**Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes**

**8/7/19 6:00pm Ramsdell Room Pelham Library**

**Present:** Selectman Agoglia, Selectman Ribeiro, Selectman Pearson, Jeff & Judy Eiseman, Sarah Hall, Tilman Lukas, John Trickey, Tony Rogers, Fred Vanderbeck, Dana MacDonald, Bruce Klotz, and Susannah Carey.

**Open:** Selectman Ribeiro opened at 6:00pm followed by moment of silence for those who recently passed; Roger Conant, Eli Kwartler, and victims in El Paso, TX.

**Discuss with Chair/Designee about Communication, Involvement, Meeting Schedule for Updates, & How-to Best Support Work Carried Out**

Finance Committee-John Trickey recommended SLACK, a notification program all Chairs can use to share what is going on with their board/committee. Postings could be simple and brief. If more information is needed about a particular topic then Chairs would be responsible for reaching out outside of SLACK via phone/email. There would be no dialogue/conversations on SLACK. There appear to be no Open Meeting Law constraints with SLACK. The main goals are to have Chairpersons present try SLACK and provide feedback at the October 2nd roundtable meeting. Expectations and how the program will be used should be communicated to all users. Suggestion to post monthly ‘reports,’ which could be as easy as stating nothing new. Not all members present were in favor.

All board/committee chairs present in favor of the program and hope it will improve dialogue and communication.

Conservation Commission-Dana MacDonald would like to continue updating BoS during meetings once every couple of months.

Housing Committee-Tilman Lukas was interested in SLACK and hopes it triggers others to investigate information further and create a dialogue going between all Chairs.

Planning Board-Judy Eiseman stated the Community Hall project does not conform to new Village Center bylaws. SLACK seemed like a good idea.

School Committee-Sarah Hall suggested that budget time would be a good time to connect. If there are any other issues of interest to the Board of Selectmen to please contact her.

Energy Committee-Tony Rogers is in favor of posting to SLACK once a month.

ZBA-Jeff Eiseman stated their board meets very infrequently so there would not be any regular postings on SLACK.

Quarterly Chairperson meetings used to happen twice a year on Saturdays for information sharing but time was hard to manage at these meetings.

October 2 is the next roundtable. The first roundtable of 2020 will be Mar/April and will be a ‘café’ style.

**31 Boyden Road, Property of Jo Leslie Hirsch**

Ms. Hirsch is having her property re-surveyed by North East and would like to update the Board of Selectmen at September 4, 2019 meeting with maps, etc. Questions/issues exist here: Was the original survey accurate? If the original survey was wrong and redivision is proposed, then all parties need to meet and be in agreeance; Conservation Commission, surveyor, and Ms. Hirsch; especially since federal funding was used for the Buffam Brook Community Forest. And lastly, there are personality differences as well as different opinions with where lot lines are really and how the line will affect the property owners. Tilman suggested that discrepancies similar to this case had not involved altering boundary lines but having the property owner actually move structure(s) that are affected. The Town will require compensation and the Conservation Commission will need to make sure there is no net loss.

Invitation to Kestrel Trust staff members Kristen DeBoer and Paul Gagnon to attend the September 4th Board of Selectmen’s meeting.

Other-Dana MacDonald spoke about the Pemberton land parking area on Arnold Road. Judy Eiseman recently spoke with Rick Adamcek who approved the original parking plan. The amended parking plan was not shared nor approved by Rick so when construction of the parking area began, the project was stopped immediately due to lack of permitting, etc. The Planning Board will be creating a future bylaw change for parking on town roads.

**Review Town Volunteers Survey-Strengthening Communications with All Boards and Committees**

Online survey reviewed. Goals of the survey are to identify any problems that exist, learn if any holes present, to better understand individual experiences as members, compile opinions on terms and meeting experience, to see if any additional collaboration efforts exist, etc. Suggestion to present results at an upcoming roundtable meeting.

**Review & Sign Permission Form for FRCOG to Contract on Behalf of the Town of Pelham**

Motion to sign the permission form for FRCOG to contract on behalf of Pelham, unanimously approved.

**Town Officials**

8 Amherst Road- Tilman Lukas reported Habitat for Humanity is interested in the buildable lot in the front. It is proposed that the back of the property be separated and put into a conservation restriction. The owners are working with the Town and Kestrel Land Trust will lend a hand as well.

