



Office of the
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
272 Main Street
Townsend, Massachusetts 01469

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SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 17, 2014, 7:00 P.M.
SELECTMEN'S MEETING CHAMBERS

I PRELIMINARIES

- 1.1 The Chairman called the meeting to order and roll call showed Sue Lisio, Chairman (SL), Colin McNabb, Vice-Chairman (CM), and Carolyn Smart, Clerk (CS) present.
- 1.2 SL announced that the meeting is being tape recorded.
- 1.3 Chairman's Additions or Deletions: SL announced the addition of 3.14 - Review request of Police Chief Erving Marshall to accept a donation in the amount of \$6,000 from the Give Back Ride; 3.15 - Review and approve rental purchase agreement with HP Fairfield for a Johnson Vac Sweeper Model VT650; and 4.3 - Review request of Police Chief Erving Marshall to appoint Brent Davis as a Police Officer from June 19, 2014 to June 30, 2014.
- 1.4 Approval of meeting minutes: None.

III MEETING BUSINESS

- 3.1 Discuss summer meeting schedule: It was decided that the meetings for the summer will be held on June 25 (pipeline meeting with Kinder Morgan at the high school), July 1, July 15 and August 12.

II APPOINTMENTS AND HEARINGS

- 2.1 7:05 Board of Health chairman Chris Genoter, Health Administrator Carla Walter, and Tessa David of MassToss will discuss the FY15 curbside trash and recycling program. Also present were Jim LeCuyer of the Board of Health and Irene Congdon of the Recycling Committee and Mass. DEP. Tessa David of MassToss told the Board that recycling fliers were mailed informing households that the number of bags of trash is dropping from three to two as of July 1, 2014. Plastics not 1-7 or 2 ½ gallon or larger loose bags and large items can go to the recycling center. The updated flier is on the website. Overflow bags are available at Town Hall and from various retailers. Increasing recycling reduces the town's costs because it reduces the trash volume and therefore the tipping fees and because we don't have to pay to dispose of recyclables. John Daly said the Town passed an override vote for curbside pickup. He wants the money back in his real estate taxes. Mr. Sheehan said when an override is passed the purpose is only for the first year. If in subsequent years it is not needed for that purpose it can be used for a different purpose. He said the BOH by statute is responsible for trash. SL the prices go up every year for tipping fees. In order to avoid asking for an override we are trying to keep costs down by encouraging recycling, which is mandatory in Massachusetts. The gradual way the BoH has been implementing this is admirable. You don't have to purchase the extra bags. Jim LeCuyer (JL) said he has been on the BoH for 13 years and feels like this is being shoved down their throats and said he doesn't agree with it. SL asked if the BoH voted for this. JL said he did not. In response to the question about where the additional money is going Mr. Sheehan said next year's budget has an increase of \$4,000. The cost to pick up is based on how often they come and the number of households. We can save money by reducing the tonnage and therefore the tipping fee. If we save money the savings go to free cash and the

budget in future years can be adjusted accordingly. John Stonefield suggested every household be given one hundred bags a year. Among a variety of topics that were discussed, Irene Congdon of the recycling committee said the town accepts plastics labeled 1-7, bottles, cans (tin and aluminum) and paper. If you can rip it, it's paper. CS observed that due to the passage of two overrides a lot of people feel they are not getting their money's worth. There were many opinions stated in the ensuing discussion. SL expressed her appreciation of everybody's input. Mr. Sheehan reminded everyone that the new limits go into effect July 1st. The contract has already been signed and any new suggestions would go into effect next year.

- 2.2 7:10 The Friends of the Library and the Townsend Couples Club to discuss events celebrating the 5th anniversary of the Library/Senior Center/Meeting Hall including a proposed wine tasting: Melissa Hermann represented the Friends of the Library who would be co-hosting the proposed event with the Townsend Couple's Club. They are seeking permission to serve wine at an event at the Library. CM asked what time of day this would take place and if they would have insurance coverage. Ms. Hermann told him it would be on a Saturday evening, only for people 21 years of age and older, they have already looked into insurance coverage and a police detail. CS said it was allowed for the 275th anniversary and they were read the riot act because it violated the bylaw, which she read into the record. SL brought forth a discussion about using the Meeting Hall during off hours. CS said she would feel better if the Board developed a policy specifically for wine tastings. SL expressed her concerns with setting a precedent and assured that it is not due to any mistrust of these organizations. Carolyn Sellars noted that the Library Trustees have already endorsed this and it will be held on October 25th in conjunction with the events the 5th Anniversary Committee is planning. This particular one is modeled after the one Pepperell has held at their library for years. CS moved to draft language for a policy for a wine tasting in the Meeting Hall. SL asked Mr. Sheehan to have a draft of policy at the next meeting and stated that she is opposed to even drafting a policy and she will be opposed to any alcohol on town property.
- 3.2 Review contract with Weston & Sampson Engineers to provide landfill monitoring and reporting: Mr. Sheehan noted that this is a DEP requirement and that the pricing has pretty much remained the same: FY'15 = \$20,400, FY'16 = \$15,500 and FY'17 = \$20,400. It has already been signed by the Board of Health. CS moved to approve the contract with Weston & Sampson Engineers to provide landfill monitoring and reporting. CM seconded. Unanimous.

