

Board of Selectmen Meeting

June 18, 2014

On the Above date the Board of Selectmen held a meeting at Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. Chairman Harrington presided, and present were members **Arthur Harrington**, **Joseph Nowak**, **Richard Blanchard**, **John Duval**, and **Jeffrey Snoonian**. **Also in attendance was Town Administrator Jonathan Butler**, and **Town Counsel**, **Edmund R**. **St. John III**.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Harrington.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Reading of the minutes:

Town Administrator Butler advised there were no minutes this week.

Request by Chairman Harrington to move the requests for the Permit to Place Sign on a Public Way (Hanging Sign and Sandwich Board Sign) to after Citizen's Conference

Request by Chairman Harrington to add to the agenda a Grant of Easement for 8 Park Street for Massachusetts Electric Company to put in a transformer

Motion by Member Snoonian to move the Requests for Permit to Place Signs on a Public Way to after Citizen's Conference Second by Member Duval Unanimous vote Motion passed

Motion by Member Snoonian to add the additional agenda item of the Grant of Easement Request to the Mausert Block by Massachusetts Electric Company to be placed under New Business on the Agenda Second by Member Blanchard Unanimous vote Motion passed

Citizen's Conference:

Mill Children Exhibit

Gail Colis Sellers shared information about a gallery to be named 5 Hoosac Street Gallery, to be opening soon, featuring an exhibit of photographs on the subject of child labor and specifically mill labor by children. The gallery will feature Art Historians, Painters,



Historical Education, and Art. Also to be featured are 30 photographs featuring Martin Luther King Jr. which come from the National Library of Congress in Washington. Teachers are interested in bringing children. The hope is to get funding to keep it active, to be open until at least December.

Town Administrator Search Committee

Jeff Lefebvre inquired when the Town Administrator Search Committee would be chosen.

Chairman Harrington advised it would be discussed later on in the Agenda.

Park Street Project

Jeff Lefebvre inquired about the Park Street Bids being over budget again this year, and if so will there be a Public Hearing for additional funding?

Town Administrator Butler advised there will be updates on the Park Street Bids later on in the meeting.

Commercial Street Project

Jeff Lefebvre inquired if the Board of Selectmen would meet with the Contractor or someone from the Fire District regarding the roads being in poor condition, causing cars to bottom out from large holes left after the last storm. He advised he had not brought it to the Fire District Prudential Committee yet, but had spoken with Mr. Kleiner when the work first started and advised him of the poor road conditions then. He said he was bringing it to the Board of Selectmen because they said at the last meeting they had control over the roads and could shut it down if they didn't get better.

Town Administrator Butler and Member Snoonian advised it would be in the best interest of the general public if this issue was brought to the Fire District Prudential Committee as they are the Project Manager of the work being done. The Town's legal authority is limited to shutting the project down, which would delay the project. It is advised that the Department that is administering the project be contacted so it can be addressed successfully and as soon as possible.

Jeff Lefebvre said he will go talk with Mr. Kleiner again. He said he didn't want to shut the project down because the system is 106 years old and it is time for a change.



DPW Director Interviews

Jeff Lefebvre commended the Board of Selectmen on the interviews (for the DPW Director), and said they went very smoothly. He felt the Board of Selectmen did a good job.

Prohibition of Wild Bird Feeding Bylaw

Jim Daunais inquired what the process was to enact a bylaw in town to prohibit the year round feeding of birds. He stated it had already been done in Northampton, according to the Department of Fish and Wildlife's biologist, because birds are not eating the vital natural wild foods they need to get this time of year due to wild bird feeding.

Chairman Harrington referred to Attorney St. John regarding clarification on whether a request to change a bylaw would need to be brought to Town Meeting.

Attorney St. John advised if it is done at the Town level a bylaw has to be enacted that has to go through Town Meeting. Some areas have had special legislation done, by going through the Town Meeting and having that legislation presented to the House and Senate for enactment. He said there are a couple of approaches, both of which involve the Town Meeting. The first step would be to write down what he proposes to create in a bylaw and if it is to go through the Town and it would need at least ten registered voters to put it on the next annual Town Meeting. It is too late to do it for this one.

