**Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes**

**5/11/2017, 6:00pm, Rhodes Building**

**Present:** Select Board members Alisa Pearson, William Martell, & Karen Ribeiro, Selectmen’s Administrative Assistant-Susannah Carey, Fire Chief-Ray Murphy, Police Chief-Gary Thomann, Highway Superintendent-Rick Adamcek, Linda & Steve Lang-Gunn, Sally Goldin, David Litwak, Sherry Ziemba, Scott Plotkin & Amy Wasserman, and Town Clerk-Kathy Martell.

**Open:** Meeting began after Executive Sessions ended at 7:15pm.

**Country Lane Circle Planting**

Lawyer sent back a memo/opinion about the Country Lane Dispute. Selectman Ribeiro read from memo, “Accordingly, it is my view that the Town has the authority to allow, subject to conditions, or to prohibit the planting and gardening activities in question.” Background information provided related to circle planting by involved parties as well as Police Chief and Highway Superintendent. Reason was sent to lawyer’s office, because of land rights and use by one family. Correspondences have gone back and forth with Selectmen’s Administrative Assistant, Town Clerk for road questions and deeds, and the Attorney for months.

Motion made by Selectman Pearson unless neighbors come to an agreement, then the land defaults back to Town for use until neighbors can agree, not seconded.

Scott Plotkin has an Attorney to rule under adverse possession; referenced Lexington area. The Town in that case will not be able to get the land back. Selectman Ribeiro read page 2 on memo on adverse possession case and Chapter 86, section 3 that would protect against adverse possession. Scott said that no deed was found for the circle/cul-de-sac on Country Lane, just the Country Lane development itself and the Town’s acceptance of that development (Northampton Town Hall, Registry of Deeds).

Amy Wasserman said that if Sally/the Lang-Gunn’s buy the fruit trees they desire for the property, she will plant them.

David Litwak and Sherry Ziemba, residents of 12 Country Lane, stated their disappointment in the neighbor’s failure to communicate.

Recommendation proposed by Select Board that all Country Lane residents get together and come to an agreement about the cul-de-sac area. Police Chief, Gary Thomann, will mediate the meeting to take place before June 15th. If the residents cannot agree on the use of the space by June 15th, then the Town has two options; Town either rules to revert the space/land back to Town property where it will be maintained/mowed 2 times per year by Highway Department, or the Town rules in favor of the Plotkin/Wasserman garden planting to stay on the circle and be maintained by their family. Once the Town makes a decision, all cul-de-sacs in Town will have to abide by what is determined.

**Bid Award-DPW Dump Truck**

3 bids for May 1, 2017 bid opening received and opened by Rick Adamcek and Susannah Carey.

**Patriot-Freightliner/Western Star** bid for $203,622 with trade in for $3,500.00,

**Mack** bid for $197,745 with trade in for $1,000.00,

**International-Nutmeg** bid for $185,301 with trade in for $2,100.00

Select Board members agree and feel comfortable with Rick choosing which truck would be the best fit for Pelham with his 24+ years of experience and 4th truck purchased with the Town. Pro’s for the Western Star truck include: longer lasting, easier to work on, less plastic and more metal, easier to maintain and access different parts of the truck (buttons, lights, etc), stronger frame than other trucks, single frame (replacing current truck that has a double frame issue), and Detroit engine. The final bid price, less the trade-in, for Patriot-Freightliner/Western Star is $201,122.00. Other add on that Rick will be purchasing is a 2-way radio.

Motion to accept Rick Adamcek’s 1st choice pick and to award the DPW truck to Patriot-Freightliner/Western Star for $201,122.00, seconded by Selectman Ribeiro, unanimously approved.

**Chapter 90 Contract**

Contract usually appears every year, State contract to be signed tonight is for 10 years for Chapter 90 (Annual allotment per year used for road projects/repairs). There is no choice as to what funding Pelham receives annually from the State. Last year there was an overlay done on North Valley, from Amherst Road to Buffam Road. This year Rick Adamcek is looking to do an overlay on Enfield Road, from Amherst Road to Packardville Road. Motion to sign the Chapter 90 contract for 10 years, seconded by Selectman Ribeiro, unanimously approved. Rick Adamcek will hand deliver the contract on Friday May 12, 2017 to the Northampton office.

**Police & Fire Accident Renewal Quote**

Quote from MIIA Insurance for Chubb Police & Fire Accident Renewal yearly contract. Questions to ask:

1-Maximum $608,275 amount

2-Town currently at $300k, max is $500k for medical benefits-other communities reaching limits

3-Weekly Indemnity is at maximum of $2,500.00. Other communities elect $750-$1,000. Could Town consider and receive new quote if changed to $1,000.00.

