

## **Select Board meeting minutes September 26, 2011**

**Select Board members present:** Bill Martell, Ed Martin, Linda Michaud (arrived 6:20pm)

**Select Board members absent:** none

**Others present:** David Goldin (Board of Assessors, Planning Board), Lori Krikorian (Town Administrator), Joe Larson (Historical Committee), Fire Chief Ray Murphy

### **Open**

Selectman Martell opened the meeting at 6:00pm

### **Minutes**

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Moved by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Michaud, unanimously approved as written.

### **Appointment of Judy Rudolph to ZBA**

Judy Rudolph was present.

The Select Board members reviewed the letter of interest by Ms. Rudolph and comments by the ZBA Chairman. On a motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectwoman Michaud, Judy Rudolph was unanimously appointed as an Associate Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Select Board thanked Ms. Rudolph for her service.

### **Appointment of Darius Modestow to School Committee**

Darius Modestow was present.

The Select Board reviewed the resume sent by Mr. Modestow. On a motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectwoman Michaud, Darius Modestow was unanimously appointed to fill the vacant position on the School Committee until the next Town election.

### **Appointment of Deb Lichtenberg to Inspector of Animals**

Selectman Martell explained that the Inspector of Animals appointments expire March 31<sup>st</sup> and should be done in the Spring going forward. On a motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectwoman Michaud, the appointment was unanimously approved. Selectman Martell asked the Town Administrator to arrange to have Ms. Lichtenberg sign the paperwork.

### **Universal Electric – WMECo energy efficiency grants**

Marc Riel Sr. was scheduled to discuss this with the Select Board but did not attend. The Select Board will wait to discuss this when he can be present.

### **WMECo / inter-municipal mower use agreement**

Selectman Martin explained that WMECo will buy the mower and the participating towns can share it for a low cost, approximately \$600/year, if it breaks while the Town is using it, then the Town will be responsible for its repair. Selectwoman Michaud asked how old it is; Selectman Martell replied that WMECo replaces it every ten years, this year it is new. Selectwoman Michaud asked if the Town needs it; Selectman Martell replied that DPW does need and want it. Selectwoman Michaud moved to approve the agreement to share a

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mower with WMECo and with the towns of Sunderland, Deerfield, Leverett, and Whately, Selectman Martin seconded, unanimously approved.

### **United Nations Day**

On a motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Michaud, it was unanimously approved to declare October 24<sup>th</sup> as United Nations Day.

### **Warrants**

Articles 1 & 2 – Selectman Martell read the article

Discussion: The additional part-time officer salary and vehicle fuel are to support an extra shift in response to the break-ins occurring in the Valley, it has been successful in reducing crime and the Police Chief would like to continue it

Article 3 – Selectman Martell read the article

Discussion: The School Committee has exhausted what they can do and the next step forward for exploring a regionalization option is to form a formal committee to delve into the numbers and find out if it is feasible and desirable; the article wording is a result of discussion between Town Counsel and the School Committee Chair; one member would be the School Committee Chair, other appointments would be by Select Board, possibly one member should be from the Finance Committee

Article 4 – [was not read]

Discussion: Town Counsel stated minimum number of required hearings by General Law is one, members of the CPA by-law committee have suggested two would be more appropriate to ensure all residents with concerns have opportunity to be heard, Select Board members agreed

Article 5 – Selectman Martell read the article

The Select Board reviewed the data provided by Collector / Treasurer, actual receipts for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter have been \$16,578.32 x 4quarters = expected annual CPA revenue of \$66,313.28, 5% for administrative costs allowed, which is \$3,315.67

Article 6

Discussion: Is it really possible to vote COLAs without knowing amount, Town Counsel stated this language would be ok for such, money has already been put into reserve account, it is just necessary to obtain permission for transferring it.

On a motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectwoman Michaud, it was unanimously voted to sign the Fall Town Meeting warrant.

The Select Board decided to not have Town Counsel present nor available by cell at Fall Town Meeting.

