

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2011 – 6:30 P.M.
PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX - TRAINING ROOM

Present at meeting Chairman Ed Vitone, Clerk Greg Fagan, and Town Administrator Doug Briggs. Selectman Ron Reed and Asst. to the Town Administrator Sylvia Turcotte absent

I. SALUTE THE FLAG

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Ed Vitone @ 6:30pm, and he led those in attendance in the Salute to flag

II. SOLICIT PUBLIC INPUT

Gail Dumont wanted to thank the DPW, Light Dept, and Public Safety personnel for the hard work in both the snow storm and then the Halloween celebration

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Greg moved to take the RFP for the VMS building out of the Town Administrators report and put it under Old Business (A). Greg moved, Ed seconded - approved

IV. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

A. Public Meeting – FY2012 Community Development Strategy

Kevin Flynn from MRPC gave a brief overview of the proposed regional submittal with Ashby.

With the assistance of Ron Reed, Leo and Mary Beth Janssens , Mike Salem, and Carol Blanchard income surveys were delivered to residents on South Main Street and Cross Street. In total 63 surveys were sent out and to date 24 have been returned to MRPC. Kevin to give a list of addresses those that have not responded for follow up. All surveys must be received ASAP.

Kevin also handed out a draft of the Ashburnham Community Development Strategy for review and comment.

A public Hearing will be held at the next BOS meeting November 21,2011 at 6:30pm.

Application is due to DHCD on December 15, 2011

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. RFP for leasing of VMS building (moved from Town Administrator's report).

Doug informed the Board that one response was made to the RFP for leasing the VMS building. Patricia Stewart was on hand to answer questions. The Board voted to set an executive session on Thursday November 10, 2011 to discuss strategy regarding the negotiating of a lease with the Center.

B. Review of Special Town Meeting Proceedings

The Board discussed the meeting and commented that they felt everything flowed very smoothly and congratulated Sylvia Turcotte on her assembling materials so that information was readily available so that all Boards and public were informed.

C. Discussion – Lease Agreement with the William J. Bresnahan Scouting and Community Center, Inc.

Val Daigle read a letter from the William Bresnahan Scouting Center thanking all those who are making this project become a reality.

After discussion the Center asked the Board to plow a single path from the street into the site during the construction phase only. The Center will insure that the site is conducive to plowing. They will not be considered critical location for plowing. Greg moved to plow the construction period only and Ed seconded - approved

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. October Snowstorm

Chairman Vitone stated this had been covered by Gail Dumont comments earlier, but wanted to reaffirm her comments

B. Appointment of Library Trustee until next Town Election in April 2012

Greg made a motion and Ed seconded to appoint per the recommendation of the Library Trustees, Mary Kate Romano of 12 Winding Cove Road to the Library Board of Trustees filling the term left vacant with the resignation of A.J.Peterson. This will be until the election of April 2012.- Approved

C. Discussion – Change of date of the State Primary

Greg made a motion and Ed seconded, to support H1972 “An Act Regulating Election Primaries” This bill will reduce primary cost by having federal and state primaries on the same day in June thus eliminating one primary. It also gives the communities more time to contact overseas voters for the November elections.

VII. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S UPDATE

Greg made a motion and Ed seconded to accept the monetary gift from Mason Awtry for the purpose of paving Pillsbury Roads – approved

Doug informed the Board

1. PILOT agreement has been made as a pass through with the AMLD and Investar for \$50,000. Details still need to be addressed.
2. Several unemployment claims are surfacing where part time on call employees that are losing their full time jobs are being assessed against our unemployment.
3. Anne Cervantes has resigned her position as treasurer effective November 27th to go to a full time position for the town of Sterling.
4. Comcast has been requested to look at Rindge State Road, and Old Pierce road for cable access.
5. Water tank
 - a. Complete and the motors for the pumps were delivered on November 4th. Installation this week.
 - b. Pressure test to be done once pumps installed
 - c. Prefab house for tank being delivered Nove 7th.