Jim Daunais said he would connect with this Biologist she would give him the information from Northampton on how to get a good ordinance that would perhaps get through.

Facility Use Request

Corinne Case asked to have the *National Night Out* Event on August 5th at Renfrew Field and Visitor's Center and submitted a facility request application that needed to be completed. She said she was there to answer questions about the *National Night Out* Event, and submitted a paper application to the Board of Selectmen.

Town Administrator Butler advised that this Facility Request was not on the Agenda for this evening's meeting, however since the date is August 5th it could be put on the next Board of Selectmen's Meeting Agenda. He advised that the application has to be reviewed by the Police Chief and the Building Commissioner for an event on Town property, and then the Board of Selectmen can approve it.



Corinne Case said she just hoped to have it again and enlist all of the community to be part of crime and substance abuse prevention in our community.

Old Business:

Town Administrator Search Committee Update

Chairman Harrington advises at a workshop meeting a couple weeks ago the Board of Selectmen put out a notice looking for people to be on the search committee, and have received notice of several interested people but there are not yet enough people interested to fill the minimum quota of a seven member committee. The Board of Selectmen will continue to accept letters of interest for another week until they get two or three more so there will be a full committee. Discussion will ensue next Wednesday in the scheduled Workshop Meeting. He reminded the general public if they are interested in serving on the Search Committee to send in a letter with a brief explanation of why they are interested so the Board of Selectmen can review it and make the decision. He said it is critical that the Search Committee is started as soon as possible.

Approvals:

Application for Permit to Place Sign on a Public Way (Hanging Sign) by Bayless Holdings, LLC for 5 Hoosac Street, for the Mill Children Exhibit.

Application for Permit to Place Sign on a Public Way (Sandwich Board Sign) by Bayless Holdings, LLC for 5 Hoosac Street, for the Mill Children Exhibit.

Building Commissioner Don Fitzgerald advised the Board of Selectmen by letter that there is an existing bracket there that exceeds 5 feet, and has an 11 foot clearance, whereas the requirement is 10 feet, so the sign meets requirements.

Gail Colis Sellers advised there are lights that could be put on the sign but the majority of the exhibit will take place between noon and 6pm, so no lighting should be necessary and she understood if she wanted to include lighting she would need to get additional approval. Her desire is that the gallery would be owned by a conglomerate of the Town of Adams and would be free and open at all times for education purposes, and that it would have displays and meetings there, and it would be a permanent location, with staff and tours, with different exhibits, possibly an artist space, and someday a coffee shop. Currently it is being rented, needs to get the occupancy permit, and there is work to do. Gail said she hoped local docents and volunteers would be available to engage people as this topic is politically



charged, and also give more historical information about the cotton mills and about McKinley and the cotton fields.

Motion to Approve both Permits to Place Sign on a Public Way for Bayless Holdings, LLC at 5 Hoosac Street by Member Blanchard Second by Member Duval Unanimous vote Motion passed

Old Business:

Memorial Building

Building Status

The Workshop Meeting scheduled to discuss the Memorial Building was canceled because most of the Select Board Members had not seen the preliminary report that had come in on the building. The preliminary report had several versions due to questions and concerns addressed by the Town that were addressed in updated versions, and has been going back and forth for approximately six months. Clear steps need to be taken before the Board of Selectmen will be ready to make decisions on the next steps for this structure, facility, and its use. Arrow Street is the consultant doing the study, and have hired an engineering firm to look at it structurally. The report indicated the heating system is bad, and the roof is currently getting done with the money available. Tenants are ready to occupy the building once it is cleared for occupancy, but more steps need to be taken before that point. The project is moving forward as the Town Administrator was instructed to do months ago, and he is looking into different options, and got a grant to do the roof, which was the first step because there are leaks all over the building which will be taken care of.

Member Nowak said he disagreed with the Chairman's assessment that there were things in the report that the Board of Selectmen already knew, because there were things he didn't know. He feels the Board of Selectmen should come to a conclusion regarding the project because this project has been on the Board of Selectmen's table for a long time. He said regardless of who wants to do anything in this building and it is going to be an enormous amount of money, and he doesn't think it is very important to know how exactly how much money it will cost. He said the cost might scare people away, but he feels strongly that the Board of Selectmen need to have a frank discussion to move on this project.

