



TOWN OF HADLEY
SELECT BOARD
August 14, 2013
Meeting Minutes

Meeting convened at 7:00 pm, Room 203, Hadley Town Hall

Present: Chair Daniel Dudkiewicz, Joyce Chunglo, Guilford Mooring, John Waskiewicz,

Absent: Brian West

Also in Attendance: David Nixon (Town Administrator); Peg Jekanowski, (Admin. Assistant); Richard Trueswell, (TV-5); Michael Spanknebel, (Hadley Fire); Dennis Hukowicz (Police Chief); Kari Blood, (Kestrel Trust); David Elvin (Pioneer Valley Planning Commission); Geoffrey Rogers, (Hampshire Power); Jon Abe (Nexamp)

Approval of Minutes: August 7, 2013

Motion: Chunglo **Second:** Mooring **Vote 4-0-0**

Approval of Warrants: Payroll #13 and Vendor Warrant 6Z:

Motion: Chunglo **Second:** Mooring **Vote 4-0-0**

Appointments:

7:05 pm: Kari Blood – Kestrel Land Trust: Application to use Town Common, October 20, 2013, 5th Annual

5K for Farmland: Ms. Kari Blood appeared in front of the Board to request the use of the Town Common for a 5K road race event and 2 mile walk to be held on October 20, 2013. The event will benefit the Kestrel Land Trust and will include various exhibits and events for children. They also plan to notify the abutters in writing. ***Motion to approve use of the Town Common by Kestrel Land Trust on October 20, 2013: Chunglo Second: Mooring: Vote: 4-0-0***

Old Business #1: Mass Works Grant Application - Shattuck Road (Conclusion of Public Hearing) &

Authorization to complete and submit grant: Chair Dudkiewicz asked if any further comment was received regarding the Shattuck Road project, no written comment was received. Chair Dudkiewicz noted that comments from the hearing on August 7, 2013 were all positive. ***Motion to close the Public Hearing regarding extending the water line and resurfacing Shattuck Road: Dudkiewicz Second: Mooring***

Vote: 3-0-1 (Waskiewicz abstaining)

Motion to authorize the Town Administrator to complete and submit the grant application: Dudkiewicz; Second: Mooring Vote: 3-0-1 (Waskiewicz abstaining)

Old Business#2: HCog – Hampshire Solar:

Geoffrey Rogers of Hampshire Council of Governments, Hampshire Power was before the Board. He presented two Hampshire Solar components for the town to save on electricity cost. The first is a program to buy power from Hampshire Solar at a discount to the Western Mass Electric Company rate which the Town already participates in; Hampshire Solar is looking for a contract to continue this for the next five (5) years. The second is for the town to purchase solar net metering credits at a discounted rate with Nexamp.

a.) Solar Net Metering Contract: Jon Abe of Nexamp explained that the proposal is to sell net metering credits (from the Hadley project on Goulet Farm.) There would be a 21% discount with a floor of \$0.0575. Savings estimates, if electricity prices stay flat, would be \$475,000.00 through the life of the contract.

Mr. Nixon stated this is a 20 year agreement for 21% discount off of 50% of the Town's electricity. Savings to the town will be significant. He further explained that Town Counsel and Nexamp have been negotiating the contract and language has been agreed upon.

Mr. Nixon explained that another way to approach this is a 10 year plan which has a floor price of \$0.0575 with 21% discount, and after 10 years there is no floor, so if energy prices drop the town is at less risk, but the discount decreases to 16%. This is less favorable in terms of finances, but there it does shift some risk from the Town in terms of fluctuating energy price.

Discussion ensued with Mr. Dudkiewicz asking why a 20 year contract is necessary. Mr. Abe explained that a commitment is necessary in order to be able to finance the project. The Board asked adding to the contract



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language about the ability of Nexamp to update the Board at least every five years, and Nexamp explained they could provide as much reporting as required.

Mr. Mooring asked about the background of Nexamp. Mr. Abe explained that it is a company founded in 2006. Over last 8 years has grown into a fully integrated solar company. Nexamp has done solar projects across the state, many for public entities. They are backed financially by their employees, Point Judith Capital, RCG Ventures, and some local family trusts.

Mr. Nixon stated that the proposed contract has been vetted by counsel. Mr. Nixon recommended that the Town enter into a 20 year agreement with a 21% discount with a floor of \$0.0575, subject to review every 5 years with a presentation by Nexamp to the Board, and subject to the value of the meter credit set by the utility and included in the final contract, and to sign the contract at the convenience of the Board once said language/rates are in place.