The Board took a five minute break.

- 3.3 Review correspondence from the Town of Pepperell regarding formation of a Middlesex County Coalition of Municipalities in opposition to the Tennessee Gas Pipeline: SL received a letter and CS read it into the record. The Board members all support this action and Mr. Sheehan believes it is the best way to approach this project. After discussion CS moved to have SL join the coalition as the representative from the Board of Selectmen. CM seconded. Unanimous. In addition, Mr. Sheehan told the Board that a petition was delivered today to hold a Special Town Meeting within 45 days to oppose the pipeline. SL confirmed that the Board will at 6:30PM on June 25th prior to their meeting with Kinder Morgan at the High School. She also stated that there will be a presentation about the pipeline project at the Meeting Hall this Saturday at 10:30AM.
- 3.4 Review request for One Day License for William Towson for the 75th Anniversary of the Townsend Rod & Gun Club to be held on August 23, 2014 from 12-6PM at the Townsend Rod & Gun Club: CM moved to approve a One Day Liquor License for the 75th Anniversary of the Townsend Rod & Gun Club to be held on August 23, 2014 from 12-6PM at the Townsend Rod & Gun Club. SL seconded. Passed. CS recused herself as a member of the club.
- 3.5 Continue discussion of future of the Hart Library at 274 Main Street and potential uses and funding sources: Mr. Sheehan clarified that the funding through the Priority Development Fund for a feasibility

- study is only available if the building would be used for affordable or senior housing. He will meet with Superintendent Landers to see if the schools might be interested in the space.
- 3.6 Council on Aging/Senior Center Director: continue discussion for recruiting a successor: Mr. Sheehan has received an opinion from Kopelman & Paige that states that the Board of Selectmen is the appointing authority for the position. CS stated that she does not agree with the opinion from counsel and would like to table this item to the next meeting. Mr. Sheehan's only concern is that the resumes are due June 25th and Chris Clish is leaving in August. The screening committee hasn't even been appointed yet. SL said she doesn't have a problem with going forward. Ed Snapp of the Council on Aging said he has Stacy Schuttler, Russ Moore, Dave Profit, Valerie Adams, and himself for the committee. Mr. Sheehan said there should be 4 representatives from the Council on Aging or Friends of the Seniors, 2 residents at large and the Library Director. He will put the appointments on next week if they have a full committee.
- 3.7 Review request for a transfer of appropriations for the Board of Health in the amount of \$1,500: Mr. Sheehan explained that this is to cover the costs associated with mailing the flier. CS moved to approve the municipal relief transfer in the amount of \$1,500 to be transferred to Board of Health Professional Services account 001-05-5300 to be transferred from the Landfill Professional Services Account 001-04-5300. CM seconded. Unanimous.
- 3.8 Review request for a transfer of appropriations for the Treasurer in the amount of \$3,000: CS moved to approve the municipal relief transfer in the amount of \$3,000 to be transferred to the Treasurers Salary Account 145-5100 to be transferred from the Collectors Salary Account 146-5100. CM seconded. Unanimous.
- 3.9 Review request for a transfer of appropriations for legal services in the amount of \$3,000: CS moved to approve the municipal relief transfer in the amount of \$3,000 to be transferred from the General Liability Account #914-5740 to be transferred to the Legal Services Account 151-5300. CM seconded. Unanimous.
- 3.10 Review request for a transfer of appropriations for the Facilities Dept. in the amount of \$8,000: CS moved to approve the municipal relief transfer in the amount of \$8,000 to be transferred from Health Insurance Account 914-5740 to be transferred to the Facility Dept. Energy Account 191-5240. CM seconded. Unanimous.
- 3.11 Review request for a transfer of appropriations for the Plumbing Inspector in the amount of \$600: CS moved to approve the municipal relief transfer in the amount of \$600 to be transferred from the Interest on Short Term Borrowing Account 729-5925 and to be transferred to the Plumbing Inspectors Account 243-5710. CM seconded. Unanimous.
- 3.12 Review request of Unitil to cross, alter, or construct within a public way for installation of a gas service at 8 South Street: CS moved to approve the request of Unitil to cross, alter, and/or construct in a Town way for installation of a gas service at 8 South Street. CM seconded. Unanimous.
- 3.13 Discuss Charter Committee and review of Home Rule Charter: Mr. Sheehan explained that though the 7-member committee was created some time ago, there are not enough volunteers yet. SL made a plea for volunteers. Mr. Sheehan explained the difference between an appointed committee and an elected commission as well as the limitations on a committee.
- 3.14 Review request of Police Chief Erving Marshall to accept a donation in the amount of \$6,000 from the Give Back Ride: Mr. Sheehan noted that this is a ride that happens every year with a different entity receiving the donation. This year the Police Department was the recipient and they would like the Board to accept this generous. CS moved that the Board accept the generous \$6,000 donation from the Give Back Ride organization to the Townsend Police Dept. Gift & Donation Account. CM seconded. Unanimous.
- 3.15 Review and approve rental purchase agreement with HP Fairfield for a Johnson Vac Sweeper Model VT650. Mr. Sheehan reviewed the situation. Town Counsel has been consulted and confirmed that the

