

November 3, 2014

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 3, 2014**

Present: Priscilla Gimas, Vice-Chairman  
Mary Dowling  
Mary Redetzke  
Craig Moran  
Suzanne Kennedy, Interim Town Administrator

Mary Blanchard was absent.

The Vice-Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. following the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Service Announcements**

P. Gimas reminded residents to vote on November 4<sup>th</sup> at the Oliver Wight Tavern at Old Sturbridge Village. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Minutes**

It was the consensus of the Board to hold action on minutes until November 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Safety Complex Underground Storage Tank**

Fire Chief David Zinther appeared before the Board. He had discovered that the 4,000 gallon diesel underground storage tank located at the Public Safety Complex has not been registered with the Town, nor has it been inspected.

Proper inspection requires a tank license and registration. Chief Zinther completed the required registration, license application and license for review and approval by the Board of Selectmen. Following the Board's approval, the Town will have the tank inspected and insured.

S. Kennedy said that she and Chief Zinther had worked on this matter, and Town Counsel had reviewed it and provided a written opinion.

Chief Zinther said that it is a fiberglass tank, so there will be no corrosion, and he is confident that it is not leaking.

**MOTION: That the Board review and approve the license application, license and Certificate of Registration for the 4,000 gallon tank at 346 Main Street as presented by Chief Zinther and further, direct Chief Zinther to coordinate the completion of the inspection process for the**

**underground tank and secure insurance coverage for the tank as appropriate, by C. Moran.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Redetzke**

**Vote: Four in favor; M. Blanchard was absent.**

### **Contract Approval – Owner’s Agent Services**

At the October 20, 2014 regularly scheduled meeting the Board had approved the contract by and between the Town and the Department of Energy Services (DOER) in the amount of \$12,500. The proposed contract by and between the Town and Beacon Integrated Solutions, LLC is aimed at both helping the Town to work with Blue Wave Capital to finalize outstanding tasks related to the PPA between the Town and Blue Wave, as well as identifying additional net metering purchase opportunities to take advantage of our available electric capacity.

**MOTION: That the Board approve the contract by and between Beacon Integrated Solutions LLC and the Town of Sturbridge, by M. Redetzke.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Moran**

**Vote: Four in favor; M. Blanchard was absent.**

### **Interim Town Administrator’s Contract**

This contract expires on November 13, 2014 and since a permanent Town Administrator has not yet been selected, it has been recommended that the contract be extended for an additional three (3) months.

**MOTION: That the Board approve the Interim Town Administrator contract for the period covering November, to expire on February 18, 2015, by M. Redetzke.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Moran**

**Vote: Four in favor; M. Blanchard was absent.**

### **Senior Work Program – Request for Abatement**

S. Kennedy had received a request from Ms. Ann Murphy, Principal Assessor to consider a senior worker tax abatement for FY 2015 for Mr. Alexander Menafo. Having been an active Senior Work Program applicant, participating since 2009, Mr. Menafo participated in the FY13 program without having formally applied for program participation in FY13. Mr. Menafo worked the required 65.5 hours in compliance with the Senior Municipal Work Program at the Senior Center as evidenced by the memorandum from the Council on Aging Director, Melissa Beauchemin.

Also submitted to the Board were the Senior Municipal Program Regulations, which regulations stipulate that applications must be submitted no later than March 31<sup>st</sup> of the fiscal year preceding the year for which the abatement is sought.

**MOTION:** That notwithstanding the absence of an application for FY 2013, the Board approve an abatement for Mr. Alexander Menafo for FY 2015, by M. Dowling.

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** M. Redetzke

**Vote:** Four in favor; M. Blanchard was absent.

**MOTION:** That the Board direct the Town Administrator to draft a form for the future for applicants of the Senior Municipal Service Program to present to the appropriate department head indicating that they are seeking an abatement to work in that department, by M. Dowling.

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** M. Redetzke

**Vote:** Four in favor; M. Blanchard was absent.

### **Town Administrator's Update:**

- **Town Hall/COB Roofs**

S. Kennedy informed the Board that there were some minor repairs to the Town Hall roof and the Center Office Building roof. She wants evidence of insurance before the work starts. C. Moran asked whether there was a maintenance contract for the slate roof. S. Kennedy was not aware of one.