The Current Plan

Going forward, Town Administrator Butler and Community Development Director, Donna Cesan, the primary people working on this project, will have a conference call will Arrow Street to address the questions, and the next steps. There are two interested tenants and



perhaps a third, depending on the assessment of what can be done with the building and sharing of space thereof. He agreed with Member Nowak that decisions need to be made, however the information from the study would be vital to have before making those decisions. Mass Development is paying for this study; the Town is working with Mass Development, Arrow Street and the Engineering Firm that worked on this and the Town owes it to the Administration to see it through. Though not everyone on the current Board of Selectmen was on the Board at the time the decision was made to go forward with it, until the final report with additional information is received the project should be seen through and not changed mid-stream.

The Town of Adams is a small town of 9,000 people and has a Community Development Staff of two people and the Town Administrator, which are the total number of staff to handle projects ranging from *The Glen* to the *Rail Trail Extension*, to *Downtown Redevelopment*, to *The Train*, to the *Memorial Re-use*, etc. Due to this, everything is done in an incremental fashion. This particular project is extremely complicated, and there will not be an overnight ability to get the cost of reusing the building, identifying the stakeholders, and ultimately what the Town's role is. In less than ten months Community Development and the Town Administrator have gotten a grant for \$650,000 secured to replace the entire roof, entered into a relationship with Mass Development who have done a \$50,000 interactive study. The proper time for decisions to be made is when all of the information is in, when the stakeholders have been able to present their case, and in the interim the Town is not at a disadvantage right now. There is a temporary heating system in the building that is very cost effective, to prevent any further deterioration. It is going to have a new roof on it, and the overhead costs to maintain that building right now are negligible. Rushing into a decision will likely fail and then there will be a giant vacant building in the downtown. Patience sometimes with certain projects is the key. A realistic time frame for the final report would be when the Town is finished having dialogue with Arrow Street and when the Town Administrator, Donna Cesan, and Lynette Bond decide they are satisfied with the draft they have or whether more work can be done within the grant guidelines. It may be able to be wrapped up in three weeks, or 2 months.

Tenants

Member Nowak stated it was time to get together with the people that are interested in going into the school, the Youth Center and the gentleman that wants to use the cafeteria setting, listen to them and hear what their plans are.

Member Snoonian said there are two separate issues and he was willing to talk to the Youth Center separately in a meeting, he was interested in meeting prospective tenants to inquire if they have a plan to move in when the building is habitable.



There are two obstacles that need to be addressed before occupancy is possible in the building. The building needed a new roof and a heating system solution. The existing heating system is not an option as it would be wasting money to try to restore the system, and to try to repair 50 year old boilers with a one-zone ancient heating oil system. The Town got the roof done, and identified a feasibility grant where the Town can potentially get a pretty substantial sum of money to begin that. The quicker the Town moves, the more it is going to cost the tax payers. The more patience the Town has, the more grant money will be identified, and the more stakeholders will be willing to invest.

Structural Analysis of the Building

Member Nowak expressed concern regarding the Town already developing the building by putting a new roof on it without knowing if the building is structurally sound. There are concerns in the study that the metal framing may have problems, and they weren't able to assess it. A new roof will keep it from leaking, but what if the Town finds that this building is not sound, and a lot more (work) has to be done? The study indicated if the building is not sound it will cost an enormous amount of money to make it structurally sound again, as well as expressing concern over the way that it was built, being an old-time veneer building that has no expansion joints.

At the time of the study the money was not available to do a full structural analysis, but money was available to put the roof on the building, which was the obvious thing to do. If the Town didn't get a new roof put on the building this year or next, the building wasn't salvageable. There was water starting to deteriorate all of the floors and walls, creating erosion, warping of the floors, and the building was at a point where there wasn't going to be an option to evaluate it if the Town didn't put a roof on it. The State was eager to work with them so the Town took advantage of the opportunity to use a state grant to replace the roof, making a responsible decision to use available funds that the Town, the stakeholders and the State had a vested interest in investing so that the Town could go through a thorough process and do due diligence.

