

TOWN OF HADLEY
SELECT BOARD
SEPTEMBER 24, 2014
MEETING MINUTES

Pursuant to notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, a meeting of the Select Board was held at 7pm in the Room 203, Hadley Town Hall.

Present were Guilford Mooring, Chair; Joyce Chunglo, Clerk; John Waskiewicz; and Molly Keegan.
Absent: Brian West.

Also present was David Nixon, Town Administrator; Municipal Building Committee; and three Finance Committee members (Koski, Sanderson, and Aquadro).

Mr. Mooring called the meeting to order and announced that it is being recorded.

Old Business #1: Special Town Meeting Warrant Review Continued

Article 1: Need to address the \$6,379 overage in the police department for FY14. This brings their total up to \$38,288. Some items in their contracts could be removed and some added too. Look into making their budget more manageable. Motion to accept the additional \$6,379 for FY14 budget from Free Cash

Fund: Chunglo Second: Keegan Vote: 4-0-0

Article 2: Omnibus Budget 2015

The Finance Committee states that there is \$574,000 in requests for extra funds but this amount is more than can be addressed with the Free Cash. Breaking it down, the town started with \$691,000 in Free Cash. We need \$72,558 to balance the FY14 budget, bringing the amount down to \$618,442. Next we have to address the police department overage of \$38,288 bringing the amount in Free Cash down to \$580,154. Of this amount, \$276,856 from the meal tax revenue is going to be transferred into our Capital Fund, bring the Free Cash amount down to \$303,298. Last week we discussed putting \$164,888 to help with our OPED liability. This reduces our Free Cash Fund to \$138,410. This is not a large amount of money and if we keep agreeing to help out department overages, we will have no money left to use come the spring. Unforeseen obligations come up, so we need to have money in our Free Cash Fund. Board listened to the Finance Committee and will take their recommendation under advisement.

Article 4: Transfer to Stabilization

Finance Committee is still concerned about the impact having low reserve funds with have on our bond rating. Would like to have David Eisenthal clarify this topic for us by next week's meeting.

Article 5: Municipal Buildings Critical Needs

A lot of time was spent discussing this issue last week. Addressing priority one and two would cost the town \$420,600. Municipal Building Committee will meet with the Capital Fund Committee on Monday. MBC still recommends selling the North Hadley Village Hall but until the two departments can be relocated money needs to be allocated to fix it, especially since part of the building is open to the elements right now. Tabled until Capital takes a look at this issue.

Article 7: Municipal Buildings Project Consultant

Municipal Building Committee still recommends a project consultant be used periodically to assist with different renovations in town. The MBC recommends placing \$50,000 into a cash reserve for this purpose. Tabled for further discussion.

Article 8: Land Acquisition

Select Board members feel the meaning of this article is not clear. Would like to see the wording of this article revised. Discussion focused on whether or not there is a need in North Hadley for a fire station or if the town should just add on to the central station. Residents and Fire Station employees all feel there is a need for North Hadley to have their own station. Town either needs to renovate the North Hadley Village Hall or purchase land to build a new station. Need answer to the above before we can determine what direction to take. Tabled for further discussion. The Municipal Board Committee is holding forum on their warrant articles October 16th at 7:00 pm at the Senior Center.

Article 9: Municipal Buildings North Hadley Hall Cupola

Motion to approve: Keegan Second: Waskiewicz Vote: 3-1-0 (Chunglo dissenting)

Article 10: North Hadley Hall Roof and Gables

Pending.

Article 11:

Pending. Look into general funds.

Article 14: Route 9 Water Line

Total cost is \$1.25 million. Phase one is \$400,000. Phase two is estimated at \$850,000 but could be higher. This depends on the water line layout. The water line can be placed on the right side, left side, or down the middle. The proposal is to place the line in the greenway. Tabled for more discussion.

Article 15: Middle Street Easement

School use of the easement was granted at the annual town meeting. The owner would now like to trade easement for a fence. The town needs to go through a formal process in order to do this. The cost of the fence is \$10,000. The survey for this easement will be completed by October 15th.

