
*BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES*

**Monday, March 6, 2017 – 6:30 P.M.
TRAINING ROOM – PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING**

This meeting was taped for local television.

PRESENT: Leo Janssens II, Chair, Duncan Phyfe, Member, Kyle Johnson, Clerk, Heather Budrewicz, Town Administrator and Mary Calandrella, Executive Assistant.

I. SALUTE THE FLAG

Leo Janssens called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. SOLICIT PUBLIC INPUT -

None at this meeting.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Kyle Johnson motioned to approve the agenda as presented and was seconded by Duncan Phyfe. Motion carried.

IV. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

Leo Janssen informed the Board that the Ed Vitone will present the methods on the School Assessments. Ed Vitone presents a slideshow on the methods of the School assessment breakdown. It was a detailed presentation on State aid and local aid between Ashburnham and Westminster annual school budgets. It broke down the difference between Statutory and District funding and their differences. Gary Mazzola, Supt. of Schools thanked Ed Vitone for his presentation as did Bill Johnson and Jeff Lawrence. A Westminster woman addresses the Board and Ed and stated that she was present to gather info to bring back to the Westminster residents.

OLD BUSINESS –

None at this meeting

NEW BUSINESS

The Comcast license draft agreement was not yet received by counsel and will be tabled until next meeting. Leo Janssens set the deadline for the warrant for the annual town meeting on May 2, 2017 to be March 30, 2017.

Duncan Phyfe motioned to set the deadline date of March 30, 2017 for all warrants and petitions for the Annual Town Meeting and was seconded by Kyle Johnson. Motion carried

V. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

Heather Budrewicz reported that she met with the Joint Board and the Schools to discuss the FY18 budgets. She also had a tour by Val Daigle of the Bresnahan Center. She attended the monthly Department Head meeting to discuss the procurement process and the minutes will be forwarded to the Board. She also attended the MRPC meeting on the marijuana laws. The Boards, Committees and Commission meet for the first time and there was a good presents from the boards, committees and the commissions. She will offer this meeting quarterly to **address** any concerns they may have. She met with Cushing Academy and their Tri-Headmasters along with Steve Nims to discuss the deplorable condition of

Pleasant St. Cushing will ask their board to contribute 50% of the cost to repave Pleasant and they will address their drainage issue to avoid future problems with the road. Heather attended the School safety initiative program with Chief Barrett and Chief Parow. Both Ashburnham and Westminster will absorb the cost for the safety notification app in their FY18 budgets. Heather announced the hiring of a PT dispatch employee Morgan Emery. Heather discuss that Ed Vitone has submitted a grant for work on the Library HVAC unit and will find out in June if the grant has been awarded. Heather met with Mayor Hawke on the MOU between Gardner and Ashburnham on the sewer discharge. The meeting went well and they will be drafting up a MOU to be signed. Sherbert Rd water main replacement is moving forward with Winchendon. Tighe & Bond has received the go for boring testing and to submit a USDA application on our behalf. Tighe & Bond met on the Watatic dam and the issue with deeds and boundaries. Heather spoke to the Board on an update offered by Virtual Town Hall. Heather is meeting with Karen Murphy – Westminster TA and the schools on health insurance and the need to shop groups for lower premiums.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 21, 2017– Regular Meeting

Kyle Johnson made the motion to approve the minutes of February 21, 2017 and was seconded by Duncan Phyfe. Motion carried.

VI. BOS CORRESPONDENCE

Kyle spoke on a letter he received from the House and Senate on reduced state aid. He urges the residents to write letter to state reps on Chapter 70 funding increasing for small towns.

VII. FEBRUARY MEETINGS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kyle Johnson read the following Town Clerk Reminders:

- January 1st and on – Open registration of voters at the Town Hall, Town Clerk's Office, 32 Main Street, from 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Mondays and 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday thru Thursday, and closed on Friday.
- ***Rabies Clinic – Saturday, March 18, 2017 11:30 – 12:30pm at the Municipal Grounds Bldg.-8 Williams Rd. \$ 15.00 immunization charge for cats or dogs***
- ***March 23rd - Last Day to file objections or withdrawals of nomination paper- Town Clerk's Office until 5Pm***
- ***April 12th – Last Day to register for the Annual Town Meeting until 8pm at the Town Clerk's office***
- ***April 24th – Last day to file absentee ballot applications 12:00 noon Town Clerk's office***
- ***Tuesday, April 25th – Annual Town Election- 9:00am – 8:00pm JR Briggs***
- ***Tuesday, May 2nd – Annual Town Meeting 7:00pm Oakmont High School***

The next scheduled Board of Selectman meeting will be held on Monday, March 20, 2017 at 6:30pm in the Training Room at the Public Safety Building.

VIII. SOLICIT PUBLIC INPUT (5 minute limit)

Chris McNabb recommended to the Board to look into MLR and see where in our group are the high claims. Holly Gallick thanked Ed Vitone and the Board for the informative presentation. She also mentioned that she had a petition if any residents wish to sign to ask the state for more school funding. Ellen Holmes also thanked Ed and the Board for the clear presentation and mentioned the upcoming school budget meeting is on March 14th and they have also booked the 15th as well.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:10 pm. Duncan Phyfe motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Kyle Johnson. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Calandrella, Executive Assistant