Youth Center and Community Center

A future agenda discussion will take place about the Youth Center and the Community Center, about getting an RFP and getting rid of that facility. There isn't an alternative space for the Youth Center, as they are either in the Memorial School or they are at the Community Center. If the Board makes the decision to move forward with the Community Center, the Youth Center will be without a home and the Board of Selectmen would need to give them a time frame ultimatum to either be in Memorial or to purchase or lease property elsewhere. That conversation is contingent upon this process with Memorial Building. There is not currently enough information in hand to figure out a solution, and it is a delicate situation. If the Youth Center is paying bills now, they can pay bills at a rental space too and the Town can get the Community Center sold and on the tax roles.



Roundabout Project

Approval Request for Verizon Pole Relocation in the Roundabout.

A public hearing was held two months ago and the Board expressed concern about the location of the pole in the roundabout and what a hazard it might be for somebody hitting it. This request is being revisited; the pole is still proposed to be in the same place, and Verizon is asking for approval on this and sign the papers saying this is where the Town approves the pole location. There were questions that Select Board Members had which were forwarded to DOT and the Town's engineer and they gave a thorough, detailed analysis which was shared with all the Selectmen two months ago. This project is reaching a deadline on funding, it needs to be advertised in August and the State is looking to get this authorized by the Board of Selectmen so they can move forward. Verizon should have informed the Board of Selectmen that they have to do a motion for a formal vote to accept the proposed pole relocation that Verizon provided and that is why it is on the agenda again.

Liability Concern

Board of Selectmen could approve this request on condition, with concern to liability.

Attorney St. John advises it sounds like this is a pole in a potentially hazardous area and suggests as a condition to the approval of the pole relocation on Verizon's agreement they could put in wording to indemnify the Town for any claims or losses made against the Town itself as a result of the relocation of the pole, because of its unique relocation. Though there are poles that are located or relocated along the sides of every road in the state and the country, this is different because it is located within the middle of a roundabout. This means that Verizon would provide the Town with a simple one- paragraph document saying they will indemnify the town for the relocation of the pole in the event there are any claims made against the Town for any damages or loss as a result of the pole relocation.

The approval is a technical part of the process and is in the regulation that the municipality has to permit the proposed relocation of the plan by accepting the proposed plan. The Town has extended the time frame on this project with concern about the underground utilities and also about the pole relocation and it is not to the Town's benefit to push back again. It is a state and federally funded project and it is something that is several years in the making and it is at a critical point where it needs to move forward. The pole is on the island behind the curbs, East of the center line. The last sketch submitted showed it wasn't on the apron. It wasn't exactly in the middle of the roundabout, but it was in the middle portion of the roundabout. When you look at the Mass DOT sketch it showed that the island is not in the middle. The island is actually oblong and it leans toward the Renfrew Street. Asking for the indemnification would cause a delay of a month or 6 weeks and would cause



the Town to lose the ability to get this advertised, putting the Town in a spot like a year and a half ago where funding was lost. It is not likely that Verizon would write an indemnification of the Town, and asking for it will get into a quagmire of delaying the project further. Mass DOT's patience is not strong and it is not advisable to delay longer.

Member Harrington asked for the restatement of the motion as it stands: Motion to Approved the pole location with Attorney St. John's recommendations of the Indemnification of the Town of Adams of any liability from losses or claims due to the location of the placement of the pole in the roundabout.

Motion to Approve the Verizon Pole Relocation Request by Member Duval Second by Member Snoonian

Member Duval clarified that his motion was to approve the Verizon Pole Relocation Request with Attorney St. John's recommendations. He stated he didn't want to hold up the whole process but if Town Counsel requests that we make a request to Verizon as a Board he felt it needed to be done to protect the Town. He acknowledged Verizon will probably not indemnify the town anyway, but a request to do so can be made.

Member Snoonian and **Town Administrator Butler** discussed how Verizon is moving two other poles and we are not asking for indemnification for those, and the only reason the Town is exposed on those is because they are acquiring property, taking easements, and making Article 97 moves for the project. The Town owns the property, but has (liability) exposure everywhere.

