

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
2/26/2020, Rhodes Building, 6:00pm

Present: Selectman Ribeiro, Selectman Agoglia, Tony Rogers, Rusty Rowell, Otis Rowell, Bill & Kathy Martell, and Susannah Carey.

Open: Selectman Ribeiro opened the meeting at 6:00pm.

Motion to accept the agenda as amended, unanimously approved.

Town Officials

Vision Software for Assessor's office will need to be upgraded from version 6 to 8. One-time cost will be \$8,000 to upgrade. Going forward the Town's payment annually will be for a hosting (\$2,500) and license (\$3,300-\$3,500). Rusty Rowell will speak with Finance Committee at their next meeting and bring back to the Selectmen for approval. Pelham will not be using the GIS system which was previously used when connected with Amherst.

Voting will be in the Ransdell Room on Tuesday from 7am-8pm. The Ramsdell room will close on Monday 3/2 at 12pm.

Special Town Meeting Date Discussion

RW Hall completing walk thru at the Community Building with discussions with Stan Swiercz. All design and bid documents will be completed on March 9th. Energy Committee will set up meeting with RW Hall to review the design and bid docs and add edits if necessary. Selectmen will approve final documents at their next meeting on 3/18/2020. A special Town Meeting is not required at this time. The Finance Committee approved funding to be allocated from capital stabilization and the Energy Committee has provided a warrant article for annual Town Meeting.

2019 Annual Town Report Article from Selectmen's Office

Motion to accept SB town report article as amended, unanimously approved.

Sign FRCOG Regional Collective Fire Extinguisher Services Agreement

Motion to accept the FRCOG fire extinguisher service, unanimously approved.

Annual Town Meeting Preparations

Edits made to postcard handout for TM. Add link and create google form.

Connect Pelham plan to have a Town Meeting 101 class/gathering. Announcement for the website once date, time, and location chosen. Rusty will find out new residents within 5 years as requested.

Idea to offer Boards/Committees tables for more recruitment.

Warrant article to change 'Board of Selectmen' to 'Select Board' has two pieces; general bylaw majority vote and zoning bylaw 2/3rds vote. Motion to approve warrant article for the annual town meeting warrant and approve the general bylaw and zoning bylaw changes to rename Board of Selectmen to Select Board, unanimously approved. Zoning bylaw article will be shared with Planning Board Chair.

Public Comment

Kathy Martell met with the Cyber division recently for security. Town website was down for two days which the State Cyber division will be investigating.

Liaison Reports

Highway: Selectman Ribeiro; Bids paperwork, training ongoing with Ethan, question about motion light inside salt shed.

Nothing new heard about the lighting over the bays at the Community building.

Town Office: Selectman Agoglia; Lori having issues with her computer. June and Gail finishing reconciliation when they will provide John Trickey the free cash figure. Census mailer sent out to residents. Mindy Domb will be present at the Elementary School census meeting on March 19. At this time, there are about 1030 registered voters in town.

Police Department; Selectman Agoglia; Part time officer hours will increase to 20 to cover staffing issues. Chief contract ends 6/30/2020 so a meeting will have to be scheduled. Accident at intersection of Route 9 and Harkness Road today.

Fire Department; Selectman Agoglia; Nothing to report.

Old Business

Recycling update-cost for single stream roll off is about \$6,780/year. Other options discussed but yet to be provided include curbside pickup option for recycling only and trash and recycling. There is a bill to hold producers responsible for recycling (materials, consumables) as well as a bottle bill in the docket.

Computer update-Smith College is offering 3-year-old computers to non-profits and municipalities.

Pilot Payments-State Senator researching, Mass water resource authority, Pelham's figure has increased over the years.

Community Choice Aggregation-Joint taskforce aggregation with Northampton and Amherst.

Connect Pelham- Could taskforce be part of the Select Board. Budget item included in Selectmen's budget for FY21.

School-Principal leaving after this school year.

Insurance meeting-Town of Amherst meeting to discuss options other than MIIA on 3/26/2020 at 4pm.

Boundaries of Pelham-Motion to sign 2020 BVP paperwork from Census Bureau, unanimously approved. Joe Larson may have more information here.

PVTA-idea for possible service to Pelham, pilot program.

Signs-Town office, Community building, and Old Town Hall sign proposal from Hale Custom Signs. Vector file request from Hale to include Pelham's hemlock image. A warrant article will need to be brought before annual Town Meeting for this request.

Burlington, MA- FCC is mandating Verizon to install 5G towers, but Burlington believes it is illegal.

BoS Wages-Spreadsheet put together of franklin and Hampshire county towns average salary of BoS members.

Space Needs Committee-Find out date for 1st meeting.

Town Clerk bill-nothing official yet. Position will be on annual town election ballot.

BoS would like to support all boards/committees with the 40B project.

Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from 1/8/2020 as amended, unanimously approved.

Motion to approve minutes from 1/29/2020 as amended, unanimously approved.

Unanticipated Items

National Flood Insurance Program from DCR-follow up with letter received.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:42pm, unanimously approved.

Documents Examined

BoS town report article, Fire extinguisher contract, Postcard for ATM, Board of Selectmen name change article for ATM warrant, Select Board salaries in Hampshire and Franklin County, minutes 1/8/2020 & 1/29/2020.

Respectfully submitted,
Susannah Carey