

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes

2/21/18, Rhodes Building, 6:00pm

Present: Selectman Martell, Selectman Ribeiro, Selectman Pearson, Joe Larson, Tom Fanning, Stan Swiercz, Kathy Martell, Burt Franzman, Joan Epstein, Julie Rypsys, and Susannah Carey.

Open: Selectman Martell opened at 6:30pm.

Motion to approve Minutes from 1/10/18 as amended, seconded by Selectman Ribeiro, unanimously approved.

Motion to approve Minutes from 1/17/18 as amended, seconded by Selectman Ribeiro, unanimously approved.

Motion to approve Minutes from 1/22/18 as amended, seconded by Selectman Ribeiro, Selectman Martell votes no, motion passes.

Motion to approve Minutes from 1/29/18 as amended, seconded by Selectman Pearson, unanimously approved.

Motion to approve Minutes from 2/13/18 as amended, seconded by Selectman Pearson, unanimously approved.

Minutes from 2/1/18 tabled until next meeting.

Motion to vote the agenda, seconded by Selectman Pearson, unanimously approved.

Budget Hearing and Select Board Projections for FY19

Spreadsheet presented by Administrative Assistant. Final numbers not ready for Blanket Insurance and Ambulance Service.

Public Comment

Discussion included Residents from 133 and 135 Shutesbury Road who are not included in Broadband Buildout. Letter shared from residents and comments regarding lack of inclusion in current Broadband extension in Pelham. Document with resident questions and projected costs associated with joining in with Town of Shutesbury for Broadband service. Request to have representative from Comcast, Pelham's Cable Advisory Committee, and Board of Selectmen schedule a meeting with 2 households for discussion. Solomon Goldstein-Rose has spoken with residents about possible grants through the Town of Shutesbury. Recommendation for residents to look into Verizon hot spots.

Historical Commission

Joe Larson presented agreement between Town of Pelham and PVPC for professional services preparing architectural descriptions of 28 buildings for the MA Historical Commission Inventory Form for Phase V of the Pelham Building Inventory Survey project. Money was already voted for at Town Meeting. Motion to sign agreement between PVPC and Town of Pelham, seconded by Selectman Ribeiro, unanimously approved.

New Member Appointment Energy Committee

Motion to appoint Caitlin Dragun-Bianchi to the Energy Committee, seconded by Selectman Martell, unanimously approved.

Green Communities Grant Application – Stan Swiercz

Energy Committee looking at next round of grants. MA Save will only pay for new lighting replacing with LEDs. EC also looking at Pem2 data loggers to collect data from circuit boxes on buildings in town.

Motion to sign Green Communities Grant Application, seconded by Selectman Ribeiro, unanimously approved.

Municipal Aggregation Warrant Article

No warrant article from Energy Committee at this time to include for Spring Town Meeting. Future article would encourage town towards 100% renewable energy and continuity with other towns like Amherst and Northampton. Energy Committee will meet and have joint discussion with Select Board members.

Community Center HVAC Issues Engineering Expense

Company from Agawam recommended by Town of Ashburnham, who received grant money to buy HVAC system. Looking at district heating system between the Elementary School and the Community Complex Building. Energy Committee will reach out to School and Green Team. A warrant article will be presented at next Board of Selectmen's meeting 3/7/18 for engineer to provide study and design.

275th Anniversary Gift from Stan Rosenberg

Select Board decided to have Senator Rosenberg present gift to Town at Spring Town Meeting in May.

2nd Draft Orientation Packet for New Selectmen-tabled.

Town Officials-Public Records Request from Joseph Davis, 338 Daniel Shays Highway, to put sign up for UMASS on Route 202. Complaints of cars turning around in driveway and missing turn onto Amherst Road. MA DOT should get the request/petition for signs because is a State Highway. Chief Thomann will be consulted. Will be added to agenda for 3/7/18.

Liaison Reports

Highway; Selectman Pearson; New Dump Truck body ready in 30 days; patching pot holes as appear; Insulation and siding discussion with Finance Committee Chair, HVAC replacement will occur first; To paint and caulk Community Complex could cost around \$120k, which could last for 30 years; Budget request for new fuel tank at Highway Garage, 2017 law change for double wall tanks, and power broom; Fuel quality from Dennis Burke has improved; Culvert grants offered & due 3/12/18, discussion with Highway Super on Quarry Rd and North Valley Rd locations; New Collector/Treasurer progressing in her position.

Fire Department; Selectman Martell; level funding budget and COLA.

Police Department; Selectman Martell; Asking for Full time position this year and warrant article for new vehicle.

Energy Committee; Selectman Pearson; report above.

Finance Committee; Selectman Martell; level funding at 1st meeting, next meeting on 2/21/18; Capital Stabilization account for new PD cruiser replacing 2012 Expedition.

Library; Selectman Ribeiro; Electricity program and using body to generate electricity; upcoming Jazz quartet on 3/3/18 at noon; Library of Congress event on 3/6/18 at 7:30pm using Quabbin Reservoir as example; Neighbor to Neighbor hosting talk on Syrian Refugees on 3/10/18 at 11am.

Elementary School; Selectman Ribeiro; Principal taking cut in pay and cutting research librarian position; preschool enrollment is challenge and expense to run, has to date 15/18 firm student commitments; School Committee next meeting on 3/7/18.

Regional School; Selectman Ribeiro; State Auditors recommend Indirect Cost Agreement for appropriations in Pelham; Town is waiting for budget information.

Old Business

-Discussion of transferring money out of Reserve Account for Board/Committee unforeseen expenses such as Planning Board expense for PVPC consultant for Village Center Zoning Proposal. More information available in DOR/Finance Committee Handbook.

-Finance Committee voted 4-0 in favor of transfer from Reserve Fund. Motion to approve and sign transfer of \$3,500.00 from the Reserve Account to Planning Board Expenses Account #015175.700, seconded by Selectman Ribeiro, unanimously approved.

-Letter to MDM Engineering signed as voted at 2/13/18 meeting.

-MVP Vendor Contract between PVPC and Town of Pelham. MVP workshop will be on a Saturday in April, department/board preference will be collected, grant is to be completed by June 30, 2018. Motion to sign MVP vendor contract with PVPC, seconded by Selectman Pearson, unanimously approved.

-Elementary School looking at \$23,000.00 extra cost for Health Insurance.

New Business

-Select Board survey total participants up to 40. Possible money available to Pelham from Amherst BID (Business Improvement District), more to follow.

-2 Warrant Articles from Town Clerk; move money from Dog Fund and the other to approve chapter 41, stating Saturdays as holidays so voter registration can be held on business days.

-Warrant Article coming from Michael Hussin

-On next Slate, request to shorten content

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 9:17pm, seconded by Selectman Pearson, unanimously approved.

Documents Reviewed

Agenda list, Minutes-1/10/18, 1/17/18, 1/22/18, 1/29/18, 2/13/18, FY19 BOS Budget Hearing Spreadsheet, Historical Commission Contract with PVPC, Green Communities Grant application.

Respectfully Submitted, Susannah Carey