Chairman Harrington and Town Administrator Butler discussed that the drawing on the request submitted was the exact same sketch that was brought to that first meeting, dated February 24th, but that Mass DOT later sent a more detailed version of the actual engineering documents. There is no distance on part of the sketch; it has distance between the three poles of 20', at the center line at Renfrew Street, but there's no distance off the center line at Columbia Street where that pole is. There was agreement that there is liability all over. What was submitted for this approval is literally the sketch for the sake of the public hearing, the actual engineering diagram provided by Mass DOT is the design of the physical location of it, and that is what is going to be used to when they do the construction. Chairman Harrington stated he would like it specified in the approval that the project is referenced back to the Mass DOT engineering diagram.

Member Snoonian withdrew his second, as he does not second the motion with the indemnification.

Second by Member Blanchard Members Duval and Blanchard in Favor, Members Harrington, Nowak, and Snoonian Opposed Motion failed



Member Snoonian, Chairman Harrington, and Member Duval clarified that the vote was to approve it with the indemnification, but the indemnification would not hold up this project, if Verizon did not provide it.

Motion to Approve the Verizon Pole Relocation Request by Member Nowak Second by Member Snoonian Members Duval, Nowak, Blanchard, Snoonian In favor; Chairman Harrington Opposed Motion passed

Approval document signed by Select Board Members at the conclusion of the meeting.

New Business

Easement Discussion

Attorney St. John advised the easement is a follow-up to vote at Town Meeting in March to allow MA Electric, or National Grid to place cables, conduits, and transformers to cross Town property in order to access the Mausert Building across the street. He advised he put the document together between MA Electric and the property owner and would like the Board of Selectmen to execute it tonight. It contains stock language with regard to easements, and tracks and conforms to the vote of the Town Meeting.

Motion to approve the Easement by Member Blanchard Second by Member Snoonian Unanimous vote Motion passed

Board of Selectmen Meeting Schedule for July and August

Regular Board of Selectmen Meetings

Chairman Harrington asked the Board Members for July and August in particular to keep the Chairman, Town Administrator, or Administrative Assistant apprised of vacation schedules and to advise as soon as possible if they cannot attend the regularly scheduled meeting so there can be confirmation that there will be a quorum, which would be three or more Members. The meetings can be moved off the 1st and 3rd Wednesday if necessary in order to have a full Board, depending on what is on the Agenda, and especially if Policy decisions are being made since there are a number of critical things coming up.

Chairman Harrington invoked Executive Privilege, unless an emergency will not have workshops on $2^{\rm nd}$ and $4^{\rm th}$ Wednesday of the month, and if something comes up that has to be addressed, a special meeting of the Board will be called.



Member Nowak stated when he was voted in as a Selectman he told the Community Members that he would give it his all. He said there are a lot of things that have to be closed up and he was opposed to suspending Workshop Meetings in July and August. He felt the Board of Selectmen has plenty to do and talk about.

Cemetery Commission Board Status Update

Town Administrator Butler advised the Cemetery Commission met last week but he was informed today that when they met last week they actually made a vote to appoint a new member, which would then have to be considered by the Board of Selectmen. Though it was his understanding from the meeting last week was that Cemetery Commission was going to work with the Board to schedule a joint meeting with the two Boards taking a vote on appointing a member for the interim timeframe, they actually took a vote at that meeting. It is up to the Board of Selectmen as to whether they wish to act on that wait. Ultimately, it would be desirable to have a report to provide you from the Commission but nothing came from them in writing. The understanding from the Clerk is that it is a Joint Appointment from the two boards or each Board takes a vote that must be consistent with one another, which would satisfy the Clerk. They already voted, and there is apparently a singular candidate, so the recommendation is that the Board of Selectmen mirror the vote.

Chairman Harrington and Member Blanchard discussed the urgency for the Cemetery Commission to have this resolved, and that they have issues waiting for a full board in order to vote on for decision.

Member Duval made a motion to add the appointment of the Cemetery Commissioner to the Agenda.
Second by Member Blanchard
Unanimous vote
Motion passed

Town Administrator Butler revealed the voted in candidate of the Cemetery Commission is Bruce Shepley, and Adams Resident.

