

January 7, 2014

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On the above date the Board of Selectmen held a Workshop meeting at Town Hall at 6:00 PM. Chairman Duval presided, present were Michael Ouellette, Arthur Harrington, Richard Blanchard, Joseph Nowak and Jonathan Butler, Town Administrator.

Chairman Duval called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

A motion made by Member Harrington, seconded by Member Ouellette to suspend the rules to allow voting during the meeting – Unanimous motion passed.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

A motion made by Member Harrington, seconded by Member Ouellette to approve the ratification of Lynette Bond to the position of Program and Grants Coordinator – Unanimous motion passed.

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION

Open forum for Members of Town boards and Committees: Chairman Duval informed Board Members that were in attendance when they speak to the Board it is as a resident and cannot represent their respected Boards. Michael Mach requested the Board to review certain bylaws that are in need of updating or clarification. The writing of certain bylaws is vague and should have more detail for the board to follow. He is also concerned with a bylaw for medical marijuana and would like a bylaw in place before a permit for one comes before the Zoning Board of Appeals. Member Harrington asked if he could be more specific in the concerns regarding the medical marijuana, Mr. Mach stated that it is illegal on the Federal level and he feels this puts the local boards in a situation that is not clear for them to make decisions, would like a clear bylaw for them to follow. Peter West spoke on his concerns with changes needed to update certain lot size, frontage issues, signage and cluster zones. Chairman Duval requested from Mr. West to write out specific changes needed for the Board of Selectmen to bring forward to the Planning Board. Sandra Moderski stated that the Planning Board really has no idea if there is a problem with Zoning, she hopes the finger is not being pointed at the Planning Board for doing anything wrong, Chairman Duval commented; no, this meeting is for discussion of ideas on how to do things better. She is wondering if there is a way they could have better communication wither that is filtered through the Selectmen or Community Development. They would be happy to review Zoning issues, they are simply not aware of them. She also asked about the Agricultural Commission in Adams, Member Blanchard commented that there is a lack of interest and if anyone is interested in serving to please contact Town Hall.

James Loughman, a trustee for the Adams Free Library came before the Board to answer any questions the Board might have of him. He informed the Board that they will be having an efficiency study done by the Massachusetts Library Commissioners to see how to most effectively use manpower. The Library will also be participating in a bus tour, local western Massachusetts groups, and also groups from New York and Pennsylvania, the library will be one

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of six sites on the tour. Member Nowak thanked Mr. Loughman and the Library staff for what they do, also he would like to place a suggestion box at the Library and needs the Board of Trustees to approve, Mr. Loughman will make sure that comes up to the Board. He also thanked them for serving the Community, you do a great job.

James Fassell from the Parks Commission asked the Board of Selectmen to clear the air and attend a Parks Commission Meeting he feels they are going in all different directions. He believes if you want power you have to earn it, some people feel they are entitled to it first. He would like a representative from the Selectmen to attend and talk to the Parks Commission, tell them what they can and cannot do. Member Ouellette asked if the Board had a set of rules or a mission statement they must follow, Mr. Fassell stated, yes they are to advise the Board of Selectmen; they don't have any other function. "The Board of Selectmen are the boss and he wants one of them to attend a meeting and tell them that." Chairman Duval commented that he will attend one of the meetings per Mr. Fassell request. Chairman Duval also requested a Member from the Parks Commission attend a meeting of the Selectmen regarding the FY2015 Budget. This will help to address any issues or concerns with the parks as to what is needed when putting the budget together.

At 7:13 PM Member Blanchard left the meeting.

All Board Members thanked each representative who attended the meeting tonight this was a very productive meeting, communication is key to better results.

With no further business to transact a motion made by Member Harrington, seconded by Member Ouellette to adjourn at 7:17 PM – Unanimous motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted
Recording Secretary
Melissa Schaffrick