- **Public Safety Complex Garage Floor**

S. Kennedy said that they are running behind on the garage floor contract documents. She has not received the performance bond, bid bonds and insurance. Because timing is critical, she asked the Board to hold a special meeting so that work may commence. She noted that the material had not yet been approved by Town Counsel. It was the consensus of the Board to hold a meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss the matter, and schedule an executive session to approve executive session minutes.

- **Town Hall/COB Rugs**

S. Kennedy said that Alpine Cleaners cleaned the rugs at the Center Office Building and Town Hall.

- **\$400K Land Grant Awarded to Sturbridge**

S. Kennedy informed the Board that the Town received a \$400K Land Grant to be used for the Plimpton property. The CPC will ascertain how much money can be applied to this project.

- **Gutter Replacement at the Joshua Hyde Library**

S. Kennedy said that an advertisement has been placed in the Central Register and on the website. Bids are to be received by November 12, 2014.

### **Pole Hearing – Picker Road**

Steve Soucy of National Grid appeared before the Board. National Grid petitioned the Board to install a pole at the intersection of Picker and Charlton Roads. NGRID needs to install the pole and anchor for a new commercial service on the Mass. Turnpike. NGRID seeks to install a new pole 10-20 feet northeast of the existing pole ten (10) and to also install an anchor with an eight (8) foot lead length for pole 10-50.

Steve Soucy explained that the DOT is putting traffic cameras on the Mass Pike, to be fed from Picker Road, which would be the closest power source.

Abutters were duly notified and green cards submitted. DPW Director Greg Morse has reviewed the petition and recommended:

- NGRID to maintain as much clearance between the road edge/gutter line and pole as possible (3'-4' minimum)
- Blasting be kept to a minimum due to the presence of heavy ledge rock and public utilities, and that the Town be notified upon the commencement of blasting.

M. Dowling expressed concern about blasting. S. Soucy assured the Board that no blasting would be done, only drilling. M. Dowling suggested that S. Soucy confer with the DPW Director and give notice on the drilling.

C. Moran questioned why National Grid needs to put two poles so close together, instead of making use of pole #10. S. Soucy said that there is no room to put a single phase transformer on there. He noted that it will be placed at the end of a paper road, with no residential customers nearby.

S. Kennedy said that the presentation was not clear, and recommended that they talk to Greg Morse, DPW Director, before work begins. P. Gimias suggested putting the matter on hold until Greg Morse talks to National Grid. C. Moran said that he would like to be involved in the conservation.

S. Soucy said that that the pole would be 10'-15' off the road, and the road is not built up or paved. M. Dowling requested a better diagram.

**MOTION:** That the pole hearing be postponed until November 17<sup>th</sup> and that a clearer drawing be provided that includes the DPW Director's recommendations and that the DPW Director be present at the hearing, by M. Dowling.

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** M. Redetzke

**Vote:** Three in favor; C. Moran opposed; M. Blanchard was absent.

**MOTION:** That a site visit be planned at a mutually convenient time for any Board members who would like to see the proposed installation site prior to the November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, by M. Dowling.

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** M. Redetzke

**Vote: Four in favor; M. Blanchard was absent.**

P. Gimas noted that if three or more Selectmen go out to the site, it should be posted as a meeting.

**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

P. Gimas suggested that the Board think about a date for the Special Town Meeting, and put it on the agenda for the November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. She suggested asking Town Counsel how to make an alternate date known if a date is posted for the Special Town Meeting and there is a snowstorm on that date. S. Kennedy said that she would talk to the Town Moderator.

M. Dowling received a call from a concerned resident on Podunk Road regarding the proposed drag racing facility. She said that she would talk with the Town Planner to find out more about it. If residents want to come forward to the Board of Selectmen, she would contact the Town Administrator to have it placed on the agenda. S. Kennedy said that she had received a memo from the Town Planner regarding this matter. She noted that some of the proponents of this had indicated that residents are in favor of it.

**MOTION: To adjourn, by M. Redetzke.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Moran**  
**Vote: Four in favor; M. Blanchard was absent.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knowles

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BOS Clerk

Date