18 & 22 Amherst Road- Tilman reported about the proposed re-design to the affordable housing project at 22 Amherst Road submitted by Tom Kegelman, Berkshire Design Group. The project proposes to incorporate the large white house as an additional housing option and use the barn as community space, which could be for private/public use but warrants more discussion. The updated plan would create additional parking spaces as well as significant driveway changes; new exit onto Amherst Road, less steepening/grade, significant retaining wall down to affordable housing building. The entire project would be listed as affordable housing including both seniors and families. No sidewalks are planned at this time. Currently underway are a feasibility study and cost analysis. Zoning Board of Appeals will be involved once the 40B permitting discussion begins.

18 Daniel Shays Highway-Town owned property that had previous oil spill. Habitat for Humanity visited the site with Tilman Lukas. Certain environmental issues appear on the site as well as demolition plans. The Town is waiting to hear back if Habitat is interested.

First Time Homebuyers Class-Plan to hold a class in Pelham Library sponsored by Valley CDC.

**Public Comment**

Bruce Klotz, 33 Amherst Road.

Idling trucks/cars at the Meetinghouse Road/Amherst Road parking area. Ownership of site/parking area was unclear but Mr. Klotz wanted to know what action could be taken by the Town.

The solar speed signs were well received.

Mr. Klotz will also look into trespassing signs and relation to enforcement bylaw.

The lights on the Community Building currently fail to follow the Town’s zoning bylaws on brightness and question posed if dimmer/timers could be used. Board of Selectmen would like to discuss with Police Chief and Fire Chief at their next meeting.

**Liaison Reports**

Highway; Selectman Ribeiro; none.

Town Offices; Selectman Agoglia; none.

Fire Department; Selectman Agoglia; none.

Police Department; Selectman Pearson; none.

Selectman Pearson shared her relations with the Police Chief and how she has tried to connect with the Chief but has been unsuccessful. Selectman Agoglia speaks with Chief Murphy every other week. Discussion on how the Board of Selectmen can clearly identify the Liaison role and expectations for departments/staff. Generally, the Board of Selectmen communicate as ‘managers’ at regular meetings reporting out with conversations, either face-to-face or by phone, and should generally occur every other week.

**Minutes**

Motion to approve amended minutes from 6/5/2019, unanimously approved.

Motion to approve amended minutes from 6/24/2019, unanimously approved.

Motion to approve amended minutes from 7/24/2019, Selectman Pearson abstains, motion passes.

**Old Business**

Cell towers-State wide rule about 5G network that Towns can’t supersede. The Conservation Law Foundation, MMA, and the Daily Hampshire Gazette will be contacted. Potential warrant article may be created for future and letter to editor cc’ing local representatives asking for non-binding resolution requesting petition/study.

MVP-The MVP grant application will be resubmitted in September.

Governor Baker’s representative will be meeting with Selectman Ribeiro on 8/13/19. Discussion items include Open Meeting Law and its restrictions, SLACK program, shared resources, grant writing and support, who can hold board/committees accountable since without a Town Administrator/Town Manager, and the Town wants to note lack of notification about FCC’s third order, logging in town, brush mowing contract cancellation, 5G network, and Hemp Farm license issue.

Mindy Domb-Hours at the Pelham Library on September 7, 2019 10:30-12:30pm.

Telematics-Town needs 15 vehicles to participate. The Town will pay up front and get reimbursed with cost at $20 per vehicle/unit. Selectman Pearson will bring forward to Energy Committee if any grants available to contribute to costs.

**Items Not Anticipated**

Selectman Pearson submitted a climate trauma document. Copies will be made and added onto table inside Rhodes Building.

Ralph Faulkingham’s email response about the Council on Aging. Ralph would need to submit to the AG’s office officially for anything further on this matter.

Selectman Pearson stated she must resign from the Board of Selectmen at the earliest the next BoS meeting on 8/28/19. Board members praised Alisa for her service.

Next meeting change from 8/21 to 8/28/19, then 9/18 and 9/23-finalize FTM warrant with Dan Robb.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn, unanimously approved at 9:34pm.

**Documents Examined**

FRCOG permission to contract for Pelham, Climate Trauma document, 22 Amherst Road updated project plans.

Respectfully submitted, Susannah Carey