Motion to approve: Chunglo Second: Keegan Vote: 4-0-0

Article 16: Private Hydrant Maintenance Fees

Looking to issue a hydrant maintenance fee to make sure private hydrants are being properly tested and maintained. Tabled for later discussion.

Article 17: License Fees

Increase various licensing and permit fees to bring in line with what other towns are charging. Biggest increase is for wine and malt licenses (\$500). Three licenses will be brought up to state maximum.

Motion to approve: Chunglo Second: Keegan Vote: 3-1-0 (Waskiewicz dissenting)

Article 18: Sealer of Weights and Measures Fees

Looking to see if Town will vote to amend the fees for weights and measures.

Motion to amend: Chunglo Second: Keegan Vote: 2-1-1 (Waskiewicz dissented, Mooring abstained).

Article 19: Medical Marijuana License Requirements

Removed from warrant

Article 20: PILOT-Solar Farm

Looking for preapproval for a solar facility to be installed and operated in the Town of Hadley. This is discretionary. This will be the third solar facility we authorized if we sign the contract.

Motion to approve: *Chunglo* **Second:** *Keegan* **Vote:** *4-0-0*

Article 21: False Alarm Ordinance

Proposing a nuisance false alarm policy if public safety personnel are required to respond more than three times to false alarms caused by the same defective device at the same property in any month or from manual dial phone call from property for 911 emergencies. Penalty after three false alarms would be a \$300 fee.

Motion to approve: *Chunglo* **Second:** *Keegan* **Vote:** *4-0-0*

New Business #3: Friends of Goodwin Memorial Library Special License Application to host cider tasting Jo-Ann Konieczny stated that since the previous wine tasting was a sell-out, the library is looking to host another similar event.

Motion to approve the special one day license: *Keegan* **Second:** *Chunglo* **Vote:** *4-0-0*

Old Business #2: DPW Director Goals and Objectives

Reviewed the goals and objectives for the DPW director. No one had any issues with what was put in place.

Motion to accept: *Chunglo* **Second:** *Keegan* **Vote:** *3-0-1 (Waskiewicz abstained)*

Old Business #3: Laurana Lane Sewer Project-Preliminary Engineering Agreement

Counsel reviewed the contract and has approved it ready to sign. This agreement is asking for \$23,000 and the money is already in the DPW engineering contract services budget (currently at \$55,000).

Motion to approve: *Chunglo* **Second:** *Keegan* **Vote:** *3-0-1 (Waskiewicz abstained)*

New Business #4: Use of Woodchuck Funds

Use \$178.82 from the Woodchuck Fund to pay invoice from PVPC.

Motion to approve: *Chunglo* **Second:** *Waskiewicz* **Vote:** *4-0-0*

New Business #2: Hadley TV-5 Advisory Committee to change to Hadley Public Access Television Advisory Committee

Motion to approve this change: *Chunglo* **Second:** *Waskiewicz* **Vote:** *3-0-1 (Waskiewicz abstained)*

New Business #1: Review of Hiring Policy for Key Individuals

This policy has not been touched since 2004. It is a decade old and many things have changed over the course of the years. Select Board feels we should start to look at all our policies to update them in the near future. Maybe take one at each meeting to discuss and updates. Recommended to look at the school committee's policy that was recently updated. Also, look into having UMass interns help redo

these policies. We have applied for a grant in the amount of \$10,000 to cover the cost of handbook and job description update/redo.

Executive Session: 8:32 pm: Motion to move to Executive Session for the purpose of contract negotiations with the DPW Union as per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(3) and not to reconvene in open session: Chunglo Second: Keegan

Chair Mooring 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 the discussion of the matter in open session would have an adverse effect on the town of Hadley."

Roll Call Vote: Waskiewicz- abstain; Mooring – Yes; Chunglo – Yes; and Keegan – Yes

A discussion was held regarding DPW Union contract negotiations. Select Board would like to take a closer look at things and will get back to the DPW Union on October 8th.

Adjournment: At 9:08 pm a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Mooring – Yes; Chunglo – Yes, and Keegan – Yes

Meeting Adjourned at 9:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget S. Rodrigue
Administrative Assistant