

Members present: Kevin M. McCormick
John W. Hadley
Siobhan M. Bohnson
Members absent: Michael J. Kittredge, Jr.
Christopher A. Rucho

Mr. McCormick convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Read and Acceptance of Minutes from Previous Meeting

Motion Mr. Hadley to approve the regular session meeting minutes from November 19, 2014, seconded by Ms. Bohnson.

Motion Mr. Hadley to approve the executive session meeting minutes from November 19, 2014, seconded by Ms. Bohnson.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Concurrence on the reappointment of Gerard Bourque to the position of Veterans Agent effective January 1, 2015 for a term to expire on April 30, 2015 at a rate of \$141.91 per month

Motion Mr. Hadley to concur with the appointment, seconded by Ms. Bohnson, all in favor.

2. Concurrence on the hiring of Thomas Ventura, Worcester as a Van Driver for the Council on Aging at Step 1 of Grade 1, 11.62 per hour

Motion Ms. Bohnson to concur with the hiring, seconded by Mr. Hadley, all in favor.

3. Consider accepting the following donations for the Celebrations Committee on behalf of the town: Donations in the amount of \$1,725 from Meat Raffle at Fynder's Pub and donation in the amount of \$500 from the American Legion Auxiliary Post 204

Motion Mr. Hadley to accept the donations, seconded by Ms. Bohnson, all in favor.

4. Update on solar signs

Mr. Sylvia provided an update on the signs, which Mr. Gaumond delivered. The DPW has received the signs, DIGSAFE notifications have been cleared, the DPW will install this week and the signs will be registered with our insurance company. The vendor will provide technical guidance on the installation and programming of the flashing lights and ongoing inspections will follow the installation to ensure proper operation. The Board has no questions on this item.

5. Update on Malden/Crescent Street repairs

Mr. Sylvia provided an update on the signs, which Mr. Gaumond delivered. The DPW installed approximately 30 tons of hot mix asphalt at various points along the side of Malden Street to bolster its strength during the winter plowing season. They will continue to monitor the street. The resident expressed appreciation for the most recent effort work. They still intend to advertise the project in January and begin construction in May.

6. Present Municipal Calendar for 2015

Mr. Gaumond explained that the calendar is a tool that he has been using for his ten years. It is a good indication of things that happen on a monthly basis and will be uploaded to the town's website.

Joint Meeting with West Boylston Housing Authority to Fill Vacancy until the Next Town Election, June 2, 2015

The Board is joined by Marcia Cairns, Chairman of the Housing Authority and members Janice Ash and Eva Gambacinni. Mr. McCormick explained that the purpose of the meeting is to fill a vacancy which exists on the Housing Authority until the next town election to be held on June 2, 2014.

Mr. McCormick read the following letter of interest from resident Brenda Bowman. I would like to apply for the open position on the Housing Authority. I do believe I can be of much help to this committee; I have a big interest and knowledge in the arena of affordable housing. The Mission of the West Boylston Housing Authority is to offer its residents a clean and safe well maintained living environment in which to live. I will seek out every opportunity to serve both the community and its residents in this manner. There is no one else present who wishes to be nominated. Mr. Gaumond advised that the office has not received any other applicants to serve on the Housing Authority.

Ms. Cairns advised that Ms. Bowman could not be here tonight. She did speak to her and told her about what the Housing Authority does and she thinks she will be a good fit. Mr. Hadley asked if they feel comfortable with the applicant. Neither Ms. Ash or Ms. Gambaccini know the applicant personally. Ms. Cairns noted that she delivered meals on wheels for about five years and she was very good with the elderly. She feels comfortable with her. There are no other questions.

Mr. McCormick called for a roll call vote on Brenda Bowman filling the vacancy. Ms. Cairns yes, Ms. Gambaccini yes, Ms. Ash yes, Mr. Hadley yes, Ms. Bohnson yes, Mr. McCormick no. We will notify the Town Clerk of the results of this election. Mrs. Lucier will prepare a Certificate of Vote

Pat Bryant, Finance Committee Candidate

1. Concurrence on the appointment of Pat Bryant, 12 Chapman Ave to the Town-wide Planning Committee as the designee of the Finance Committee effective December 5, 2014 for a term to expire on June 30, 2017

Ms. Bryant joined the Board. Her experience includes 40 years of accounting and tax and financial analysis experience. The Board is pleased with her experience.

Motion Mr. Hadley to concur with the appointment, seconded by Ms. Bohnson, all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS (cont.)

7. Concurrence on the appointment of Pat Bryant, 12 Chapman Ave to the Town-wide Planning Committee as the designee of the Finance Committee effective December 5, 2014 for a term to expire on June 30, 2017

Motion Mr. Hadley to concur with the appointment, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

8. Review update to Board Policy A-5, Relations with Citizens (CR)

This request was submitted by Mr. Rucho. If the Board agrees to the change proposed, which is to add the Selectmen's email address, we will include it in our posting when we update our policies in January. No one indicated having any issue with the request.

9. Consider recommendation from the Facilities Implementation & Strategic Planning Committee regarding property for a senior center

Mr. Hadley, Chairman of the Facilities Implementation & Strategic Planning Committee reports that the Committee is recommending we proceed with trying to purchase the Bethlehem Baptist Church and request the Board of Selectmen to authorize going forward with those negotiations.

Motion Mr. Hadley to go forward with negotiations to purchase the Bethlehem Baptist Church,

seconded by Ms. Bohnson, all in favor. Mr. Hadley noted that the Board needs to appoint somebody to negotiate with the Church. Ms. Bohnson offered to assist Mr. Hadley with that.

Motion Mr. McCormick to have Ms. Bohnson and Mr. Hadley work together on those negotiations, seconded by Ms. Bohnson, all in favor.

10. Consider recommendation from the Facilities Implementation & Strategic Planning Committee regarding an article for town meeting

Mr. Hadley explained that the Committee will be looking for funds for architectural drawings for a police station.

Motion Mr. Hadley to include an article on the May town meeting to seek funds for architectural drawings for a police station, seconded by Ms. Bohnson, all in favor.

MEETINGS, INVITATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. January 10, 2015, Selectmen's Retreat to be held at the Publick House in Sturbridge

Ms. Bohnson would like to reschedule the retreat to another date and the date of January 17th was suggested. All members indicated that would work with their calendars.

2. January 21, 2015, 7:05 p.m. – joint meeting with the School Committee to fill vacancy on the School Committee

SELECTMEN REPORTS

There are no reports this evening.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Hadley would like to get a light for the flag pole at town as he was informed that in order for it to be flown in the evening it needs to be lit.

Mr. McCormick reports that the flag at the library is not lit and suggested installing a spot light on the pole. He would like to get the Personnel Board up and running again as we completed the wage study project. He feels this is something the Board of Selectmen should get involved in, there are three vacancies and he encouraged other members to seek out qualified residents to serve.

With no further business to come before the Board, motion Ms. Bohnson at 7:20 p.m. to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Hadley, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: December 17, 2014

Nancy E. Lucier, Municipal Assistant

Kevin M. McCormick, Chairman

John W. Hadley, Vice Chairman

Siobhan M. Bohnson, Selectman