6. COA relocation is moving very well. They had an open house on October 24th and 40 people attended. Maggie Whitney is doing a great job as Director.

VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – All approved with Greg making motion and Ed seconded

- A. October 17, 2011 Minutes – Regular Meeting
- B. October 19, 2011 Minutes – Joint Meeting with Advisory Board
- C. October 24, 2011 Minutes – Joint Meeting with Ashby Board of Selectmen

IX. BOS CORRESPONDENCE

No Correspondence

X. NOVEMBER MEETINGS

Greg read November Meetings

Committee/Board	Day/Date/Time	Location
Water-Sewer Commission	Tuesday, 11/8/11 – 6:30 p.m.	Lower Level Town Hall
Board of Assessors	Wednesday, 11/9/11 – 6:00 p.m.	Assessors Office Town Hall
Council on Aging	Monday, 11/14/11 – 10:00 a.m.	Senior Center upstairs Town Hall
Conservation Commission	Monday, 11/14/11 – 6:30 p.m.	Lower Level Town Hall
Planning Board	Thursday, 11/17/11 – 6:30 p.m.	Lower Level Town Hall

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Greg read announcements

XII. SOLICIT PUBLIC INPUT

Gail Dumont asked about the status of the antenna at the water tank, and Doug responded that the foundation would be started next week. Ed pointed out that the actual footprint of the tower would be less due to not having any guide wires. Gail was also informed that the tower would be about 40 feet taller than the existing one.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Not required

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Greg moved to adjourn 7:55pm, Ed seconded Approved.

NOVEMBER 7, 2011 - BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

II. SOLICIT PUBLIC INPUT

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

IV. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

A. Public Meeting – FY2012 Community Development Strategy

Kevin Flynn from MRPC will be speaking about this and will answer any question that may arise. This hearing is required as part of the application process.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Review of Special Town Meeting Proceedings

The Board will discuss what transpired at the meeting which went very smoothly.

B. Discussion – Lease Agreement with the William J. Bresnahan Scouting and Community Center, Inc.

The Board needs to clarify the maintenance section in the lease agreement.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. October Snowstorm

The Board needs to recognize the great job by the DPW crew and the Municipal Light Department during the historical October snowstorm.

B. Appointment of Library Trustee until next Town Election in April 2012

A Trustee, A. J. Peterson, resigned and a replacement was nominated by the Board of Trustees, Mary Kate Romano. The Selectmen need to appoint her until the Town Election in April 2012 as this is an elected position.

C. Discussion – Change of date of the State Primary

The Town Clerk has asked the Selectmen to consider supporting this proposal which would reschedule the Presidential Primary and the State Primary to the same date in June which would be a savings to the Town and the State as it would eliminate the cost of one entire election.

VII. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

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XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Town Clerk Reminder:

- January 1st and throughout the year – Open registration of voters in the Town Clerk’s office at Town Hall – Monday from 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday through Thursday – 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Town Hall is closed on Fridays)

Veterans Day Services will be held on Friday, November 11, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. in the Town Common in front of Town Hall. Please honor our veterans by attending these services.

Representative Rich Bastien will be holding monthly Ashburnham Office Hours. He will be available to Ashburnham residents at 6:00 p.m. in the Training Room at the Public Safety Building in conjunction with the Board of Selectmen meetings on the third Monday of every month. Constituents are encouraged to schedule time during these hours by calling 978-630-1776 or emailing Richard.Bastien@MAHouse.gov. All others will be seen on a “first come, first served” basis. (This information has been posted on the Town’s website.)

The Town Hall and Senior Center will be closed on Thursday, November 10, 2011 for the Veterans Day Holiday.

A Public Hearing on the FY12 Community Development Block Grant Application will be held on Monday, November 21, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at the regularly scheduled Board of Selectmen meeting which will be held in the Training Room at the Public Safety Building.

XII. SOLICIT PUBLIC INPUT

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XIV. ADJOURNMENT