

Select Board Meeting Minutes

2/3/2021 7pm Virtual via ZOOM

Present: Select Board members Robert Agoglia, Tara Loomis, & David Shanabrook, Susannah Carey, Tracy Osbahr, and Robert Rowell.

Open: Select Board Chair Robert Agoglia opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from 1/20/2021 as amended, aye Robert Agoglia, aye Tara Loomis, aye David Shanabrook, roll call unanimous.

Review & Approve 2021 Annual Town Election & Meeting Calendar

Town Clerk prepared with assistance from Administrative Assistant. Election dates are statutory requirements where as the dates for the Citizen Petitions and Warrant articles deadline as well as the date to finalize the warrant are set by the Select Board. Motion to approve annual town election and meeting calendar as proposed by Town Clerk and Administrative Assistant, aye Robert Agoglia, aye Tara Loomis, aye David Shanabrook, roll call unanimous.

Review & Approve FY2021 Council on Aging Formula Grant Contract Renewal

Council on Aging Chair Tracy Osbahr explained the annual Executive Office of Elder Affairs contract. Every year Pelham receives about \$6k because of threshold the town falls under. COA looking to use part of the grant to hire an Outreach Worker for Pelham who counsels residents and provides information utilizing the SHINE program. Motion to approve the FY2021 Council on Aging Formula Grant contract renewal, aye Robert Agoglia, aye Tara Loomis, aye David Shanabrook, roll call unanimous.

Covid Vaccine-Pelham residents over 75 years can call the Amherst Senior Center, 413-259-2425, to schedule their Covid vaccine. The Amherst Senior Center serves as the Eastern Hampshire County hub.

Review & Approve FY21 & FY22 Ambulance Contract Agreement with Town of Amherst

Amherst Finance Director, Sean Mangano, provided contract with two-year commitment. A note that the Town of Hadley switched from the Town of Amherst ambulance services to a private ambulance company within the last year. Pelham would not change the current set up. Select Board Chair Agoglia will investigate provisions of any form of reimbursement which Pelham could benefit. Motion to approve the FY21 & FY22 ambulance contract with the Town of Amherst, aye Robert Agoglia, aye Tara Loomis, aye David Shanabrook, roll call unanimous.

Town Officials-no comments.

Public-no comments.

Liaison Reports

Building Inspector; Select Board member Tara Loomis; nothing new to report.

Fire Department; Select Board member Tara Loomis; Continue to work on development of Public Safety Director position. Conversations with Chief Murphy identified that the Town could apply for an exemption for Ray to continue employment in an administrative capacity only for the Fire Department. This option could buy some additional time to sort out both the Public Safety Director and Deputy Fire Chief. Current Fire Deputy Richard Hall is a stipend employee.

Highway Department; Select Board Chair Robert Agoglia; 1/27/21 accident on Amherst Rd resulted in damage to Town plow and dump truck as well as significant damage to passenger vehicle. No one was injured. An adjuster

reported about \$16k worth of damage. The damaged truck at this time is only being used for sanding. Request from ASM Sheetmetal for a quote to equip the new ERV unit in Rhodes Building with a heating element. This additional project requires that the Rhodes Building electrical service be upgraded to 200-amp service. The State CARES Act would cover the entire upgrade. With this next step completed, the Rhodes Building could be set up for future install of Mini-Split and/or solar. Rick has requested a quote to install motion lighting at the Rhodes Building.

Police Department; Select Board member David Shanabrook; Continued discussion of dogs, leash issues, and difficulty with enforcement. Chief Thomann will remind Dog Officer to continue to complete and file reports related. Select Board will reach out to Conservation Commission Chair about signage posted at Pelham trail heads reminding visitors to leash dogs at all times in conservation areas, and about the authority to restrict, and add a phone number for reporting, etc.

Town Offices; Select Board Chair Robert Agoglia; Town Clerk still awaiting AG approval of submitted bylaws. Susannah Carey working on grant proposals for Community Compact and CARES Act. The Slate winter edition was sent out to residents.

Tree Warden; Select Board member David Shanabrook; nothing new to report.

Old Business

Website Enhancements-Select Board member David Shanabrook investigating mytowngovernment as possible addition to enhance current town website with user friendly program for meetings, etc. Select Board Chair Agoglia will reach out to Sandra Burgess, Town Clerk, and see if she can connect with the Shutesbury Town Clerk who uses the program and gather feedback.

Election Voting Machines-new Dominion units have arrived.

Rhodes Building Doors-The MOD grant Susannah Carey applied for back in October 2020 for back door replacement was denied. Greenfield Glass provided the original quote for that grant. SC reached out again to Greenfield Glass for an additional quote to include replacement of the Rhodes front door. Rick Adamcek, DPW Superintendent & Building and Grounds Supervisor, and John Trickey, Finance Committee Chair, identified available funds leftover from previous projects that could cover the total cost to replace both doors, which was quoted about \$10,500.

Motion to approve door proposal from Greenfield Glass for both front and back door replacement at Rhodes Building, aye Robert Agoglia, aye Tara Loomis, aye David Shanabrook, roll call unanimous.

BLM Sign at Elementary School-The Select Board will reach out to the School Principal, School Committee, and Anti-Racism Advisory Committee about a complaint from someone and draft a resolution in support of posting the Black Lives Matter sign at the School.

8 Amherst Rd Partial Release-Paperwork to compliment 8 Amherst Rd property for Select Board to sign. Motion to approve partial release of mortgage by Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity for 8 Amherst Rd Lot 3, aye Robert Agoglia, aye Tara Loomis, aye David Shanabrook, roll call unanimous.

Biomass-Request by League of Women Voters of Amherst town counsel to draft a resolution in support of Biomass in Springfield. Pelham Select Board interested in drafting a similar resolution to be added to the Town Meeting warrant and voted on by Pelham citizens at the Annual Town Meeting.

Adjournment-Motion to adjourn at 8:22pm, aye Robert Agoglia, aye Tara Loomis, aye David Shanabrook, roll call unanimous.

Documents Examined-ATM & ATE calendar, FY21 & FY22 Ambulance contract, FY21 COA Formula Grant, minutes 1/20/21.

Respectfully submitted, Susannah Carey