

Board of Selectmen
August 20, 2014
Minutes

Members present: William Elovirta, Jeanne Pryor
Angela Hilton-absent

Others Present: Ed Gibson, Nina Weiler, Colleen O'Connor, Rita Furlong, Bob Ronzio, Cindy Delpapa, John Weldon-Milton Caterpillar

7:00 PM Bill called the meeting to order. He advised that the meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Meeting Law and Guidelines for Board of Selectmen Meetings.

Bill asked if anyone was recording the meeting. The Board of Selectmen and Colleen O'Connor are recording the meeting.

The Board and members of the audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jeanne motioned to approve the Board of Selectmen minutes of July 16, 2014 and July 25, 2014, Bill seconded. Motion passed.

Ed advised that the highway department has a three phase welder but it does not have three phase power so this piece of equipment is worthless to the highway department. Chris Bouchard, at a meeting last year, suggested that they donate it to a vocational school that could use it. Chris contacted both Smith and Taconic Voc Schools to see if they would be interested in this. Smith Voc had no interest in it but Taconic High School has a mechanics program and is interested in this equipment. Ed and Chris Bouchard would like the Board to vote this as surplus property and donate it to Taconic High School. Bill feels this would work out great since we have no use for it but it would get good use at the school. Jeanne motioned to declare the Miller Delta 452 three phase welder as surplus property and donate it to Taconic High School, Bill seconded. Motion passed.

Rita Furlong of the 250th Anniversary Committee addressed the Board regarding the 250th Anniversary logo. The committee has been working on a logo that would be used on posters, flags and items for the 250th Anniversary Celebration. They came up with one and wanted the Board's approval. Rita advised that it encompasses all of the ideas from the logos that were entered by students and grownups. Jeanne motioned to approve the logo design to be used on the Becket 250th Anniversary trinkets, etc, Bill seconded. Motion passed. Rita advised that on June 21, 2015 on the actual date the town was incorporated, they will have a ceremony and they are hoping that the Selectmen would plant a tree on the parade ground. She also advised that on the original list of geo cache sites, the Becket Town Beach was not on the list and she is asking the Board to approve the beach as a geo cache site. Jeanne motioned to approve the Becket Town Beach as one of the geo cache sites, Bill seconded. Motion passed. Jeanne thanked Rita and the members of the 250th Anniversary Committee for their hard work.

The Board opened the bids for the grader for the Highway Department. The Town received two bids for the grader. Schmidt Equipment submitted a bid in the amount of \$341,900.00 and Milton Cat submitted a bid in the amount of \$346,317.04. Ed took the bids with him to his office so he could review them remotely with Christopher Bouchard. Bill motioned to award the bid to Schmidt Equipment in the amount of \$341,900.00 contingent upon the bid meeting all bid specifications as advertised, Jeanne seconded. Motion passed.

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Bill advised that he reviewed the application from Cindy Delpapa for the Conservation Commission and he feels that she is very qualified to serve on this commission. Jeanne motioned to appoint Cindy Delpapa to the Conservation Commission term to expire June 30, 2016, Bill seconded. Motion passed.

The Board reviewed Jeff Piemont's application for the alternate for WiredWest. Jeanne advised that Mr. Piemont has been working with WiredWest for the past few years and has been recommended by the chair of the WiredWest Executive Committee. Jeanne motioned to appoint Jeff Piemont as alternate to WiredWest, Bill seconded. Motion passed.

The Board briefly discussed sending a letter supporting WiredWest to the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative. Jeanne motioned to sign the letter to Phil Holahan, Interim Director, MBI, Bill seconded. Motion passed. The Board would like a copy of this letter sent to Senator Downing and Rep. Pignatelli.

The Board reviewed the monthly reports of the Police Department, Citations Issued, Animal Control Officer and Ambulance Department. The Board would like Ed to check to see if they could place "No Parking" signs on Quarry Road near the Becket Historic Quarry and if they could enforce it.

The Board reviewed the Accident and Towing Policy draft. Jeanne found a couple of typos on the Damage Report Form. She would like department heads capitalized and "employees" to be changed to "employee's". There was one typo in the policy. Section 1. reads "the employee leaves work for the day." but should read "the employee leaves work for that day." Jeanne motioned to approve the Accident and Towing Policy with typo corrections made tonight, Bill seconded. Motion passed. The Board will sign the policy after the typos have been corrected.

Public Input: Colleen O'Connor had asked the Board if they would like to purchase her half of Bidwell Park. She advised that her neighbor is interested in purchasing this property and she would be selling it before the parking ban takes effect.

Colleen also advised that she has come across two rabid animals or animals with distemper. She asked what she should do when this happens. The Board advised her to call the police department and they would determine if an Environmental Police Officer should be notified to take care of the animals.

Bill motioned to hold a Special Town Meeting on September 22, 2014 at 7:00 PM at the Becket Town Hall, Jeanne seconded. Motion passed. Ed advised that he would have the warrant ready to sign by their next meeting on September 3rd and there would be enough time to get it posted.

Board of Selectmen's Comments and Announcements: Jeanne spoke about the letters of concern that the Board received regarding the herbicide treatment at Buckley Dunton Lake. She wants to recommend that the Conservation Commission review the Open Space and Recreation Plan specifically the water quality section. She also hopes that the Conservation Commission considers Amy Perlmutter's offer of assistance to draft a resource guide and that they discuss other concerns brought up in the letters such as abutter notification, affects the chemicals have on drinking water, additional signs that could be posted, etc. She feels that it is important for the Board to respond to the letters that they received regarding the weed treatment on Buckley Dunton Lake.

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Town Administrator's report: Ed advised that this year we will have six students attending Smith Vocational High School which we will arrange transportation internally with the first day of school being September 2, 2014. We will also have one student attending McCann Technical High School and that student will be transported by the Town of Washington along with the one student they have attending McCann.

Ed advised that he attended the award ceremony for the Massachusetts DCR Volunteer Fire Department Grant Award ceremony representing the Board of Selectmen in Windsor on August 14th. The Becket Volunteer Fire Department was awarded a reimbursable matching grant in the amount of \$2,000.00 to purchase replacement parts for our existing dry hydrants. This will be a 50/50 cost sharing between the grant and town funds. Ed thanked Maddy Elovirta for taking the lead on compiling and writing the grant application and he also thanked Bill Elovirta for all the work he put into compiling information for the application as well. He advised that because of these efforts the town will be able to leverage the funds budgeted for these repairs and supplement them with the additional funds from the state so we will be able to accomplish more with this project.

Ed advised that the bids for paving and repair work on a portion of Wade Inn Road will be back and will be opened and awarded at the next regularly scheduled Board of Selectmen meeting on September 3rd at 7:05 PM.

Any other business: The Board signed a letter of thanks to Purr McEwen for her service to the town while working on the Conservation Commission.

Nina advised that the Board will need to determine the next recipient for the Boston Post Cane. Briefly discussed the process of determining who the next recipient would be.

Reviewed correspondence.

8:00 PM Jeanne motioned to adjourn, Bill seconded. Motion passed.

Reviewed payroll/expense warrants.

Respectfully submitted,
Nina Weiler, Secretary



William H. Elovirta, Chairman

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Documents discussed at meeting:

- Bids for the grader for the Highway Department
- Becket 250th Anniversary Logo
- Letter of Interest and Appointment Application from Cindy Delpapa for the Conservation Commission
- Letter of interest and Appointment Application from Jeff Piemont for the Alternate to WiredWest
- Letter supporting WiredWest to the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative
- Accident and Towing Policy Draft
- Monthly reports of the Police Department, Citations Issued and Animal Control Officer