

Hull Board of Selectmen

Minutes

November 10, 2015

The meeting of the Hull Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday evening, November 10, 2015, at the Hull Municipal Building, 253 Atlantic Ave., Hull, Massachusetts.

Present: Domenico Sestito, Vice-Chair; Christopher Mitchell, Clerk; John D. Reilly, Jr., Member, and Kevin Richardson, Member. John C. Brannan, Chair, was absent. Also present were Philip E. Lemnios, Town Manager; James Lampke, Town Counsel; and Catherine Goldhammer, recording secretary.

APPOINTMENTS

Library Trustees Presentation

Daniel Johnson, Director of the Hull Public Library, was at the meeting to update the board on the library's activities and plans. Also present were library trustees Kevin Loechner, Chairman; Lori West, Vice-Chairman; and Frank Parker, Member. The following points were part of the presentation, and have been edited for this document. The full presentation is available on the town's website.

- The library's mission is "to be a gathering place to foster the love of literature, cultural development, lifelong learning, and appreciation of the arts and a sense of community. The library will also provide patrons with the resources necessary to make informed decisions, as well as being a forum for the free and open exchange of ideas, in the interest of civic participation."
- Library staff includes Johnson; Children's Librarian Anne Masland; Associate Librarians Ellen Kane and Ann Selig; and Library Associates Doreen Wholey and Cynthia Ryder.
- The Hull Board of Library Trustees is an elected board who provide governance of the library for the benefit of the community. The Trustees set library policy, approve budget requests, approve expenditures, and advocate for the library in the community. In addition to Loechner, West, and Parker, the other trustees are Misty Whelan, Mary Dunphy, and Karis North.
- The Friends of the Hull Public Library provide financial assistance and support for programs such as museum passes, author evenings, Nantasket Beach Lecture Series, and fund raising.
- The library's annual budget is 300,876 in FY 2016. It also typically receives \$10,000 in state aid, and about \$1,000 through the Friends of the Hull Public Library.
- The library has recently undergone renovations to its first floor, including a new front desk, and painting and floor renovations. In addition it has added a teen study room on the second floor.
- Needs include renovations to the Children's Room, repairs to exterior infrastructure, and an online and social media presence.

The selectmen thanked Johnson, the library staff, and trustees for their work on behalf of the town and its residents.

Community Development Presentation

Robert Fultz, Community Planning Director, was present at the meeting to provide an update on the department's current projects. He discussed three upcoming projects:

- The town is in the process of applying for a Community Development Block Grant. The grant request is for \$969,000 and includes money for housing rehabilitation; public facilities/infrastructure; and general administration.

- Several community meetings have been and will be held between October and December to discuss the grant with town boards and the public. The deadline for submission of the application is February 12, 2016. The notification will be in July 2016.
- Fultz is also pursuing the cleanup of the A Street gas station, via EPA Brownfields grants.
- The D St. pump station is a forced drainage problem and resolution will be pursued via application for a hazard mitigation grant. This will be a target for the next grant round in November 2016.

Reilly noted that in the past the town has been penalized for not having regional projects. Fultz said that they have protested that because of the town's geography and the wealth of the surrounding communities and have had some mitigation as a result.

Lemnios also noted that many of these grants are very competitive and that setting aside \$100,000 a year from the potential debt exclusion for matching grant funds will help to make the town a much more competitive candidate.

Michael Collins regarding Application to Board of Appeals

Collins was present to put forward his application to the Board of Appeals. Collins is in the investment business and has been a town resident since 2008. He said that he is a good judge of right and wrong and is a reasonable person to make judgments. Roger Atherton, Board of Appeals member, filled Collins in on the kind of work required by board members. He also noted to the selectmen that the board is in need of an attorney member.

Board and Committee Appointments

The board has received a memo from the Town Clerk with the names of applicants for vacancies on town boards and committees. A decision was made to wait on appointments until Brannan returns and the full board is present. Lemnios noted that the Board of Appeals and the Conservation Commission have urgent needs for members and recommended that appointments be made next week.

Lampke read an email regarding the bylaw-mandated composition of the Hull Historic District Commission. Lemnios will contact the commission chairman and find out how those needs are filled currently.

NEW BUSINESS

Reilly announced that the Veteran's Day Observance was being moved inside to the Mary Jeannette Murray Bathhouse due to the predicted inclement weather. He also congratulated Senator Robert Hedlund on his recent election to Mayor of Weymouth and suggested that he be invited in for a final meeting with the selectmen.

Mitchell announced that on Thursday, November 12, at the Hull Lifesaving Museum, the Coast Guard will designate the town of Hull a Coast Guard City. He also brought up the possible reactivation of the Fort Revere Preservation Society. Reilly suggested that they have Brannan fill them in on the status of that group when he returns. Reilly also suggested that a letter be sent to Governor Baker about the situation with the fort. Lemnios said that he would start drafting it.

Richardson asked that police and fire chief appointments be put on the meeting agenda.

Sestito said that he had spoken with Representative Garrett Bradley's office about Bradley attending a selectmen's meeting to update the board on the state's efforts in battling the opiate epidemic.

The open meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m. The board will meet again on November 17, 2015.

Recorded by Catherine Goldhammer

Approved by:

Documents

The following documents were included in the Board of Selectmen's packets or were presented during the meeting and are available in the Board of Selectmen's office upon request:

- Board of Selectmen agenda for November 10, 2015
- Andrew Corson letter and resume regarding application to Board of Appeals
- Letter from Stephen Becker regarding application to the Conservation Commission
- Memo from Janet Bennett regarding vacancies and appointments
- Email from James Lampke regarding Hull Historic District Commission
- Email from Michael Collins regarding application to Board of Appeals
- Town of Hull Community Development Strategy
- Proposed draft budget for CDF-1 FY 2016 CDBG activities
- Community Development Block Grant application timeline
- Memo from Robert Fultz regarding CDBG application