

Select Board's Meeting
Minutes-Monday, May 23, 2016
Sunderland Town Office Bldg.

Attending: Tom Fydenkevez, Scott Bergeron, David Pierce, Sherry Patch, Bob Ahearn,
Guests: Caroline Ness (Chair, Deerfield), Henry Komosa Jr. (Deerfield), Trevor McDaniel
(Deerfield), Doug Finn (Deerfield, Town Administrator), Jonathan Edwards (Chair, Whately),
Fred Orloski (Whatley), Mark Pruhenski (Whately Town Administrator), Gary Stone, Maryellen
Cranston, Dan Denehy, John Paciorek, Bruce St. Peters, Bruce Hunter, Gary Briere
Behind the Camera: Chris Collins/FCAT

Note: Sign in sheet incorporated in these minutes

Call to Order

- Mr. Fydenkevez called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.
- Ms. Ness called the Deerfield Selectboard meeting to order at 6:05 PM.
- Mr. Edwards called the Whately Selectboard meeting to order at 6:05PM.

Joint Meeting of the Sunderland, Deerfield, Whately Select Board Members

A joint meeting of the Sunderland, Deerfield and Whately Select Boards was held to discuss the South County EMS (SCEMS) Request for Proposals (RFP) for Building Space for Ambulance Service Housing and to review proposed changes to the Intermunicipal Agreement for Emergency Medical Services. Mr. Edwards stated that the Whately board wanted to have this meeting to communicate about SCEMS and the RFP that was issued as people will need to start making a variety of decisions. Mr. Edwards noted that the three towns are receiving better medical service than ever before. Ms. Ness stated that she has a new board and that they haven't had an opportunity to discuss their position as a board; however there is a consensus on the board that they value the service and want the town to have a paramedic level service. Ms. Ness stated that until the RFP comes back there is no information to pass on for a decision or even discussion. Mr. Fydenkevez asked if Ms. Ness thought that the RFP would have any effect on the viability of SCEMS. Ms. Ness stated the RFP is transparent and is open to anyone and has been out there long enough to give anyone who is interested an opportunity to respond to it. Mr. Edwards stated that he can't think of any scenario where after the scoring is done from both a financial perspective and from a content perspective, to not heed the SCEMS recommendation. Mr. Komosa stated that he is willing to look at all proposals openly, but will not commit to anything that he feels is not in the best interest of SCEMS and our communities. Ms. Ness stated that it is her hope that the scoring will make it beneficial to SCEMS and our communities. Mr. Edwards stated that the objectivity trumps any subjectivity that takes place outside the RFP process. Ms. Ness stated that she thinks there will be questions regarding the length of the choice and whether or not the town has to go to town meeting. Ms. Ness stated that if it is longer than 3 years they will have to go to Town meeting and then it will become subjective. Mr. Fydenkevez stated that he feels that some people have been misstating what is going on and that it is important to have an honest look. Mr. Fydenkevez stated that FRCOG has been asked to look at the finances. Receipts are much higher than initially estimated. Mr. McDaniel stated that he would like to have knowledge of meetings so that he can get better educated. Mr. McDaniel stated that SCEMS is a great service and he would like to see it continue. Mr. Fydenkevez stated that meetings are posted and typically held the 3rd Thursday at 6PM at the

Sunderland Public Safety Complex. Mr. Edwards asked why the finances are significant to the scoring of the RFP. Mr. Edwards stated that he sees them as separate. Mr. Pierce stated that he agrees that the two are separate. Mr. Edwards stated that the housing of the ambulance has nothing to do with the finances of SCEMS. Mr. Komosa stated that there has to be balance between protecting our citizens, and a cost that is reasonable. If we get RFP's and they are not financially prudent you don't just go with it to have a place for the ambulance. Mr. Komosa stated that it would be better to have discussion regarding the RFP after they have been received. Right now there are too many what ifs. Mr. Edwards stated that he wants to make sure that the budget is not going to be a red herring for a very important discussion. Mr. Komosa stated that it is a part of the discussion. Mr. Orloski asked how the best RFP will be decided based on criteria without looking at the cost. Mr. Finn stated that the scoring system will be developed by the SCEMS Board of Oversight (BoO). Mr. Komosa asked how the RFP was developed. Mr. Finn stated that the RFP is a result of RFP's from the towns of Beverly and Hardwick. Mr. Fydenkevez stated that the final RFP was not reviewed by BoO. Mr. Komosa stated that he would have liked to have had the Board of Oversight review the final RFP. Mr. Finn stated that criteria established in the RFP must be used to assess the RFP's. No numerical value was assigned to the criteria, which allows the BoO the ability to independently weigh the criteria. Mr. Orloski stated that one of his concerns is that there are others interested in the space in the building and keeping the RFP open for 120 days is a long time. They would like to see that time accelerated. Don't wait until 119th day to decide. Mr. Edwards stated that if SCEMS BoO decides a location is in the best interest in the service delivery that is all we should be concerned with if it meets the financial needs of the towns. Ms. Ness agrees with approach to set up the ambulance. Not enough experience yet. We have been conservative and are committed to the three year cycle that was established. If people are truly interested they should attend BoO meetings. Discussed next steps including review of RFP's by BoO with recommendation to the Fiscal Agent (Deerfield). Town Counsel has advised that the 3 select boards have the authority to negotiate the terms of the IMA. The existing IMA has been revised by Deerfield Town Administrator Doug Finn and SCEMS Director, Zachary Smith. Any changes with regard to housing will go to Town Meeting before any changes to the existing IMA are made as promised to the voters when the IMA was first approved. Bruce Hunter a resident of Deerfield asked to verify process. RFP's received by town, submitted to BoO for review BoO recommendation to Deerfield Board of Selectmen, Deerfield make recommendation to other two boards and a Town Meeting will be held in all three communities. Mr. Edwards stated that the recommendation may go to all 3 towns however Deerfield, as the fiscal agent, has the next step in moving the process along. Short discussion regarding proposed changes to the IMA. Deerfield Town Administrator Doug Finn stated that the changes proposed are the result of a discussion he had with SCEMS Director Zak Smith. Many of the changes are wordsmithing fiscal agent vs. Town of Deerfield, some punctuation and grammar. Also, as recommended by Zak the reference to a specific location has been replaced. The IMA does not say where the service is located. It only states that any changes in location must be approved by Town Meeting. Deerfield Counsel has also concurred that Town Meeting approval is not necessary for IMA approval. Mr. Edwards who votes what portion of the budget? Originally, all 3 towns voted the whole budget now Deerfield approves budget and towns vote assessment. By making it a department of the Town of Deerfield the budget must be approved by Deerfield. Each member town is only required to approve its individual assessment.

