

Select Board Meeting Minutes

10/21/2020 7pm via ZOOM

Present: Select Board members Robert Agoglia, David Shanabrook, and Tara Loomis, Judy Eiseman, Robert Rowell, Daniel Robb, Randall Spalding-Fecher, and Susannah Carey.

Open: Select Board member Robert Agoglia opened at 7:00pm. Remote Script read by Susannah Carey. All Board members confirmed present.

Minutes

Motion to approve minutes of 10/7/2020 as amended, aye David Shanabrook, aye Tara Loomis, motion passes.

Hiring a Clerk of the Works for the Community Center HVAC Project

Energy Committee has discussed and is still searching for a possible candidate. Suggestion to discuss with David Waskiewicz, Zoning Enforcement Officer, who works in the Town of Amherst and may know some contacts. The Select Board was in favor of a part-time position that also reports to the job site as needed. The challenge will be to find a potential candidate located within close proximity to Pelham. This person will also need to show up unannounced to check on the project and contractors. The Energy Committee recommends that the candidate have HVAC knowledge but not necessarily be a VRF specialist. A retired person could be a good option.

Fall Town Meeting Planning Discussion

Tent was set up this morning. PA system was secured by Daniel Robb until Saturday. Town Clerk and Moderator will be opening the meeting at the Old Town Hall, then moving the meeting down to the Elementary School. Town Counsel will attend this year. Election Warden will be Robert Rowell. Suggestion to recognize Marion Nicolay who is celebrating her 100th birthday on Sunday, October 25, 2020. David Kidd of Government Magazine will be taking pictures Saturday at Fall Town Meeting. Mr. Kidd was in town 10 years ago when he documented the fall town meeting with photos and a story about the history. Judy Eiseman requested to bring easels for the PB maps, etc.

Appointment of Grace Dane & Kathleen Martell to 3-year terms on the COA

Oversight at the 6/17/2020 Select Board meeting with re-appointments. Both Grace Dane and Kathleen Martell were not re-appointed to the Council on Aging and should have been. Sincere apologies to Grace and Kathleen for the error. The Select Board regrets any problems this may have caused the Council of Aging.

Motion to appoint Grace Dane and Kathleen Martell to 3-year terms on the Council on Aging, aye Robert Agoglia, aye David Shanabrook, aye Tara Loomis, roll call unanimous.

Town Officials-no comments.

Public Comment-no comments.

Liaison Reports

Fire Department; Select Board member Tara Loomis; report under old business.

Highway Department; Select Board member Robert Agoglia; Rick would like part-time employee Charlie Ryznic to obtain a Commercial Drivers License (CDL). Cost is \$2500 and would be paid out of the Highway Department's budget. After the CDL is obtained, Rick would like to enter into an agreement with Mr. Ryznic

that solidifies his commitment to Pelham for the next five years. Town counsel will need to be contacted for assistance.

Police Department; Select Board member David Shanabrook; Chief Thomann will not be present at Fall Town Meeting due to the Drug Take Back event scheduled at the Police Station. David will check to see which officer will be present for the meeting.

Town Offices; Select Board member Robert Agoglia; Rhodes building still closed to the public. Early voting is happening in the Town Clerk's office. Susannah Carey just submitted the FEMA grant and is now working on the CARES Act round 2 application for reimbursements. Informal meeting to discuss Security Audit last week with Tech 1, Susannah Carey, and Robert & Otis Rowell. Tech 1 will give actions/recommendations as this piece was missing from the report. The Town also needs to obtain Microsoft Office license as the 2007 version needs to be updated. Suggestion to reach out to Tech 1 about offsite backup for the town office computers and training on how to restore files, etc. Select Board member Tara Loomis suggested that all boards/committees have an 'audit' to see how others are storing docs and files, etc. Topic will be revisited at the next Select Board meeting.

Old Business

Fire Department Succession Update-John Trickey, Finance Committee Chair, Select Board member Tara Loomis, and Fire Chief Raymond Murphy got together to discuss future scenarios for Pelham Public Safety Fire and Police Departments regarding what the town can afford and what makes sense. Recommendation for restructuring both Police and Fire departments with a Director of Public Safety position and to use existing personnel. Potential stop gap solution for two years or until 2023. Questions if Police Chief Thomann and the current Deputy Fire Chief would be interested in their new roles. Leverett and Wendell currently share a part time police chief. Could other surrounding towns share services/resources with Pelham? Pelham will need to do some studies with other towns and see if any mergers could be possible. Chief Murphy officially retires on July 1, 2021. Next step would be to follow up with Chief Thomann who will be retiring in June 2023.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:59pm, aye Robert Agoglia, aye David Shanabrook, aye Tara Loomis, roll call unanimous.

Documents Examined

Minutes 10/7/20, appointment paperwork for Grace Dane & Kathleen Martell.

Respectfully submitted, Susannah Carey