

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF JANUARY 12, 2016
SHEPARD MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

PRESENT: Dario F. Nardi, Chairman, Robert E. Lavash Sr., Vice-Chairman, James A. Gagner Jr., Clerk
ATTENDEES: Jim Kordek, Colleen Montague, Tom Boudreau, Sara Prideaux, Beverly Soltys, Stanley Soltys

Chairman Nardi called the meeting to order at 7:00 and led the Pledge of Allegiance in the Selectmen's Meeting Room in the Shepard Municipal Building.

Chairman Nardi announced that tonight's meeting was being both video and audio taped and requested anyone in the audience to disclose if they are recording tonight's meeting. Ms. Colleen Montague acknowledged she was recording.

Minutes

Motion to accept the meeting minutes of January 5, 2016 as written made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous.

Old Business

Discussion re: Use of MOB Gym – Vote Expected

Mr. Nardi opened the discussion on permitting the use of the MOB Gym on Friday's. At a prior meeting, Mr. Nardi had expressed concerns over a possible issue of liability. He read from a response provided by MIIA regarding the matter "...is the town charging for use of gym? If no, then there is no big liability issue..." If the Selectboard has continued concerns, they could obtain Certificates of General Liability from the youth groups and have them name the Town as an additional insured. There was some discussion between the members of the Board as to heating; lighting and use of the facilities when the building is closed for operations. Mr. Gagner is in favor of, citing the benefit to the kids. Mr. Lavash is opposed, citing concerns over heating and that prior requests by other groups had been denied use, Ms. Beverly Soltys added, if the building would be open, why not open for business and employees. Mr. Stanley Soltys inquired if the Selectboard had looked into why this/the youth group was not permitted to use the facilities in West Brookfield anymore. Mr. Nardi could not comment as he had no information on the matter. Mr. Gagner motioned to open the gym. Mr. Nardi seconded, 1 – opposed (Lavash). Mr. Nardi asked that any prior group previously denied by contacted. Ms. Prokop asked that the new group complete the reservation application and provide complete information of the responsible party.

Comments & Concerns

Ms. Soltys asked the Board members why officer LaFlower was being paid for K-9 training and at an overtime rate as early as November 24th, prior to the Board signing the grant documents at a meeting in December. Mr. Nardi stated he was not aware of it. Ms. Soltys asked if the Board reviews the payrolls, prior to signing the warrant. Mr. Nardi stated that he does not see individual time sheets, however, is briefed weekly by accountant on matters that may involve the warrants. Mr. Nardi will reach out to the Police Chief.

Mr. Stanley Soltys asked if the written response to his list of questions regarding the K-9 unit was available. Mr. Lavash provided the written requested response. Mr. Soltys asked both Mr. Nardi and Mr. Gagner if they had each read his questions, both affirmed they had.

Correspondence

The Board reviewed the following:

1. The office received notice from Cultural Council Member, Mary Plassé of her resignation from the council. *Board requested that a note be sent to Ms. Plassé, thanking her for her service.*
2. The office received a letter from Elmer & Diane Fontaine expressing concerns over a large amount of water due to beaver dams. The amount of water could potentially wash away their barn, house and the homes below in West Brimfield. They are seeking guidance from the Board of selectmen on the matter. (The Office provided a copy of their letter to the Board of Health and Highway Surveyor). *The Board ask Mr. Boudreau to look into the matter.*

ACO Sara Prideaux – ACO Assistant, discussion

ACO, Sara Prideaux came before the Board to discuss the position of Alternate ACO. Ms. Prideaux stated that current ACO, Leah Chadwick has done a great job; however she [Sara] would like the Board to consider a change in staff for the ACO, for an individual that could take on more duties and give more assistance to her. There was some questions and answers between the Select board and Ms. Prideaux as to a new candidate seeking more hours, therefore more salary and how many calls Ms. Prideaux is responding to a week, to which she replied an average of 8. Given that the Selectboard has begun budget discussions and this request could impact the budget, Mr. Nardi requested that the Board take under advisement. A motion to table the matter, made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous.

