

Board of Selectmen
January 14, 2015
Minutes

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

Others Present: Ed Gibson, Nina Weiler, Jaclyn Pacejo-BRPC, Patricia Mullins-BRPC

2:00 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 Becket Board of Selectmen Meetings.

Bill asked if anyone was recording the meeting. The Board of Selectmen is recording the meeting.

Pat Mullins of BRPC presented the Board with the updated Becket Community Development Strategy.

Pat explained what the Certifying Environmental Officer has to do regarding the CDBG application. Jeanne motioned that the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Becket hereby designates William H. Elovirta, Chairman of the Board, as Certifying Environmental Officer for the Massachusetts CDBG, Bill seconded. Motion passed.

Pat explained the Memorandum of Understanding with Sheffield. She advised that DHCD requires that the lead Town sign this when they are applying for a Regional Grant Application. She explained the lead community's responsibility with this grant. The Board went over each section of the agreement and made some changes. She will make the changes that were discussed and send us the updated Memorandum of Understanding that can be signed at a later date.

Discussed what activities could be included in the CDBG grant. Pat advised that because of the time constraints some of these activities would not be able to be included in this grant round. The Board feels that the housing rehab, Maple Street Bridge design and the group septic feasibility study should be included in the grant. Jeanne motioned that the activities to be included in the CDBG application for the Town of Becket are housing rehab, Maple Street bridge design only and a group septic feasibility study for North Becket Village, Bill seconded. Motion passed.

Any other business: Jeanne asked Pat to look over the charge for the Affordable Housing Committee. Pat suggested that "in cooperation with the Council on Aging" be added to the section regarding the development of a home care program. Jeanne motioned to designate Edward Gibson, Town Administrator, as Chief Financial Officer for the FY15 CDBG grant, Bill seconded. Motion passed. Pat advised that Rene Wood Select Board member from Sheffield has written letters to legislators, committees and organizations asking for letters of support for the CDBG in the past and would continue to do so. Pat explained some of the things that would need to be done before the grant application could be submitted. Ed will speak with Tighe and Bond about the Septic Feasibility Study and Chris Bouchard about the Maple Street Bridge. Pat asked if the Inter-Local Agreement would need to go to Town Counsel for review and Ed feels it should. Jeanne motioned that the Board of Selectmen approve the Inter-Local Agreement for Multi-Town participation in the FY 2015 Massachusetts CDBG between the towns of Becket and Sheffield with edits to be made as discussed today and with Town Counsel approval and allow chair to sign, Bill seconded. Motion passed.

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Bill advised that he would be going to the MMA meeting in Boston but as the Mass Highway Association so he would like to designate Ed as the voting member for Becket. Bill motioned that Ed Gibson be allowed to vote in Bill's absence at the MMA Annual business Meeting on January 24, 2015, Jeanne seconded. Motion passed.

Bill had written a letter of thanks to Governor Baker for releasing the \$100 million in Chapter 90 funds. There were two versions of the letter and the Board would need to decide which letter they would send. The Board decided the letter that addresses Governor Baker as The Honorable Charles Baker should be sent. Bill motioned to send thank you letter to Governor Baker for the release of \$100 million Chapter 90 funds, Jeanne seconded. Motion passed.

Ed had a couple of questions regarding the MBI WiredWest letter that would be going out. He asked if the letter would be going out to the same list that the census went out to. Jeanne advised that the letter should go out to all active voters' households. He asked about some revisions to the letter. The only change would be Proposition 2 ½ override would change to Debt Exclusion.

Ed advised that a used car lot is prohibited in our bylaws. A question came up as to how it was allowed years ago. It was found that it was added to our bylaws in 2007 as a prohibited use. He advised that the Zoning Enforcement Officer told a man applying for a used car lot license that he should go to the Board of Selectmen to get the license but Ed feels that if it is a prohibited use then the Selectmen could not issue a license. If the man would like to go before the Planning Board and ask them to change the bylaws he could do that.

Ed asked the Board if they would consider having a Reimbursement Policy that includes sales tax for employees that pay sales tax for items. He emailed Melanson Heath and found that the Board of Selectmen could make a policy for the payment of sales tax. He would like the Board to think about this and they could act on it at the next meeting.

Bill advised that he has had complaints about dog licenses. A couple of people have said that they sent in the check but never got the license. The Board would like a letter sent to the Town Clerk advising about the complaints and ask him to come before the Board to explain what happened.

4:25 PM Jeanne motioned to adjourn, Bill seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Nina Weiler, Secretary


William H. Elovirta, Chairman

Documents discussed at meeting:

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- Community Development Strategy
- “Draft” CDBG Memorandum of Understanding with Sheffield