Selectman Martell noted that the Fire Chief had sent in a warrant article regarding funding updating Fire radio equipment to become compliant with narrow-banding and read meeting minutes from the Spring indicating that the Select Board, Fire Chief, and Finance Committee had agreed to put it on the Annual Town Meeting warrant in May 2012; Fire Chief agreed that would be fine though he was hoping to do it sooner.

### **Liaison reports**

DPW – Selectman Martin – Selectman Martin and Mr. Adamcek attended two JPC / DOT meetings regarding the Amherst Road project, the agencies seemed unenthusiastic but

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suggested Mr. Adamcek assemble the relevant / compelling information regarding the project, they will collect it in January and get back to Pelham in March, Pelham should submit a proposal in writing if seriously considering splitting the project; Mr. Adamcek stated that Mass Highway has renewed Pelham's DEP permits so Pelham is ok for two more years; Selectman Martell stated Sen. Rosenberg's office has said they have done all they can for Pelham regarding the TIP, however Representative Kulik stated he thinks Pelham may be able to get money for the project from the State's transportation bond program; Selectwoman Michaud stated she would try to find someone at UMassAmherst who could help with moving the project along.

Town Offices – Selectman Martin – Edna on vacation next week, all ok

Energy Committee – Selectman Martell – working on by-laws

Police Department – Selectman Martell – running smoothly

Fire Department – Selectman Martell – all is fine

Library – Selectwoman Michaud – they met same night as School Committee, but will have minutes to review

School Committee – Selectwoman Michaud – worked out regionalization warrant article, re-organizing with resignation of School Committee Chair

### **Old Town Hall painting project**

Mr. Larson stated Historical Commission drew up summary of how they would like to proceed [finding donations of paint and just put labor out to bid], want to make sure this is ok with Select Board before running it by Town Counsel; Select Board said ok to send it to Town Counsel.

Selectwoman Michaud asked if the building is set for winter; Mr. Larson replied that it has been prepared and should be fine, noting their carpenter has done a very good job.

### **Surplus fire truck**

Chief Murphy stated it is probably only going to sell for scrap, possible \$1,500; Selectman Martin noted it was functioning just two months ago and hoped it could do better; Select Board asked Town Administrator to speak with Town Counsel regarding best way to advertise & dispose of it.

### **Old business**

#### **Sewer line project**

Mr. Adamcek stated the project is delayed and won't start until next Spring.

#### **Liquor on Town-owned property**

Selectwoman Michaud asked if Ms. Lynch had submitted the figures [she hasn't]; Mr. Larson stated he would follow up on this.

### **New business**

#### **Emergency preparedness**

Selectwoman Michaud stated that she and Selectman Martell attended the Franklin County Selectmen's meeting, there had been a lot of discussion regarding the hurricane and aspects of FEMA & National Guard processes that were slowed due to lack of having necessary written authorizations for work, also there are oddities in the laws that may jeopardize future reimbursements, such as if a road is patched instead of letting it become

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impassable, etc., Pelham should look at these to make sure there aren't issues should there be such an emergency, Representative Kulik is looking into these issues as well. Mr. Adamcek stated FEMA has lowered their normal threshold for reimbursement from \$5,000 to \$1,000 so Pelham may receive some monies, Chief Thomann is looking into it.

**Select Board schedule**

Selectman Martin is unable to attend the next regularly scheduled meeting on October 12<sup>th</sup> however there will be a quorum so the Select Board will meet as planned.

**Adjournment**

On a motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectwoman Michaud, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:15pm.

**Documents examined by the Select Board**

Meeting minutes September 12, 2011

Fall Town Meeting warrant articles

Old Town Hall painting project proposal for donations

United Nations Day proclamation

Mower agreement

Deb Lichtenberg re-appointment as animal inspector

Correspondence from Judy Randolf & ZBA Chairman regarding appointment

Letter of interest from Darius Modestow for School Committee appointment