Board of Selectmen Meeting minutes

8/8/2016, 6:00pm, Rhodes Building

**Selectmen Present:** Alisa Pearson, Jim Doubleday, & Bill Martell

**Others Present:** Tillman Lukas, Gale Hubley, Jeffrey Eiseman, Dana MacDonald, Town Clerk-Kathy Martell, & Selectmen’s Administrative Assistant-Susannah Carey.

**Open:** Selectman Doubleday opened the meeting at 6:00pm.

**Minutes**

On a motion to accept the minutes from 7/11/2016 by Selectman Martell, seconded by Selectman Pearson, unanimously approved.

On a motion to accept the minutes from 7/25/2016 by Selectman Martell, seconded by Selectman Doubleday, unanimously approved.

On a motion to change the language in the minutes from 6/11/2016 by Selectman Martell, seconded by Selectman Pearson, unanimously approved.

**Appointments to Conservation Commission**

On a motion by Selectman Pearson to accept Gale Hubley and Tillman Lukas as temporary members until September 30, 2016 on the Conservation Commission, seconded by Selectman Martell, unanimously approved.

**Shutesbury Road Land Parcel**

Bob Groves who owns property on Shutesbury Road would like a Conservation Restriction put on part of his land. Dana MacDonald met with Bob to discuss and review this. In the past it was discussed to protect the land using part of CPA money. There are some wetlands on the southern part of the land and the land cannot be perced. The Conservation Commission supports putting a Conservation Restriction on the land. There is no cost to the Town of Pelham. On a motion by Selectman Pearson to approve and sign the Conservation Restriction contract between Robert L. Groves and the Town of Amherst pending review by the Conservation Commission, seconded by Selectman Martell, unanimously approved. The Conservation Commission will review at their meeting this week and will update the Board of Selectmen to discuss at their next regular meeting on September 12th.

**Amherst Road Landlocked Property**

The 9.5 acre parcel is surrounded by Town of Amherst Watershed property, has no access or frontage, and is mostly wetlands. The land was taken out of 61B, a recreational land use designation, last year by the Town of Pelham since the 61B form wasn’t submitted. Dana MacDonald recommends that it is best suited as conservation land, which would be owned and managed by the Town of Amherst. Pelham would get money in lieu of taxes (Pilot). Fred Vanderbeck, Finance Committee, said that the committee is currently looking into other surrounding towns that have 2 different tax rates. Evaluations are usually offered at $500-$1000 per acre. The assessed value for this property was $18,200.

On a motion to not purchase the landlocked property on Amherst Road by Selectman Martell, seconded by Selectman Pearson, unanimously approved.

**Eiseman Well Discussion**

Jeffrey Eiseman presented a proposal regarding the salt occurring in his old well for the Town to consider. He is asking the Town to pay for his well by waiving one year of his current real estate taxes. Selectman Pearson asked if there were any other wells contaminated on Arnhold Road or anywhere else in Pelham. Selectman Martell stated that all he knew of was on Route 202 (State Road). Selectman Martell would like Mr. Henshaw, investigator and well driller, to submit his report on the Eiseman’s well and both the Eiseman’s proposal and the well report will be sent off to Town Council. Selectman Doubleday will ask Mr. Henshaw to submit his report. No money is available until Spring Town Meeting if a lump sum of money is needed. Selectman Martell asked Fred Vanderbeck if the Town could lower their income by about $8,500 and exempt a resident from paying property taxes. The Selectmen’s Administrative Assistant will contact Mr. Eiseman when more information is provided from Insurance Co. and Town Council.

**Council on Aging Appointments-Rudolph & Kwartler**

On a motion to replace Nancy Fehlker with Judy Rudolph on the Council on Aging by Selectman Pearson, seconded by Selectman Martell, unanimously approved.

On a motion by Selectman Martell to appoint Eli Kwartler as the Town of Pelham’s Outreach Worker for 3 year term, seconded by Selectman Pearson, unanimously approved.

**Warrant-September 8, 2016 Election**

On a motion by Selectman Pearson to sign 5 copies of the Election Warrant for the September 8, 2016 Primary, seconded by Selectman Doubleday, unanimously approved.

**Job Description for Assistant Records Access Officer**-not ready. Move to 9/12/16 meeting.

**Early Voting Discussion**

Voting hours will occur October 24th thru November 4th during both the Town Clerks regular working hours and hours that will be created during the evening and on the weekend. Early voting can be at the Rhodes building if the State approves the location.

Voting during regular hours will be:

October 24, 26, 28, 31, Nov. 2 10:30-1:30pm

November 4, 10:30-12:00pm (cut off at noon).

Extra voting hours created could be:

Wednesday, October 26, 4:00-8:00pm

Saturday, October 29, 8:00-11:00am

Kathy Martell will be posting in several newspapers two times, and information will be in the Slate, Town’s website, and State website. Selectman Pearson wanted Kathy to share what the total cost of the Advertising is for the Election with the Board of Selectmen.

**Town Officials-**none.

**Public Comment**-none.

**Liaison Reports**-

Fire; Selectman Martell spoke to Chief Murphy about the fire on Old Pratts Corner Road. The Fire Chiefs new vehicle will be coming in September 2016.

Police; Selectman Martell spoke with Chief Thomann and the new full-time officer is working out well.

School-Selectman Pearson has no news than what was in the paper.

Library-Selectman Pearson reported at last meeting an idea was presented to expand Library.

Highway-Selectman Doubleday stated that North Valley Road Bridge was closed. MDM, Roof Insulation Project Company, hopefully starting soon once all the paperwork is completed and submitted.

**Old Business**

Selectman Pearson followed up on childcare for the Fall Town Meeting. Principal Lisa Desjarlais said the Elementary School could be used. Lennie Ware is licensed and runs the afterschool program there. She is available and would provide staff at $15/hour for 3 year olds and up. There needs to be a sign up so Lennie knows how many people to hire for that day. Usually Fall Town Meeting lasts 1-2 hours at most. The Selectmen would like Administrative Assistant to ask Insurance Company if the Board of Selectmen/Lennie Ware can charge money at the school and ask if the information can be posted in the Elementary School newsletter. This item will be added to the Selectmen’s agenda for September 12th meeting.

**New Business**

1. Veterans’ Services Contract needs to be sent to town council for review.

2. Stephen Bell will be replacing Mathew Dow as Health Inspector:

On a motion to replace Mathew Dow with Stephen Bell as Health Inspector by Selectman Martell, seconded by Selectman Pearson, unanimously approved.

3. On a motion by Selectman Pearson to appoint Douglas Rae as the Assistant Electrical Inspector, seconded by Selectman Martell, unanimously approved.

4. Send the email received from MIIA regarding on-the-road visit schedule to Finance, Energy, and Housing Committee. The Board asked Kathy Martell if she wanted to set up a time to talk about solutions for the new records person position she can.

**Adjournment**

On a motion by Selectman Martell, seconded by Selectman Pearson, unanimously approved at 7:15pm.

**Documents Reviewed**

Shutesbury Road Land Parcel-Groves Property, Amherst Road Landlocked Property documents, Eiseman well Proposal, Election Warrant for 9/8/2016, Veterans’ Inter-Municipal Agreement, Email from MIIA visit schedule.

Respectfully Submitted, Susannah Carey