4-Where does Excess Medical appear/which line?

Table Insurance until questions answered.

**Aggregation Rates**

Eversource winter rate was .0906 and the period will be ending 6/30/2017. The new Eversource summer rate will begin 7/1/17 until 12/31/17, and is .08563. Selectman Ribeiro has reached out to other municipalities; Greenfield; for advice. No decision made on rates other than the Aggregation will be tabled until later meeting.

**Town Officials**

Kathy Martell, Town Clerk, brought up the Town Meeting set-up. There were 2 unhappy groups that requested tables; Cultural Council and Energy Committee. Cultural Council wanted to have their table where they wanted and Energy Committee also did not like their spot chosen and moved into the cafeteria. Susannah Carey commented that as organized as she was with emails and map, there were still issues because of the spacing in the School hallways. Selectman Pearson stated she spoke with Susannah about possible fixes at the Town Meeting; move everyone in the cafeteria, keep conversation open with those groups that have requested tables in the past for future suggestions/comments. The space in the cafeteria is small but there may be a way to clear some of the contents out. An announcement would be helpful during the meeting by Moderator to visit the tables that have come to share information. Not really another big event in Pelham where Boards/Committees can display materials and speak with the public. Selectman Ribeiro suggested a 1 X 1 plastic stand that holds pamphlets. During Elections Kathy Martell had said that with the hallways so narrow, there is only a certain table that can be set up in space outside Ramsdell room for bake sale/raffle. The stand may work for spacing issues for Elections, but as far as Town Meeting is concerned the public bodies in Town would lose the personal interaction with those visiting tables, which can be critical for recruiting new members. Kathy said that maybe the School would be amendable with plan to have everyone in cafeteria. If tables were set up in back of gym where town meeting was, there may be complaints and could disturb the meeting. Board members agreed to give comp time to Susannah Carey for both days during Town Meeting set-up.

Selectman Ribeiro would like to get feedback from those parties who had tables and send by email; Council on Aging, Cultural Council, Energy Committee, Community Garden Committee, & Friends of the Pelham Library.

**Public Comment**-none.

**Liaison Reports**-

Elementary Schools- Selectman Ribeiro; meeting not held on the 3rd but will be meeting on 16th of May.

**Old Business**

Susannah Carey will send out performance tracking form electronically to Board members. This is a 2-way public form for Board of Selectmen to use for employees for documentation to track involvement with employee. If used in Executive Session will have to remain in Executive Session until minutes/notes voted on by Board of Selectmen to be released. When Ex. Session minutes released 6 months/year later, they move into general records and then are public. Motion made by Selectman Pearson to not use the performance tracking form until ready to implement procedure to use it, seconded by Selectman Ribeiro, unanimously approved.

**New Business**

Susannah Carey will make a copy of the Planning Boards Village Center document for Selectman Ribeiro and put in mailbox.

PVPC Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Community resilience Building workshop grant opportunity until May 17, 2017. Grant awards from $10k-$50k and the workshop would be about how to make Pelham more resilient against climate change. Some of the requirements due by 5/17/17 are to return a signed MOU and provide a statement of who will be involved in Town. Selectman Ribeiro will be the point person for this grant and workshop and stated that Tony Rogers was interested. Motion to sign the PVPC MOU for the Community Resilience Building Workshop grant by Selectman Pearson, seconded by Selectman Ribeiro, unanimously approved.

Selectman Ribeiro stated that there was a 2001 study done on Police Department and asked if it was necessary to have more than 1 year contract with Chief. Every year Board of Selectmen sign 3-year contract with Chief of Police. Susannah will speak with forward document to Police Chief if he needs a copy.

Next Select Board meetings: May 24 at 6:30pm, June 21 at 6:30pm (Susannah will ask Chief Thomann if he can attend this day instead, change from 6/14/17), July 12 at 6:30pm.

For 5/24/2017 meeting add File Cabinet-Historical Commission to agenda.

Susannah Carey will have a list of what is left in Selectmen’s account for FY17 at June 21st meeting.

**Minutes**

Minutes from 4/3/17 tabled until next meeting.

Motion to approve the Minutes from 4/8/17 with amendments, seconded by Selectman Ribeiro, unanimously approved.

Motion to approve the Minutes from 4/19/17, seconded by Selectman Pearson, unanimously approved.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Ribeiro, unanimously approved at 10:06pm.

**Documents Reviewed**

Country Lane Circle Planting memo from Attorney, Chapter 90 Contract, Police & Fire Accident Insurance quote-Chubb & MIIA, refreshed Aggregation rates, performance tracking form, MVP grant-PVPC and MOU.

Respectfully submitted, Susannah Carey