Highway Surveyor – Chapter 90, discussion

Thomas Boudreau, Highway Surveyor is before the Select board to continue and update his proposal for use of Chapter 90 funding. At the conclusion of their last discussion on the matter [mtg. October 22nd] Mr. Boudreau was to contact DOT District II for clarification on funding and available monies. Mr. Boudreau remarked he has available approximately \$470K to work with, before the next round of funding. Therefore, he would like to apply a process known as rejuvenation to portions of South St to Brook Rd as previously discussed. The process could also be applied to the portion of road between Gilbert Rd and Rte. 19, with approximate costs estimated to be \$170K. Although he has not performed this method in Town, he has visited other communities where it has been applied with much success. The Select board inquired as to duration of this improvement on those roads, to which Mr. Boudreau replied that one could expect a 4-5 year duration. There was some additional discussion on a raised [bump] section on South St, to which Mr. Boudreau indicated that an effort would be made to correct the defect prior to the rejuvenation procedure.

An additional project Mr. Boudreau is hoping to accomplish, is the continued improvement(s) from Keys Road through to Brimfield Road and Bemis Road through to Little Rest Road, all at a rough estimated cost of \$512K, for which a portion of the 2016 funding would be need to be used. There was some additional discussion between the Selectboard and Mr. Boudreau as to current road conditions and the pros and cons between rehab vs. rebuild, wherein monies are better spent on preservation. In closing, Mr. Boudreau informed the Board that the project from Rte. 19 through Crouch Road, had come in under budget. The Select board is optimistic the weather will continue to hold and not add additional deterioration to Town roads; they thanked Mr. Boudreau for his project outline and updates. Mr. Boudreau will make the Board aware of the next time a surrounding community employs the rejuvenation process; so they may have the opportunity to see it firsthand.

Appointments – Zoning Board of Appeals; Conservation Commission

A motion to appoint the following individuals to the Warren Zoning Board of Appeals and Warren Conservation Commission, made by Mr. Lavash; second Mr. Gagner – unanimous.

Warren Zoning Board of Appeals:

Kerry Schmidt	ZBA 1 year	06-30-2017
Richard Czaparowski	ZBA 2 year	06-30-2018
Ronald Leger	ZBA 3 year	06-30-2019
Susan Neri	ZBA 3 year	06-30-2019

Warren Conservation Commission

Joyce Eichacker	ConCom 3 year	06-30-2019
Rich Demetrius	ConCom 2 year	06-30-2018

Treasury Warrants and Invoices

Motion to approve the following warrants made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous

<u>Date</u>	<u>Warrant #</u>	<u>Amount</u>
01/11/2016	95	36,278.07
	97	79,899.80

Motion to approve the following warrants made by Mr. Nardi; second: Mr. Gagner – 1 abstention

<u>Date</u>	<u>Warrant #</u>	<u>Amount</u>
01/11/2016	96	242.00

Motion to approve the following invoices made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous

<u>Fiscal Yr</u>	<u>Invoice No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
FY14	#13	Comm. Assistance Program through Nov 2015	PVPC	9,12.76

New Business

Mr. Lavash asked Mr. Gagner as to any interest updates on the Red Sox Pawtucket. Mr. Gagner replied there have been multiple calls back and forth, nothing to report as of yet.

Mr. Gagner reported he had contact with Mr. Ryan Chamberlain from the Baker Administration with regards to finding funding sources for town projects and seeing any projects the State is seeking that the Town could be involved in.

Mr. Nardi announced that Board is entering its FY17 Budget planning season. The topic will be placed as an agenda item weekly to allow departments to come in and discuss their proposed budgets.

Ms. Beverly Soltys asked the Selectboard if there were any plans for the 275th Anniversary of the Town. Mr. Nardi replied he was not aware of any plans, he recalls there was a Committee formed for the last big event, and however he would be willing to meet with Ms. Soltys to discuss further.

Next Meeting Date: January 19, 2016 @ 7:00 PM

Motion to Adjourn made by Mr. Lavash; second: Mr. Gagner – unanimous at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorena Prokop
Administrative Secretary

James Gagner, Clerk