

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes 4/4/18, Rhodes Building, 6:30pm

Present: Selectman Martell, Selectman Ribeiro, Selectman Pearson, Chief Thomann, Tilman Lukas, Abbie Jenks, Pete Wilson, Kathy Martell, and Susannah Carey.

Open: Selectman Martell opened the meeting at 6:30pm.

Minutes

Motion to accept minutes from 2/1/18, seconded by Selectman Martell, motion passes.

Motion to accept minutes from 3/15/18 as amended, seconded Selectman Martell, motion passes.

Motion to accept minutes as amended from 3/21/18, seconded Selectman Martell, unanimously approved.

Village Center Bylaw

Selectman Pearson made the following Ethics Statement:

“Subsequent to the BoS meeting on 2/13/2018, during which Planning Board Chair Abbie Jenks asked the Select Board for a motion to **Request Planning Board to create by-law changes to create town center**, I have become aware that the map includes our family property.

I have since consulted with the State Ethics Commission and was advised by counsel that I would need to recuse myself from any deliberations on this matter and that I should leave the room during discussion.

I would ask the BoS to review if the vote taken regarding this matter on 2/13/18 is still valid, or if the BoS would like to revote without me.”

Upon conversation with Ethics Commission regarding Selectman Pearson’s location & inclusion of her property in the proposed Village Center, Selectman Pearson recused herself from discussion and left the room.

Planning Board Chair, Abbie Jenks, will check with Ethics Commission and recuse herself if recommended because of her homes location as well. Pete Wilson said that he had wondered about this too, but not said anything.

Edits have come back from counsel. Motion to have Planning Board take reviewed/edited Village Center proposal to Planning Board public hearing on 4/23/18, seconded Selectman Martell, motion passes.

Part Time Officer

AP returned. Kalju Lee left his part-time position with the Police Department. Sean Sawicki will take his position and offer weekend availability to the Department. Motion to hire Sean Sawicki as part time officer, seconded Selectman Ribeiro, unanimously approved. Police roster is full.

Effective immediately, the Pelham Police Department will begin using Non-Criminal Civil Bylaw citations as required by Chapter 94G, sec 13(d) for Open Container of Marijuana in a motor vehicle violations. Police Department previously used Chapter 90 Tickets.

Opening Remarks for Town Meeting by Select Board

Short statement and/or recap by BoS to be prepared by each Board Member. Moderator, Dan Robb, will be notified the BoS will each speak at the beginning of ATM.

Draft Orientation Packet for New Select Board Members

Information from page 5 in the Selectmen’s MMA handbook should be collected to accompany Orientation Packet; procedures adopted by Pelham BoS (Norms Document), list of key town officials with phone numbers, current year budget information, and town report.

Select Board Write up for 2017 Town Report

Motion to approve 2017 report as amended, seconded Selectman Ribeiro, unanimously approved.

Website Discussion

VT&S was consulted on E-Alert for public who subscribe through website. Selectman Ribeiro and Selectman Pearson noted that alerts are not working even after they signed up for them. Clerk Martell said they should be working.

BoS would like to ask other board/committees if they would like to offer agendas and/or minutes through E-Alerts. Select Board and Conservation Commission minutes & agendas offered as well as Town Alerts, News & Announcements, and COA docs.

Selectman Pearson noted that there had been some confusion about the agenda posting on the website on 4.3.18. Selectman Pearson stated that the AGs office did not have the website listed for Pelham as an official posting method and that the AGs office told her they would revise the official posting method after the Select Board had voted the posting method and then reported to the AGs office that vote.

Motion to formalize with Attorney General Town of Pelham's posting requirements as outside on the bulletin board, in the Town Clerk's binder, and/or on the website, seconded Selectman Ribeiro, unanimously approved.

Annual Town Meeting

Meeting with Town Moderator to finalize the warrant on Monday 4/23/18 at 6:00pm.

MVP Workshop Update

Since the MVP workshop was posted online and is not a public event, the language should state that registration is required. 13 confirmed participants to date. Flyer was created and the event was posted on the Library Facebook page.

Town Officials

Chief Thomann announced that Nancy Long, current Dog Officer, could move into the open position for Animal Inspector, which Debora Lichtenberg resigned from in mid-March. Position will be posted on the website for 2 weeks and added to future BoS agenda for appointment.

Tilman Lukas, Housing Committee Chair, updated Board on work with Valley Community Development Corporation (CDC) to make Pelham more affordable by offering a 1st time homebuyer program with a 15K loan that is forgiven over 5 years in order to encourage people to stay in their homes and help with down-payment costs. Housing Committee to meet with Pelham CPC and discuss funding on 4/19/18. Warrant Article will appear on Special Town Meeting in the Fall. Tilman address procurement procedures.

Liaison Reports

Highway; Selectman Pearson; Rick currently working on RFP specs for warrant to repair & paint CCP. Will put out to bid hopefully before TM and can firm up figures on TM floor if necessary.

Town Offices; Selectman Pearson; Request for feedback for June Massee due back April 15. June attending trainings on 4/11, 5/16, and 6/10-6/13.

Fire Department; Selectman Martell; everything ok.

Police Department; Selectman Martell; nothing new.

Energy Committee; Selectman Pearson; Warrant for ATM. Solar Hot Water Challenge going on now offering rebates from the State to residents. Town of Wendell obtained grants for energy efficiency methods including HVAC work and solar cooperative. After ATM, EC may elect to look into current heating system in the Elementary School for possible district heating solutions.

Finance Committee; Selectman Martell; Meeting on 4/5/18 to look over ATM warrant.

Library; Selectman Ribeiro; Adult poetry evening and for teens, MVP flyer for 4/21 event created and posting on Library's Facebook page.

Elementary School; Selectman Ribeiro; PTO meeting on 4/5/18 about budget. Charter School expansion request stalled for now so pressure will continue from School and surrounding Towns.

Regional School; Selectman Ribeiro; meeting on 4/10/18 at 6:30pm.

Other-none.

Old Business-none.

New Business-AP noted that instead of using 'New Business,' the MMA handbook states that the Attorney General prefers "time reserved for topics the chair did not reasonably anticipate." (page 11) Motion to match language in MMA handbook for MA Selectmen for 'New Business,' seconded Selectman Ribeiro, unanimously approved.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:58pm, seconded Selectman Ribeiro, unanimously approved.

Documents Examined

Ethics Statement from Alisa Pearson, 3rd Draft Orientation Packet, Select Board article for 2017 Town Report, MassDOT memo to Law Enforcement Officials for non-criminal civil bylaw citations.

Respectfully submitted, Susannah Carey