Motion to enter into a 20 year agreement with a 21% discount with a floor of \$0.0575, subject to review every 5 years with a presentation by Nexamp to the Board, and subject to the value of the meter credit set by the utility and included in the final contract, and to sign the contract at the convenience of the Board once said language/rates are in place: Chunglo Second: Dudkiewicz Vote 4-0-0.

b.) 5 year agreement with HCog - Hampshire Power. Mr. Nixon explained the need to change from real time to fixed price, due to possibility of fluctuating in energy cost. HCog needs to work out pricing issues, which will be done in September. ***Motion to sign 5 year agreement to purchase electricity from HCog / Hampshire Power: Chunglo Second: Dudkiewicz Vote: 4-0-0.***

Old Business #3: Water Tank Mixers IFB: The Board reviewed the Invitation for Bids for Water Tank Mixers. This project is contingent upon funding approval from Special Town Meeting. Mr. Nixon stated that he checked with both the Attorney General's office and Department of Revenue, and confirmed that Town Meeting Vote is needed. ***Motion to approve posting IFB for Water Tank Mixers project: Chunglo Second: Mooring Vote: 3-0-1 (Waskiewicz abstaining.)***

Old Business #4: Drainage at Senior Center: Mr. Waskiewicz stated that planning for the work is ongoing; the work that is being done will be adequate to accommodate future needs of any type of configuration with the Senior Center roof moving forward. Plans will be developed and will be brought back to the Board when ready to go out to bid.

New Business #1: Sealer of Weights and Measures – PVPC: Passed Over, more information required.

New Business # 2: Notice of Conversion of C. 61-A Lands – Portion of Map 6A, Lot 20:

Mr. Nixon noted that this is different in that the owner is asking to take the land out of 61-A, but the land will remain with the owner, it is not being sold. There will be tax revenue associated with this project.

Motion not to exercise the Select Board's right of first refusal as per the provisions of MGL Chapter 61A on the land in Hadley (Assessors Map 6A Lot 20) and further to waive the 120 day waiting period to exercise said right of first refusal.: Waskiewicz Second: Dudkiewicz Vote: 3-0-1 (Mooring abstaining.)

Ms. Chunglo raised concern about open space being converted to development for solar projects.

New Business #3: PVPC Community Energy 101 Forum: September 18, 2013: Mr. David Elvin from the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, and also a Hadley resident, was before the Board to discuss a Community Clean Energy Strategies Program, and to invite participation from representatives from the Town to attend a "Clean Energy Forum" being held on September 18, 2013. There is a Select Board meeting at that time so members will not be able to attend the forum, but the Town will be represented by Jim Maksimoski from the Planning Board as well as Mr. Elvin. This program is looking to communities who have been successful in generating renewable energy, and Hadley is one of the most successful in the State. They want community feedback on what has been successful, and what impact different types of energy sources have or could potentially have on the community. The project is also offering some consultant services back to the Town to help develop concepts and address issues.



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Discussion ensued as to different types of opportunities throughout the Town for clean energy, and the possibility for grants and grant assistance. Mr. Elvin stated that he will bring up the concern of protecting open space and prime farmland. He also stated that the program will look at how to deal with intermunicipal conflict that may come up with different types of projects.

New Business #4: Surplus Equipment: (Passed Over)

Executive Session:

8:07 pm: Move to Executive Session for the purpose of labor negotiation / contract negotiations and Fire Chief Contract and not to reconvene in open session: Mooring Second: Chunglo Chair Dudkiewicz stated "As Chair of the Hadley Select Board, I state that the Board has moved and seconded to enter into executive session, and I state that discussing the matter in open session will have an adverse effect on the Town of Hadley. **Roll Call Vote: Waskiewicz – Yes: Mooring – Yes: Dudkiewicz – Yes: Chunglo – Yes**

A discussion was held regarding a Police MOA. A motion was made and seconded and roll call vote taken:
Waskiewicz – Yes: Mooring – Yes: Dudkiewicz – Yes: Chunglo – Yes:

A discussion was held regarding the Fire Chief Contract. A motion was made and seconded and roll call vote taken:
Waskiewicz – Abstain: Mooring – Yes: Dudkiewicz – Yes: Chunglo – Yes:

Adjournment

9:50 pm Motion to adjourn: Mooring Second: Dudkiewicz Roll Call Vote: Waskiewicz – Yes: Mooring – Yes: Dudkiewicz – Yes: Chunglo – Yes:

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret J. Jekanowski
Administrative Assistant

Approved 09.04.2013