**Board of Selectmen’s Meeting Agenda**

**3/20/19, 6pm, Ramsdell Room, Pelham Library**

**Present:** Selectboard members Alisa Pearson and Karen Ribeiro, Stan Swiercz-EC, Fred Vanderbeck-FC, Roger Conant, and Susannah Carey.

**Absent:** Selectman Agoglia.

**Open:** Selectman Pearson opened at 6:00pm.

**Minutes**-none at this time.

Note to send out Roundtable flip chart docs to all who attended on 3/5.

**Green Communities Grant**

Application for current round of GC grant with an ask for $250k for the new HVAC system for the Community Building. The last green communities grant for the Relamp was closed in order for the Town to apply for the new GC round. The remaining grant money, around $1,600, is now the Town’s responsibility. The electrician never sent the Town an invoice prior to the closure date, therefore the Town was unable to use with the remaining grant funds before they expired. Contracts are not required for electrical work in Town.

Stan Swiercz and Susannah Carey will submit the application on 3/28. Praise for Stan’s dedication to the Energy Committee projects and grants. Stan will be leaving the Energy Committee soon. Both EC members Tony Rogers and John Larsen have the ability to continue on with the GC grants. Selectman Pearson recalled her conversation with Elementary School Principal about the new AC unit for the School, which the Energy Committee can look into after the Community Building’s HVAC completion. The new MVP grant round could potentially pay for the School’s rooftop solar project, which is included under infrastructure. Motion to sign the Green Communities grant, motion passes.

Letter of interest from Sahar Daoudi to join the Energy Committee. Motion to appoint Sahar Daoudi, motion passes. Energy Committee has one vacancy left to fill.

**Annual Town Meeting Discussion of Warrant Articles and Citizen Petitions**

Roger Conant discussed resolution for changing state seal and state flag and the history behind the images. Question about language presented in the resolution if it was the same used by local Representatives. The resolution is supported by Representatives Sabadosa, Comerford, and Domb.

Invitation to Finance Committee for joint meeting on 4/17/19.

Planning Board Chair, Judy Eiseman, was present to answer any questions regarding the addition of 5 rezoning warrant articles prepared with help from Consultant Dillon Sussman, Dodson & Flinker. A public hearing will be held on April 8 about the rezoning articles. The consultant prepared a moratorium article for the Planning Board, but it was voted down 3-1. The article would have offered townspeople the opportunity to vote on placing a hold on the Village Center rezoning articles for one year’s time. Request to share the moratorium article with the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Pearson again raised concern for how and why the maps for the Village Center districts were formed and where the vote for the maps appears in the Planning Board minutes. 2017 minutes were till missing at this time. Judy Eiseman expressed that the Planning Board offered many opportunities; public hearings, meetings; for the public to come and talk about any issues related to the Village Center. Selectman Pearson was unable to locate dialogue with community members about maps and Village Center area. Convenience Store definition discussed. Concern expressed by Planning Board Chair about the citizen petitions and the neighbors’ unwillingness to trust the process and work by the Consultant and the Planning Board on this project. To address the map concerns, Judy Eiseman explained the ability to bring in sewer off of Amherst Road. The Town cannot require large lot zoning where sewer and water are in place, which led to the idea of smaller lots with less than 200 feet of frontage, ¼ to 1 acre in size, that are denser and promote affordable housing. The smaller lots are similar to those that appear in North Amherst around Cushman Market. The Planning Board will have a detailed article for the Spring Slate addressing the rezoning articles.

Highway Department article for painting & maintenance of Old Town Hall can’t be funded by CPA money.

Question if the Board wants to separate into two, the work at the Rhodes Building for windows and exterior painting. It appears currently as one for $40k. Question if lead removal from the antique boards would qualify for CPA funds. This would reduce the need to pay high cost of lead based paint handling that the Town incurs each time we paint.

Question on order of articles for Town Meeting & decision to keep placing any resolutions/citizen petitions after the money articles. Counsel will review all parts of the warrant. Background from Fred Vanderbeck, Finance Committee member since 2005, about the structure and warrant development due to residents’ interest in financial articles. Fred Vanderbeck remembered that finance articles were not always at the beginning of Town Meeting, but then people would leave before they were considered. Pelham’s culture seems to be changing and townspeople may want an opportunity to weigh in on what is important to them now as to what should be listed first on warrant; finance articles or citizen petitions. Idea for open discussion prior to morning break during Town Meeting for chance to reorder warrant.

Add article for HVAC for $40k to cover balance of new system, from Capital Stabilization.

Meeting in Whately on March 28 for Finance Committee or Board of Selectmen member to attend. Focus on reassessing how things are done as Town/City Officials.