Approve Minutes

- MOTION: Mr. Pierce approve the minutes of the meeting dated 5/16/16.
SECOND: Mr. Bergeron
VOTED: 3-0
- MOTION: Mr. Bergeron to approve the minutes dated 5/17/16.
SECOND: Mr. Pierce
VOTED: 3-0
- MOTION: Mr. Pierce to approve the minutes dated 5/18/16.
SECOND: Mr. Bergeron
VOTED: 3-0

Selectmen Updates

- The board discussed next steps with regard to selection of a candidate for the Police Chief position. Mr. Bergeron stated that the screening committee put forth three very qualified candidates for the board's consideration. Interviews have been conducted and notes reviewed. The board was in agreement to post a meeting for Tuesday, May 31st at 6:00 pm to discuss and announce a finalist.

Town Administrator Updates

- Ms. Patch recommended that the board enter into contract with Kearsarge for development of a solar array at the Sunderland Elementary School contingent upon Town Counsel approval. Ms. Patch advised that contracts are currently being reviewed by Kearsarge.
- MOTION: Mr. Pierce to enter into contract with Kearsarge pending Town Counsel approval.
SECOND: Mr. Bergeron
VOTED: 3-0.
- Ms. Patch noted Ed Skribiski has submitted a letter of his intent to retire from the Highway Department effective 6/30/16.

New Business

- Summer Schedule
MOTION: Mr. Bergeron to approve the 2016 Summer Selectmen's Schedule of Meetings
SECOND: Mr. Pierce
VOTED: 3-0
- Complete Streets Policy
MOTION: Mr. Pierce to adopt the Complete Streets Policy.
SECOND: Mr. Bergeron as printed.
VOTED: 3-0

Note: Complete Streets Policy Incorporated in these minutes

- Seasonal Highway Employee Recommendation
- MOTION: Mr. Bergeron to appoint Nicholas York to the Seasonal Summer Highway Laborer position as recommended by the Highway Superintendent.
SECOND: Mr. Pierce
VOTED: 3-0.
- Plumbing Inspector Appointment
MOTION: Mr. Pierce to appoint Steve Baronski to the position of Plumbing Inspector.

SECOND: Mr. Bergeron.

Other Business:

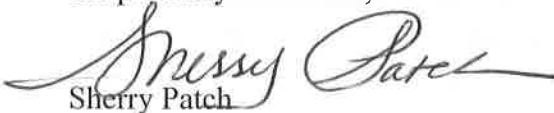
- Mr. Fydenkevez extended congratulations to high school graduates on their accomplishment.
- Mr. Fydenkevez invited everyone to attend the Memorial Day Parade on Friday.
- Mr. Bergeron noted that road work is being done on Cemetery Road. SLOW DOWN. PAY ATTENTION.
- ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Bergeron to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND: Mr. Pierce

VOTED: 3-0

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sherry Patch".

Sherry Patch
Town Administrator

5/23/16

Sign in Sheet

MARIC PRUTKOWSKI

Maryellen Cronston

Dan Denehy

John Wobkusch

~~John Wobkusch~~
Chris CR

Bob Ahearn

JOHN PACIOREK

Bruce St. Peters

Bruce Hunterz

WHATELY TA

Whately Interim TA

Whately

Whately

Whately

WENDELL, MA

Sunderland

DFCD

DF/d

DFD

2/15/16

Chips in Street

1st Avenue

2nd Avenue

3rd Avenue

4th Avenue

5th Avenue

AM, 1st Avenue

2nd Avenue

3rd Avenue

4th Avenue

5th Avenue

1st Avenue

2nd Avenue

3rd Avenue

4th Avenue

5th Avenue

AM, 1st Avenue

2nd Avenue

3rd Avenue

4th Avenue

5th Avenue