purchase is legal. CS moved to approve the rental purchase agreement with HP Fairfield for a Johnson Back Sweeper model VT650 contingent on review by our Town Accountant. CM seconded. Unanimous.

IV APPOINTMENTS OF PERSONNEL/OFFICIALS

- 4.1 Review request of the Conservation Commission to appoint Emily Norton for a term from June 17, 2014-June 30, 2015 and Veronica Kell for a term from June 17, 2014-June 30, 2016: Mr. Sheehan received additional information from the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC). CS read the letter from Jennifer Pettit into the record. She included the above-mentioned information and volunteer response forms. Jim Deroian (JD) said Steve Marshall put in his paperwork six months ago. He has been attending meetings as asked. He should have been brought on board. JD said it was his decision to table the appointments. Ms. Kell and Ms. Norton are well qualified, but he feels it is a matter of principle. When he joined six years ago, he was naïve, but willing to learn. SL asked if it was his expectation that if the person came to meetings they would get the appointment. Discussion about the makeup of the Board and Mary Small's absence. Karen Chapman (KC) recounted that the vote to appoint Emily was unanimous and the vote for Ronnie was 3-2 in favor. SL recapped that five people voted on both of these appointments and expressed her displeasure with the lack of professionalism being portrayed. The Board of Selectmen counts on the Conservation Commission. They bring forward recommendations for this Board to appoint. Discussion about the option of appointing an alternate. CM stated that after hearing from both sides, he is not comfortable voting tonight. He would like to schedule a joint meeting. Leslie Gabriliska (LG) said Mary Small offered her resignation, but the Commission did not accept it. KC pointed out that the Conservation Commission is not posted for this meeting. SL agreed with her colleagues that more discussion needs to take place. The Commission's main charge is to uphold the law. It is difficult to do if opinions are getting in the way of facts.
- 4.2 Review and approve annual appointments. CS moved to approve the FY15 annual appointments of Personnel and Officials as attached to the record with the addition of Karen Chapman for a term effective July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017 and Jenifer Pettit with a term effective July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017 to the Townsend Conservation Commission, CS moved to amend motion to not include Karen Chapman and Jennifer Pettit. CM seconded. Unanimous.
- 4.3 Review request of Police Chief Erving Marshall to appoint Brent Davis as a Police Officer from June 19, 2014 to June 30, 2014. CS moved to appoint Brent Davis as a Police Officer from June 19, 2014 to June 30, 2014. CM seconded. Unanimous.

V WORK SESSION

- 5.1 Board of Selectmen updates and reports.
CS read off a list of topics she would like to discuss at future meetings.
CM moved that the Board issue a proclamation for the St. John's groundbreaking. CS seconded. Unanimous.
- 5.2 Town Administrator updates and reports: Mr. Sheehan announced a change in tax bills, explaining that the Town is employing a lock box system where payments will be sent to a bank.
- 5.3 Review and sign payroll and bills payable warrants. CS moved to sign payroll and bills payable warrants out of session. CM seconded. Unanimous.

9:41PM CS moved to enter into executive session under MG L c. 30A, s. 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respects to the Telecommunications Union and adjourn from executive session. CM seconded. CS: aye, CM: aye, SL: aye.

Note: documents used or referenced during the meeting are available at http://www.townsend.ma.us/Pages/TownsendMA_BOSAgenda/ or in the Selectmen's Office.