

Board of Selectmen  
December 17, 2008  
Minutes

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2009 JAN 12 PM 12:34

Members present: William Cavanaugh, Doug Walter, John Murray

Others Present: Richard Furlong, David & Eva Bonney, Bill Brownhill, Blanche & John Lenting, Beth VanNess, Colleen O'Connor, Steve Rosenthal, Nancy & David Devane, Ron & Kim VanBuren, Paula Cianfarani, Donna Mellick, Pat Clemons, Gail McGeer, Maggie Clemons

7:00 PM Meeting opened. Reviewed minutes. Doug motioned to accept the minutes of December 3, 2008, Bill seconded. Motion passed.

The Selectmen reviewed the letter from the chair of the Central Berkshire Regional School Committee regarding nominating a member of the Select Board or Finance Committee to a committee to review the Regional Agreement. The Selectmen are not interested in this committee and Richard advised that the Finance Committee is not interested in it. The Selectmen would like this to be put on the website so we may be able to find an interested person to appoint to this committee.

The Selectmen reviewed the letter from the Town of Kingston Board of Selectmen regarding the filing of legislation that would amend the Community Preservation Act. The purpose of the amendment would be to allow community preservation funds to be utilized for Green Energy Initiatives. Briefly discussed the letter. The Selectmen will not be sending a letter of support at this time.

Public Input: Nancy Devane asked if the town had an emergency plan on file that deals with a storm related emergency. Richard advised that there is a plan but it is outdated. He explained that these plans were based on a nuclear attack and deals with storms but not of this magnitude. Richard advised that after the first of the year the department heads from the police, fire, ambulance and the emergency management director will be meeting to go over this emergency to see how they can improve the town's response. He also advised that they are trying to compile a list of the elderly in town that would need to be checked on when an emergency exists. Discussed the power outages. Richard explained that there is no way of knowing what roads have electricity and which do not and people need to leave the utility workers alone so they can do the work more quickly. Steve Rosenthal asked the Selectmen if some of the things he was hearing were rumors. First he asked if it was true that the National Guard offered assistance but the town refused it. Bill advised that he believes that this was false. The second thing he asked was if the police department was told not to go into Sherwood Forest during the storm. Bill advised that this was false. There was also a rumor that a resident passed away during the storm. This was also false. Kim Van Buren asked the Selectmen if the police department was patrolling Sherwood Forest at all because she has noticed many strange vehicles driving around. Richard asked her to go downstairs and talk to Bill Elovirta about this. He thinks they may be from the utility companies but feels she should let the police department know about this. Briefly discussed the issue with all the brush that is being cleared. Richard advised that the town is piling brush where the Deer's Inn used to be and he will check with Lenny to see if Sherwood Forest could pile their brush there.

John motioned to sign the Chapter 90 Project Reimbursement Request in the amount of \$82,873.17 for Quarry Road Reconstruction, Doug seconded. All in favor.

The Selectmen reviewed the letter regarding non-registered voters speaking at town meetings. A gentleman from Egremont asked if non-registered voters could speak at town meetings. A letter was written to him explaining how we handle this issue. Doug motioned to sign the letter and send it, John seconded. All in favor.

The Selectmen reviewed the monthly report of the Building Inspector.

Any other business: The Selectmen reviewed the Ambulance Department Request for Write-Off Report and initialed it.

Richard advised that McNerney Road has been advertised and the bids have to be in by February 18, 2009.

Richard advised that the Town Hall will be closed on Friday, December 26, 2008 and on Friday January 2, 2009.

Nina advised that the tax collector wrote up a letter to the Becket Woods Road District regarding the contract between the road district and the town. The road district never signed the contract and was going to go to the DOR about it but we have not heard anything about it. This letter is asking the road district what is happening with the DOR and also asking for payment for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> installments. Doug motioned to sign the letter to Becket Woods Road District, John seconded. All in favor.

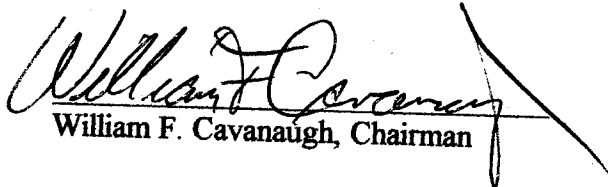
Gail McGeer asked about the castle property in Sherwood Forest. A group of people in Sherwood Forest are interested in this property. They would like to use it to have a community shelter for the residents of Sherwood Forest. She advised that the materials and the labor would be donated for this shelter. Richard thought that the SFNA owned this property. He will check with Kathy to see where this property stands.

Reviewed correspondence.

7:50 PM Doug motioned to adjourn, John seconded. All in favor.

Reviewed payroll/expense warrants.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nina Weiler, Secretary

  
William F. Cavanaugh, Chairman