**Records Information Clerk Position-Resume Update**

4 applicants resumes reviewed. Schedule interview with applicant Patricia Olanyk, who was recommended by Temporary Town Clerk, Sandra Burgess.

**Council on Aging Member Appointment-Ann Hondrogen**

Motion to appoint Ann Hondrogen to Council on Aging, motion passes.

**Town Officials-**none.

**Public Comment**-none.

**Liaison Reports**

Highway; Selectman Ribeiro; Estimated cost of about $38k for culvert fixes. Energy Committee has created project savings within scope of MVP Action grant. Funds not used by any of the three components of the current MVP grant can be transferred within. Collector/Treasurer created document with MVP expenditures to date & shared with Board via mailboxes. Town has received to date $83k, 60% of the total grant of $137, 500. New MVP grant application due April 19, 2019 has similar previous requirement that Pelham is responsible for paying 25% of the grant. The next round includes retrofitting infrastructure, property protection, and impervious gray/green infrastructure. Funds for the Elementary School roof repair do not fit within the new MVP grant round, but solar would. Connect Pelham meets Tuesday 3/26 at 6pm in the Fire Department Training Room. Invitation to Rick Adamcek to attend meeting on 4/3 for culvert discussion of costs to make repairs.

Town Offices; no report.

Fire Department; Selectman Pearson; Statistic report from January shared; 278 personnel hours, 4 trainings in Hatfield, 10 open burn permits, and 10 firefighters currently.

Police Department; Selectman Pearson; everything good.

Finance Committee; Selectman Ribeiro; next meeting March 4th. Request to Fred Vanderbeck to include Karen in the FC email chain as she is the FC liaison. Fred Vanderbeck recommended instead people check the website, that is what he does. Discussion of the Elementary and Regional School budgets, Middle School Roof for long term capital planning, and assessment for the Town of Pelham. Letter from APRSD Treasurer’s office regarding capital program and school committees vote approving MS roof project. Note by Fred Vanderbeck that regional capital has about $160k. Motion to sign roof repair acknowledgement letter from APRSD, motion passes. Note to add to 4/3/19 agenda for more discussion. Request to be sent for joint BoS and FC meeting on 4/17/19 to discuss recommendations and warrant.

Library; Selectman Pearson; no report.

Elementary School; Selectman Ribeiro; PTO fundraiser survey coming soon, roundtable for School and more support from parents/community. March 21 is the SGREE program informational session for parents/community from 6-8pm in Ramsdell Room. New school sign will be installed in May. Principal and Eric Castenson will be contacted for further information about pavilion project. Reminder to connect with School Principal about Board of Selectmen’s meeting requested with 5th & 6th graders. MVP elders' event with students will be kept as separate event from the Board of Selectmen meeting with students.

Regional School; no report.

Regional School District Planning Committee; no report.

Other-

Salaries with other positions; Building Inspector, Board of Selectmen; and exploring increases and what it would look like from the Finance Committee perspective. The expense report layout was reviewed and questions arose if there are better ways to communicate town finances and reflecting personnel salaries/funding. The report did not appear to be user friendly. Question for June if the new VADAR program will change the future layout of the expense report. Question for Fin Comm when reassessment happens.

Liaisons-There is no formal template to guide Board of Selectmen members on how to liaise with department/committees.

IECC & Better Building Codes- Date to register by is 3/29/19. Motion to register Pelham for an annual membership to the International Energy Conservation Code, motion passes.

PILOT program-suggestion that Board of Selectmen may want to draft a letter to Representatives about payments in lieu of taxes program.

**Time Reserved for Topics the Chair Did Not Reasonable Anticipate**

Abandoned Housing Initiative- Discussion included potential for town to be proactive about potential abandoned properties and grants available for restoration. The Board of Selectmen would like to set up a meeting in April and include Housing Committee, Fire Department, Building Inspector, Board of Health, & Health Inspector.

Letter from Eversource- Annual vegetation maintenance schedule shared. Discussion of high line ownership.

Letter for Governor/MMA legal team/Representatives to draft-Draft letter how Pelham is without a designated grant administrator. The appointed task force group finds challenges operating under Open Meeting Law constraints; posting meetings, quorums; when there are new State grants offered with short application deadline windows. Question if any assistance for grant writing Pelham could take advantage of when new grant opportunities are posted.

Representative Mindy Domb- Saturday office hours at Pelham Library. Select board would like to meet and speak about Chapter 70 and Community Choice Aggregation. Next opportunity to connect: May 4, 10:30am-12:30pm.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn, motion passes at 10:19pm.

**Documents Examined**

Green Communities grant application signature page, Annual Town Meeting warrant & citizen petitions, and Records Information Clerk resumes received to date.

Respectfully submitted, Susannah Carey