

Board of Selectmen
May 1, 2013
Minutes

Members present: Mark Karlberg, William Elovirta, Jeanne Pryor

Others Present: Joseph Kellogg, Colleen O'Connor, Beth VanNess, Ed Gibson, John Sakata-Berkshire Eagle

6:03 PM Meeting opened.

Mark asked if anyone was recording the meeting. No one is recording the meeting other than the Board of Selectmen.

Bill motioned to approve the minutes of April 10, 2013, Jeanne seconded. All in favor. Bill motioned to approve the minutes of April 12, 2013, Jeanne seconded. All in favor. Bill motioned to approve the minutes of April 17, 2013, Jeanne seconded. All in favor. Bill motioned to approve the minutes of April 18, 2013, Jeanne seconded. All in favor. Bill motioned to approve the Executive Session minutes of April 18, 2013 and to not release them at this time, Jeanne seconded. All in favor.

The Board briefly discussed the Town Administrator contract. Joe advised that Ed Gibson has made some language edits which the Board agreed with and Town Counsel has made a small change to the indemnification section of the contract. Bill motioned to approve the contract for the new Town Administrator subject to approval of language and to appoint Edward Gibson as Town Administrator with a term of May 13, 2013 through May 12, 2016, Jeanne seconded. All in favor.

Bill motioned to approve the Town Administrator's appointment of Matthew Virginia as full time police officer term to expire June 30, 2013, Jeanne seconded. All in favor.

Briefly discussed the Agreement for Paramedic Intercept Services Between County Ambulance, Inc. and the Town of Becket Ambulance Service. Joe advised that this is the same agreement that the town had with County Ambulance for years. Bill motioned to approve the Agreement for Paramedic Intercept Services Between County Ambulance, Inc. and Town of Becket Ambulance Service, Jeanne seconded. All in favor.

Bill motioned to Proclaim the Month of May as Building Safety Month, Jeanne seconded. All in favor.

The Board reviewed the Becket Ambulance Department Request for Write-Off Report. Joe explained that some of the claims on this report will need to be taken to small claims court but he did not have time to do this so he will fill Ed in on this before he leaves. Nina advised that one person on the report is on welfare so the Board would need to write this one off. Jeanne motioned to write-off the second report and the others send to small claims court, no one seconded the motion. Jeanne motioned to send items 1,3 and 4 to small claims court and take no action on item 2, Bill seconded. All in favor.

Board of Selectmen's Comments and Announcements: Bill advised that he and Jeanne, the highway superintendent, Pat Mullins of BRPC and the contractor met this afternoon where the project in North Becket was done. There is a punch list of items that will need to get done.

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Town Administrator's Report: Joe advised that he spoke with Markelle Smith of the Nature Conservancy who advised him that the US Fish and Wildlife purchased property on Benton Hill Road so there will be access to the West Branch Property.

Joe advised that he spoke with Bruce Garlow about the Baby Town Meeting and how the meeting will proceed. Bruce will go over the warrant first and then the candidates will make their statements after that.

Joe advised that the town received another request for a pole hearing and he wanted to know if we could change how these pole hearings are handled. In the past, when the town received a request it would be put on the next agenda to be scheduled and the hearing would not be scheduled until the next meeting. Joe asked the Selectmen if we could schedule them as they come in so it could be done much quicker. The Selectmen are fine with Nina scheduling them as they come in.

Joe advised that he heard from Verizon about the double poles all over town and they claim that these poles were WMECO's poles. Bill advised that the poles do not have wires on them and it is the responsibility of the phone company to remove these poles if their wires were the last to come off the poles. Joe will contact Verizon about having these poles removed.

Joe advised that this was his last meeting and he welcomed Ed Gibson to town. He thanked the Selectmen for allowing him to come to Becket and he enjoyed his time here. He advised that his last day would be the annual town meeting.

Public Input: Colleen O'Connor advised the Board that according to her property deed, she owns all of Bidwell Park and not half as she was told. She noticed a pin that was put in a couple of weeks ago and thought this was from a survey that was done. Bill advised that the contractor that was working in North Becket put the pin in as a control point and it was not a property marker. Briefly discussed the survey that Foresight Land Services completed on Colleen's property. The survey was done only on the property where the school's septic line traversed her property and not over by the park. The Board would like to have Foresight complete the survey of her entire property. Joe asked Colleen if she had a title report done when she bought the house. Colleen advised that she did have her lawyer complete a title report when she bought her house. Joe asked if she could give them a copy of this so Foresight would have something to work with. She advised that she would give the Board a copy of this report.

Any other business: Nina advised that the highway superintendent gave her some Chapter 90 Project Requests for the Selectmen to sign. Briefly discussed the projects. The Selectmen signed these requests.

Nina advised that she received some grant paperwork from Bruce Augusti from MEMA that needs to be signed. This is for a grant that the Emergency Management Director received. Jeanne asked what the grant was for. Nina was not told what the grant was for. The Selectmen would like to know what the grant was for before they sign the paperwork.

Reviewed correspondence.

6:50 PM Jeanne motioned to adjourn, Bill seconded. All in favor.

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Reviewed payroll/expense warrants.

Respectfully submitted,
Nina Weiler, Secretary

Mark L. Karlberg, Chairman

Documents discussed at meeting:

- Agreement for Paramedic Intercept Services Between County Ambulance, Inc. and Town of Becket Ambulance Service
- Proclamation Building Safety Month – May, 2013
- Chapter 90 Final Report Excavator \$21,778.76
- Chapter 90 Project Request Dump Body \$30,000
- MEMA Grant Close-Out Report for EMPG, CCP, and HMEP