

SELECTMEN'S MINUTES SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

The Selectmen's meeting for Monday, September 30, 2013 started at 6:30 p.m. Present were Selectman Bussiere, Selectman Gaudiello, Selectman Hatch, Selectman Malloy, Chairman Clark, Administrator Scruton and Clerk McNeil.

Chairman Clark welcomed everyone and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING: Acceptance of \$10,000 from Metrocast for a Digital Server for Channel 26 - This would allow the town to broadcast meetings and other events. This is a basic level for one channel and, at this time, would be all that Barrington needs. There were no public comments. Selectman Gaudiello moved to accept \$10,000 and authorize the Town Administrator to single source to vendor who has supplied the other equipment for the channel and which the equipment has been approved by Metrocast for this purpose, seconded by Selectman Malloy. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

PUBLIC HEARING: Repair of culvert on Young Road – This is an application for and acceptance of an EPA mitigation grant for approximately \$200,000 for culvert repair on Young Road. This is 75% funded. There were no public comments. Selectman Hatch moved to approve the application and the acceptance and expenditure of funds, seconded by Selectman Bussiere. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

PUBLIC HEARING: A Police radio is available from the Department of Safety. There were no public comments. Selectman Malloy moved to accept an APX 7000 portable radio from the Department of Safety and say thank you, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

REVIEW OF MINUTES – September 9, 2013 – Selectman Gaudiello moved acceptance of the minutes of September 9, 2013, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in affirmative.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Peter Cook noted that five sand bids were received. He noted that several of the bids did not come in as requested by the town. Mr. Cook recommended that the Town go with LCG of Barrington at a cost 9.45 per yard. Selectman Hatch supported going with a local business. Selectman Bussiere asked what the town paid last year. Mr. Cook will check to see what the town paid last year and a decision will be made next week.

Peter Cook noted that the Board of Selectmen had voted not to replace a highway department employee who left but to instead use contracted services. Mr. Cook has been unable to find a contractor at this point. He also stated that the State of New Hampshire is having trouble

finding contractors for the State routes. He has also asked if he can hire a part-time employee with a CDL to use one of the town's trucks and plow.

The Highway Department Open House will be on Saturday, October 5th from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. All of the equipment will be on display along with refreshments and raffles.

It was asked if Mr. Cook had any feedback on the single stream recycling. Jill Helfiger stated that she "loves it". Mr. Cook said he has only received positive comments. He further stated that more people are recycling than in the past.

Jill Helfiger asked a question regarding the warrant article for the Svenson property and noted comments from the vision-mission-values meeting that was previously held. She asked the Board members what their vision was for the town. She felt that the town had more opportunity at the Swenson property and urged the Board to support that.

Diane St. Jean asked for the Board's vision of the town. Mrs. Helfiger noted her vision would be to acquire the Svenson property where there is room for businesses, walking paths, tennis courts and a place for the community to gather. Selectman Bussiere supported developing on the old town office land with multi-phase building and he was not for spending money to be a catalyst for private industry. We need to use assets that we already own. Selectman Gaudiello reflected on what is in the master plan - to have a real town center for the town to gather. She favored developing in the town center district. She felt that the town needs to move forward and would hate to see it postponed year after year. Selectman Hatch agreed with Selectman Bussiere noting that the town owns the property and she would like a multi-faceted building and take down what is there. Chairman Clark noted that the Board started this discussion months ago. The Board reached a consensus and thought they had a plan but that changed and fell apart. He feels that there should be development on the hill where the old town office is located. The warrant article is now on the table for the taxpayers to vote. Selectman Malloy added that the master plan has been in place for many years and the Board had a consensus. The Planning Board is currently working on a process for the next year in preparation of revisiting the Master Plan. John Huckins stated that he was involved in the master plan and town center plan. It was stated then that no town money would be spent to develop that site. Ron St. Jean stated the position of the Library Trustees. They initially started talking with the town about a new town office and library space needs. There had been no discussion with wording of warrant articles and the library stated that they could not support a certain structure of the warrant article because it did not support the library. So, there was no cooperative solution.

Chief Walker suggested that the RFP for a repeater be put on hold because of the unknowns of what is going to happen with the old town office building on the hill. He will look at it again in March after the vote. There was a consensus by the Board to put it on hold.

APPOINTMENTS

Attorney Glen Foy and owner of Fisheye Properties – Paul Thibodeau were present to discuss a Land Use Change Tax bill that was received by Fisheye Properties for property on Young Road. Attorney Foy noted that another owner of Fisheye Properties, Wayne Stocker, spoke with a representative at the town office as to why they were billed. Attorney Foy would like the Board to give their rationale of the billing. Administrator Scruton noted why the lots were billed the LUCT. The subdivision has a “lot” noted open space as required by the Planning Board. Administrator Scruton quoted the law and showed the subdivision plan and how the lots were sold. Administrator Scruton suggested that the Board authorize the town’s attorney to talk with them, along with some of the assessing staff.

STAFF REPORTS

1. Budget – The operating budget is overall level funded other than the Library as they come under the direction of the Library Trustees. The proposed 2014 budget is \$3,899 over the 2013 operating budget. Administrator Scruton gave a summary of the \$10,000+ increases including the new municipal building design, Health Ins. and retirement, revaluation, legal because we are over this year already, highway building, highway layouts, contract plowing. These are all in the operating budget. Decreases are in property liability insurance, building maintenance, reduction in highway staff, paving, bond interest and principal. There is no change in the bottom line in the warrant articles other than bonding. It was noted that Advisory Budget Committee members are still needed. No one has come forward requesting to be a member on the ABC.
2. Structure of the warrant article for the Svenson property – Chairman Clark stated that it puts a number in front of the public to see. Selectman Bussiere wanted a better explanation of the location in the article. Selectman Gaudiello noted that if this does not pass, we won’t have any money for engineering work for a building on the hill. Administrator Scruton stated that there is \$25,000 in the budget but that would cover only the bare minimum. Several suggestions in wording were added to the proposed article.
3. Mr. Townsend has paid \$5,000 towards what was required by the Court and has asked for more time to pay the balance. The Board agrees with Administrator Scruton’s recommendation of entering into a monthly payment schedule for \$1,000 a month
4. Trick or Treat will be held on Wednesday, October 30, 2013 from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
5. Administrator Scruton provided the department head’s schedule for presentation of their budgets.
6. Administrator Scruton has had no word from Bob Ott relative to inspection of the old town office by an architect.

Clerk McNeil

Clerk McNeil requested signatures on the following:

1. Payroll Manifests dated 9/9, 9/15, 9/22
2. Vendor Manifests dated 9/12, 9/17, 9/26
3. Intent to Cut for County Line Holdings

4. Signature by the Chairman for a Highway Safety Grant for "Operation Safe Commute" Patrols
5. The perambulation of the Lee/Barrington town line
6. MS-1 – Summary of Inventory of Valuation
7. The pole permit for France Road was not signed.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Selectman Gaudiello had nothing to report.

Selectman Hatch recently attended the law lecture series. The Library Trustees meeting is Thursday.

Selectman Bussiere had nothing to report.

Selectman Malloy had nothing to report.

Chairman Clark had nothing to report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Stephanie Dimke cautioned the Board on their decision of the LUCT as she had to pay a LUCT when she built her house.

Jill Hilfiger noted that Stephanie Dimke has been named Citizen of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce. A presentation will be made at their annual dinner on November 2, 2013.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.