath the existing wire

- *Boutwell makes the motion to approve Eversource's request for 2 new poles along Unity St. and Broadview Heights to reduce excessive span distances for line upgrade and voltage conversation. Poles will be located along existing 3-phase line underneath the existing wire. Seconded by Nelson.*
- *Boutwell withdraws his motion. Seconded by Nelson.*
- The Selectboard decides they will not approve any new poles until the old ones are cleaned up. Discussion is deferred until the next hearing.
- *Boutwell makes the motion to continue the hearing on the requested pole locations until the meeting of February 8. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*

COVID-19 Updates and Action Items

- **Review of any Updated State Guidance or Orders**
 - The 25% capacity on most businesses remains in effect through February 8.
 - Effective Monday, January 25, the existing early closing order will be rescinded.
 - The stay-at-home advisory between the hours of 10 PM and 5 AM is withdrawn.
 - There is an expansion to vaccine access for eligible residents in the Phase 1 category effective immediately.
 - There are updates to the Phase 2 category, which Wasiuk is still clarifying.

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- Ellis encourages people to follow the science, not necessarily what is posted on the internet. There is a link on the Town website for information from the State.
- Discussion ensued regarding giving some of the vaccinations that we are allocated to the City of Greenfield and some in our own town.
- Chief Zellman summarizes the plan with regard to moving the vaccination sites depending on how many vaccines we receive, keeping in mind that we are limited in staff which would necessitate partnering up with the county.
- It is important to note that all information is constantly evolving; several meetings are taking place daily as new information arrives.
- **Update on Montague COVID case counts and other summary data**
 - Active cases from January 10 - January 23rd equals 21. Cumulative cases from October 1, 2020 - January 23, 2021 totals 161. Total positive cases from March 1, 2020 - January 23, 2021 is 190. There has been one death since December 15 related to COVID-19.
 - Montague remains in the yellow status.

Boutwell makes the motion adjourn the Board of Health. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Cummings - Aye

Tom Bergeron, DPW Superintendent Compost Container at DPW

Boutwell makes the motion to authorize the DPW Superintendent to begin a compost container at the transfer station on a trial basis. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Nelson temporarily logs off due to technical difficulties

Event Application: Use of Peskeompskut Park, Vicky Citron, Musica Franklin, recurring 1st Tuesday of Month, 2/21/21 - 6/1/21 (or until schools reopen) 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Use of Peskeompskut Park, Vicky Citron, Musica Franklin, recurring 1st Tuesday of Month, 2/21/21 - 6/1/21 (or until schools reopen) 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved. Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Personnel Board

● **Library Trustee:**

Appoint: Lydia levins, Vacant seat, until next election 5/18/21

Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Lydia levins as a Library Trustee, Vacant seat, until next election 5/18/21. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved. Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

● **Conservation Commission:**

○ **Resignation: Alex Peterkin - Full Member, term end 6/30/21**

Boutwell makes the motion to accept with regret the resignation of Alex Peterkin from the Conservation Commission. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved. Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

○ **Resignation: Addie Rose Holland - Associate Member, term end 6/30/21**

Boutwell makes the motion to accept with regret the resignation of Addie Rose Holland from the Conservation Commission. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved. Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

The Selectboard agrees to send Addie Holland a note of thanks from the Commission and on behalf of the Selectboard.

○ **Appoint: Anthony Reiber (to replace Alex Peterkin), term end 6/30/21**

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Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Anthony Reiber to replace Alex Peterkin to fill the unexpired term until 6/30/21 on the Conservation Commission. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved. Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

- **Appoint: Tobias Carter (to replace Addie Holland) term end 6/30/21**

Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Tobias Carter to replace Addie Holland to fill the unexpired term until 6/30/21 on the Conservation Commission. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

- **MEDIC:**

- **Appoint: James Mussoni, Vacant at large seat, term end 6/30/22**

Boutwell makes the motion to appoint James Mussoni to the Vacant at large seat, term end 6/30/22. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Consider executing Real Estate Agreement with John P. Anctil regarding the sale of 25 Sixth Street (former St. Anne's Rectory) for purchase price at \$25,000 in accordance with the proposal that was awarded 9/23/2019

Boutwell makes the motion to execute the Real Estate Agreement with John P. Anctil regarding the sale of 25 Sixth Street (former St. Anne's Rectory) for purchase price at \$25,000 in accordance with the proposal that was awarded 9/23/2019. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Ryan Ward and Adam Adamopoulous, Hydroflower, LLC

Proposal for Cannabis cultivation at 36 Canal Street, Turners Falls

Boutwell makes the motion to enter into discussions leading to a host community agreement with Hydroflower, LLC for the property at 36 Canal Street, with the Selectboard Chair working with the Town Administrator and the Town Planner on this arrangement. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Town Administrator's Report

- **Cares Spending Reconciliation**

- Our available balance is approximately \$211,000, but we are still waiting for receipts and invoices for expenses in 2020 (approximately \$10,000).
- We have filed for a \$15,000 FEMA reimbursement which has not yet been processed.
- We are hoping that there is another \$10,000 FEMA reimbursement from August and September.

- **MMA Report and State Budget Update**

- The Governor is anticipating an unrestricted general government aid increase this year of 3.5%. (We are projecting significant decreases in that budget line).
- The Governor is putting \$200 million for Chapter 90.
- The Governor is going to fully fund the Student Opportunity Act commitments that were made last year.

- **STM Update**

- The preliminary contract figure with Options Technology, Inc. is approximately \$6,000.
- The Selectboard members agree that the Town Administrator and the Town Moderator should keep the process moving and to bring back the results next week.

- **Debrief on Airport Outreach Meetings**

- Kuklewicz reports that there was a good representation of interested people at both meetings. He feels that Camden did an excellent job on keeping people informed.
- Camden states that there is another meeting on February 13 dedicated toward the financials.

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Upcoming Meetings: Selectboard Meeting, **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2021, 6:30 PM** via
Zoom

*Boutwell makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM. Seconded by Nelson,
unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*