Motion by Member Duval to appoint Mr. Shepley to fill the current seat on the Cemetery Commission for the remainder of the year.
Second by Member Snoonian.
Unanimous Vote
Motion passed



Administrator's Report

Annual Town Meeting

Town Administrator Butler: Annual Town Meeting is tomorrow night, 7pm at Plunkett School. Please be present if you can. Town Departments and Staff will be present. We are already fielding questions from different Town Meeting members and the general public about the different articles.

Special Thank You

Thank You to Mike Powers, a resident of Adams. Mr. Powers reached out to the Town, and had been working as a DJ and had a relatively new 42" plasma television monitor that he was using for that service which he donated to the Town. It is in very good condition and comes with all the internet hookups so it can be used for presentations, or linked to a laptop. We put it at the Visitor's Center, and he was kind enough to deliver it himself. Our Tourism Director Sam Talora and our Council on Aging Director Erica Girgenti have many ideas for what to do with this new monitor. I just wanted to thank him for his generosity and for thinking of the Town first.

Collective Bargaining

The Town is actively trying to wrap up negotiations with both the Clerical Union and the Police Unit. There will be an Executive Session tonight to discuss the status of one of the bargaining processes, but both are going very well. One is a little ahead of the other, but hopefully both of them will be wrapped up and in a position for final approval in that final meeting in July.

New Hires

Interviews are completed for the Clerk's Office and Pat Wol is retiring from the Clerk's Office after many years; thanks to her for her service to the Town. She has been a helping hand and a friendly face in Town Hall for many years. It will be sad to see her go but we wish her the best in her decision to retire. We are in a position to fill that position very soon. Early next week interviews will take place with Kelly Rice for a position in the Treasurer's Office, and there is a strong possibility of having a candidate for ratification at that July 2^{nd} Select Board meeting for both positions. We are getting back to full staffing.



Park Street Bids

Park Street Bids came in with 2 bids again; they were the same two vendors from two months ago. The bids are again over the operating budget for this project. There are a fair amount of Chapter 90 funds available from both last fiscal year and the current fiscal year with additional funds coming in. Tighe and Bond vetted the bids; they are the engineer and clerk of the works for the project, and we got some feedback from them. Generally we don't go under contract until a week or two after everything is received and vetted. What we are working on right now is whether or not there is the possibility of us using other existing funds and maybe some additional Chapter 90 funds to make this work. We do not want to prolong this project into another construction season. It would put the Town in a position where it could affect our ability to apply for Community Development Block Grant Funds next year, and we don't want to delay this any longer for the Park Street merchants and residents, since they have already been inconvenienced. There is no specific recommendation tonight, but we expect to have one by Monday of next week. We are doing some combining of ideas between Accounting, Community Development and Town Administrator's Office to collaborate on how we can bridge this gap with the budget without having to go back to Town Meeting. We do have a handful of existing funds, we do have Chapter 90, and a couple of other ideas of how we can make it work. Within the next week we will have a determination as to whether or not we can, and we will inform the Board.

Public Works Department

Appointment of DPW Director

Chairman Harrington updated that there was a DPW Director Search Committee consisting of himself, Jonathan Butler, Mary Beverly our Town Accountant, and Donna Cesan the Community Development Director. The Search Committee was referred a number of candidates, and agreed to send three to the Board of Selectmen for their interviews. The Board of Selectmen met on Friday and Monday of last week to interview the three well qualified candidates, and this Board has not deliberated at all about any of the candidates other than to ask questions of the candidates individually. There were never two candidates in the room at the same time, and we have not met since then or discussed any of the candidates or their qualifications. The three candidates that were considered are Mr. David Nuvallie, who is currently a Town Employee and the Cemetery and Parks Superintendent; Mr. Matthew Billetter, who is a professional engineer employed in the City of Pittsfield and is a Cheshire resident; and Mr. Joseph Bettis Jr., who is currently working as a Water and Sewer Foreman in Williamstown Department of Public Works.



