



Select Board Agenda
November 5, 2014
Hadley Town Hall – Room 203
6:00 PM

Call to Order:

Pursuant to notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, a meeting of the Select Board was held at 6pm 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, Connie Mieczkowski, Treasurer, Gail Weiss; Accountant, Robie Grant; School Committee, Linda Sanderson; Finance Committee, Lynn McKenna; Finance Committee and Andy Klepacki; Municipal Building Committee.
Mr. Mooring called the meeting to order and announced that it is being recorded.

Tri Board

1. OPEB discussion by Parker Elmore of Primordis Benefit Advisors, Inc. and Dory Huard of Bartholomew and Company.

Bartholomew & Company Incorporated manages over 80 communities OPEB funds. The Town of Hadley took a vote in May of 2012 to set up an OPEB account. Goal will be to fully fund our unfunded liability. Strategy is aimed for a 6% target rate of return over time. All funds are fully diversified. Dory Huard brought up the issue of a trust agreement. She feels that one should be put in place because Ch. 32B Section 20 can always be amended so the trust agreement would make the funds irrevocable. With a trust agreement, you would create a trust committee which would make the decisions. This committee would probably be made up of the Treasurer, Town Administrator, a retiree, etc. The Town of Hadley is looking to be more aggressive on funding our OPEB account and Bartholomew & Company has set up a modest portfolio but will move at the pace the community would like to move at. If interested in setting up a trust agreement, they have some examples from communities they service who have offered theirs as an example for other municipalities.

Parker Elmore explains that GASB45 (Governmental Accounting Standards Board's Statement #45) was adopted in 2008 and requires municipalities to reflect the ongoing costs of other post-employment benefits (OPEB) on an accrual rather than the historical pay-as-you-go basis. Accrual accounting give you a better handle on what is coming. Last evaluation was 18 months ago and the accrual actuarial liability has increased from \$6.8 million to \$7.7 million over the two year period. There is no one size fits all plan, it is all based on the individual municipality and how they would like to fund their OPEB. Mr. Elmore discussed several funding strategies, including Hadley's current funding plan. All will achieve the goal of fully funding the OPEB liability overtime. Currently, only 10% of towns are funding their OPEB. The Town should anticipate not drawing off their OPEB funds for at least twenty years. Medicare costs are 80% of the liability. The only way to decrease the costs would be to change from Medix 3 to Medix 2. However, this would be a benefit cut. Otherwise, as liability increases so will the funding needed to cover this cost.



2. Annual Town Meeting countdown schedule. Looked over the schedule. Will look at more closely during the December 3rd meeting.

Approval of Minutes: none

Approval of Warrants: 37, 22V, 20Z

Motion to approve payment of warrants: Chunglo Second: Keegan Vote: 4-0-0

Appointment

7:05 pm: Top of the Campus Special One Day Wine & Malt License for November 28th. Looking for a one day wine & malt license for alcohol to be served during the football game. The time has not been set yet, but looks like it will be in the afternoon. The police chief signed off on this request so there are no concerns.

Motion to issue license: Chunglo Second: Keegan Vote: 4-0-0

Old Business

1. Laurana Lane Wastewater Collection System pipe replacement schedule. The town has received an emergency waiver so it can move quickly on this project. The emergency waiver provides the town with the ability to end the bid process once three bids have been received. Tighe & Bond already placed an ad in the central register which cannot be cancelled. This ad will go live on the 12th and a cancellation ad will go live on the 19th. Tighe & Bond has electronic bidding on their website so they will have the material available on-line for interested parties. In order to make sure there is ample time to prepare bid packets, the Select Board has decided November 17th at 2:00 pm will be the bid opening. Due to the emergency factor, the town is looking for financial assistance from the Department of Revenue to fund this project.

Motion to set bid opening to 11/17 @ 2:00 – Chunglo Second: Keegan Vote: 3-0-1
(Waskiewicz abstaining)

2. Debt Exclusion election schedule (90 days from October 30th) based on vote taken at Special Town Meeting of October 30, 2014. Special Town Meeting went well and the voters approved \$405,000 in debt excluded spending to address critical needs in municipal buildings. Now the Select Board must schedule the debt exclusion election date and vote the questions as it will appear on the ballot. All parties involved determined January 6th to be the best date for the election.

Keegan moved that the Town hold an election on January 6th, 2015 with polling hours of 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m. and to place on the ballot the question: Shall the Town of Hadley be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition town and one half, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to repair municipal building?

Yes ___ No ___ Second: Waskiewicz Vote: 4-0-0



3. Municipal Building Committee Space Needs Survey. Andy Klepacki from the MBC was present and voiced concerns over the management of the municipal building critical needs project. He feels there should be someone from the DPW should devote time to the management of these projects. Klepacki also states there needs to be more discussion about how to proceed with the North Hadley Hall municipal building sale and new purchase requirements. Vote needed to accept the completed Select Board's survey. Select Board reviewed the Town Administrator and Select Board Survey and found it to be sound.

Motion to approve survey as presented: Keegan Second: Chunglo Vote: 4-0-0

4. Pump Station 1 & 4 project status update. On November 4th, Tighe & Bond held construction meeting #4 at the Town Hall to update the Town on the status of Pump Station 1 & 4. Since the last meeting, Pump Station 4 completed work is pipe bore to Bay Road MH/Wet-well and removal of dewatering system. Pump Station 1 completed work is masonry walls for Control Building. Moving forward, Pump Station 1 should begin the roof trusses and Pump Station 4 should start the wet-well installation. In order to keep the project moving along, W.M. Schultz will work on Veterans Day. The project is on budget at this time and Tighe & Bond will present first change request at the next Select Board meeting (due to design change).

New Business

1. Hopkins 350th – Time capsule – request for contributions. After lots of thought, Nixon feels the Select Board should draft a message for the Town Select Board to read fifty years from now. Keegan volunteered to begin the message and the rest of the board can add to it over the next couple weeks.

Other

Shattuck Road contract needs to be signed so we can continue on schedule with this project.

Motion to execute contract: Chunglo Second: Keegan Vote: 3-0-1 (Waskiewicz abstaining)

John Mieczkowski, Sr. is concerned with the parking issue on the Common from customers of Esselon Café. He feels this is a safety concern and should be addresses. Select Board will look into this issue and put it on a future agenda for discussion.

Announcements:

Chunglo announced a bottle and can drive to benefit the Hopkins Academy Class of 2018 on Saturday, November 22nd from 8:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Nixon stated the election went well and would like to thank all those involved.

Chunglo also announced that Patrick Borezo was named the Goodwin Memorial Library Director. There will be a reception to welcome Patrick on November 13th from 4:00 – 5:30 at the library.

Chunglo also wished to pass along her condolences to



Adjournment: 8:35 pm

Motion to adjourn meeting: Chunglo

Second: Keegan

Vote: 4-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget S. Rodrigue

approved 11/12/2014