Candidate Nuvallie

Member Nowak said it was very difficult for him to make this decision because he knows Dave Nuvallie as a friend, has a lot of respect for him, and thinks he is doing a great job working on the Parks and Cemetery. He feels he will be a valuable asset to Joe Bettis, and because he is doing such a good job there that he would like him to stay there so he would be able to help Joe Bettis should he be selected as the new Highway Department Superintendent. He felt it was a very difficult decision for him personally because as he had mentioned he considers Dave Nuvallie a really good friend and he always will be.

Member Snoonian reported everyone he talked to about David Nuvallie also had nothing but good things to say about him.

Candidate Billetter

Member Nowak said he liked Matt Billetter personally, and felt he was the kind of guy you might want to go out and have a beer with and talk with him. He felt he was very positive and conscientious in his approach to wanting to become the superintendent but he didn't feel Matt had the hands-on experience that makes a good superintendent of the DPW Department.

Member Snoonian stated He felt that Matt had every qualification you want in a DPW Director

Candidate Bettis

Member Nowak said he felt Joe had a lot of self-confidence and that he was a hands-on type of person. He had knowledge in so many different facets having to do with Public Works; he had the needed licenses and the willingness to take courses to expand even more. Member Nowak said it had been brought to his attention that Mr. Bettis has the ability to stay abreast with new technologies and that he had leadership qualities and he felt that is very important in any position. He doesn't think he is a no-nonsense guy, but that if he sees a fault he will bring it to that person's attention and it would be corrected. When it comes to the betterment of the Town and in this capacity it was quite easy for him and he felt Joe Bettis would be the better selection.

Member Blanchard advised for him it was also a very difficult decision. He narrowed it down to two candidates, but his choice was also going to be Joe Bettis.

Member Duval said Member Nowak had covered it very well, and he also supported Joe Bettis.



Member Snoonian said he felt Mr. Bettis had displayed incredible foresight in his interview, and that he interviewed like he already had the job, which he felt impressed him. He said he made a dozen phone calls and spoke to 100 people on the street, and made up his own rating sheet rubric. If it came down to a half a point, and he felt that Joe Bettis was a great candidate, and also would have gone to the mat for any of the candidates. That was how he came to his decision to have Joe Bettis head the decision.

Motion to Appoint Joe Bettis as the DPW Director made by Member Snoonian Second by Member Nowak Unanimous vote Motion passed

Police Department

Town Counselor Report

Attorney St John advised that since the last report follow up work on easement for Mausert Building which was covered tonight and provided a Certificate of Title for the property that the Town purchased from Carol Ostrowski.

Announcements:

Thank You Letter

Chairman Harrington: Received a letter addressed to Town Administrator Butler from Mike and Carol La Fleur from 11 Miller Street thanking the Town and DPW for handling the sewer problems at 11 Miller Street. The response was immediate, and the professionalism of the Department Members made it easier on them. Thanks to Marilyn, Dave, Tim, Jim and all the other parties that helped. It was a positive experience. They just wanted to let Mr. Butler know that the Town DPW is top notch.

Bulk Waste Removal

Bulk Waste Reminder on Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Approvals

Facility Request for Russell Field by Dave and Peggy Faulkner on Sunday, June 29th, 2014 for an event the day after a wedding.



Motion by Member Nowak to accept the Facility Request to use Russell Field by Dave and Peggy Faulkner on Sunday, June 29th, 2014
Second by Member Blanchard
Unanimous vote
Motion passed

Other Business

For the Good of the Order

Member Snoonian reminds members to get rid of their Bulky Waste

Member Nowak inquired about what is going on with the Dugout Hotel

Town Administrator Butler reports the Dugout Hotel is privately owned and in receivership.

Member Nowak donated a hand-made suggestion box and plaque that were painted by Suzanne Stefanek and thanked Walt Slozak for donating the material. He gave it to the Town Administrator to put in the Town Hall requests the public that put in suggestions to put their name on them.

Executive Session

a. #3 - To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares

Motion for the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator to go into Executive Session by Member Blanchard at 7:35 p.m.
Second by Member Nowak
Unanimous vote
Motion passed

Roll Call Vote: Chairman Harrington, Member Nowak, Member Blanchard, Member Duval, Member Snoonian



Motion for the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator to adjourn from Executive Session by Member Nowak Second by Member Snoonian Unanimous vote Motion passed

Meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.