

**Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes  
11/20/2019 6PM Rhodes Building**

**Present:** Selectman Willard-Ribeiro, Selectman Agoglia, Robert and Otis Rowell, June Massee, Dave Waskiewicz (6:07), and Susannah Carey.

**Open:** Selectman Willard-Ribeiro opened at 6:00pm.

**Unregistered vehicles at 117 Buffam Road, Home of William Wilson**

Hearing will be scheduled for next meeting on 12/4 with William Wilson and other town officials. According to the Enforcement Officer no special permits were issued. No complaints have been received from residents about the vehicles, equipment, etc. The Enforcement Officer's previous request to move the vehicles and equipment away from the road was successful. The property collects many items with about a dozen cars; some registered, some not. None of the vehicles on site during previous visits appeared to be leaking fluids and catch cans were placed just in case. Fencing was suggested to Mr. Wilson as a screen. Orchard trees provide a natural 'fence' when the leaves are on the trees, but do not offer a 'block' from the road all year long. The Board of Selectmen would like to see screening all year long and could govern environmental damage if any. Evidence of a slab foundation confirmed Mr. Wilson has a future plan to erect a building for possible storage.

**Clarification of 40B Attendance Requirements for ZBA Members**

Confirmation of judicatory hearings and number requirement for each ZBA member discussed. One meeting may be missed, but the member must verify they are aware of the missed information. Motion to accept MGL Chapter 39, section 23D, unanimously approved.

**Vote Election Warrant for January 4, 2019**-tabled until 12/4/2019.

**Meeting Postings and School Committee Meeting Concerns**

Sarah Hall reached out to the Board of Selectmen over concerns that School Committee meetings were not posted in a timely manner. Sarah exchanged emails with Kathy Martell which Sarah described as a form of 'bullying' in an email to Selectman Ribeiro. Selectman Agoglia spoke with Kathy today and she was upset with Sarah about not reaching out to her first about these concerns since she is the Town Clerk. Kathy is more than happy to provide Sarah with her contact information for the future.

**59 Meeting House Rd Updates**

Land court has given Bank of America the foreclosure notice but it has not yet been recorded at the Registry of Deeds, therefore it is not official. The owner, Alice Ann Partridge, is still living in the house with 1 dog, eight cats, as well as a tenant. An eviction notice was received in the Tax Collector's office with intentions to evict Ms. Partridge but no action have been further taken. The house auction did not occur on November 13. Director of Public Health, Judy Metcalf, stated the town can proceed with a clean and lien on the property. An investigation recently took place with the Police Department. Alice recently was taken by ambulance due to injuries she claims were due to an incident with her tenant. Ms. Partridge appears to still be living in the house with eight cats, one dog, and one tenant.

**Burning Man – 10 Principles of Community Development**

Selectman Ribiero brought article from Governing magazine about annual event in Nevada. Incorporate the Burning Man principles on cardstock for handing out around Annual Town Meeting time.

**FY2021 FRCOG Agreement to Participate in Highway Products and Services Program**

Agreement to allow FRCOG to bid in FY21 on behalf of Pelham for a specific participation fee. HCG had previously provided this service to Pelham prior to their closure. A few HCG employees now work for FRCOG. Highway Superintendent reviewed and is in favor of the proposal. Motion to sign agreement with FRCOG for FY2021, unanimously approved.

**Vote to Follow IRS Guidelines for Mileage Rates**

School employees currently follow IRS mileage rate while remaining town employees have charged out mileage at 50 cents per mile. Motion to follow IRS mileage rate effective July 1, 2019, unanimously approved.

**Town Officials-**Otis Rowell has been looking into 'fixes' for the town office infrastructure, but no word back yet from Crocker Communications, a local company. The fiber optic network runs up to the Town Offices building although it is not currently utilized. The fiber network is only available for municipal buildings. A new phone service will also be researched. Suggestion to pay Otis for the work he is doing for the town hall and Board of Selectmen agreed and requested tracking time, etc. Otis already fixed the calendar on display in the side window of town hall, which will need to be added to the Town's account, which has a very secure solution. Otis will further pursue community calendar ideas and present back to Board of Selectmen.

**Public Comment-**none.

**Liaison Reports**

**Highway;** Selectman Ribeiro; half of the lights over the bays at Community building are off with approval from both the Police and Fire Chief. Rick Adamcek will reach out to contact about the light shades again. Solution is to put flashing on shade. Selectman Ribeiro would like to include a circuit discussion when Rick sets a date to speak with the Electrician.

**Town Offices;** Selectman Agolia; Motion to close Town offices on the day after Thanksgiving, day before Christmas, and day before New Year's while allowing employees option to take their own time paid/unpaid or come in to work with no public/business hours those days, unanimously approved.

**Fire Department;** Selectman Agolia; November was very busy with two mutual aids to Amherst FD. Fire at Buffam Road accessory apartment. Upcoming budget meeting with Finance Committee FD will request an increase to Firefighter stipends. Continued discussion of Fire Chief succession.

**Police Department;** Selectman Agolia; Upcoming budget discussion with Finance Committee PD will request permanent speed sign on Amherst Road, increase in officer pay, and part-time PD administrative assistant. Note about designated signage for entering Pelham Village Center. Officer Cabrera has not been recruited to State Police yet. Officer Parnell will begin at the Academy on February 1, 2019. USPS truck in three accidents within one month's time in town.

**Old Business**

**200 Daniel Shays Highway-**Mr. Santos accepted proposal with Town for payment plan. First check due to Town by November 22, 2019.

**Cybersecurity Awareness Grant-**Motion to sign cybersecurity awareness grant, unanimously approved.

**APRSD Letter of Acknowledgement from School Committee for recent vote, capital plan-**Motion to sign APRSD letter of acknowledgement, unanimously approved.

**Energy Committee Assistance with PVPC**-free local grant reporting. PB and BoS to revisit current solar bylaws prior to Annual Town Meeting regarding tree cutting. EC request for authorization to expend money to pay for structural cost estimate at the Community Building for the VRF system. Fee around \$825, but BoS will wait to hear back if Pelham received MVP grant funds.

**Country Lane Dog Additional Complaint**-Wasserman/Plotkin dog is sometimes on and off leash. Dog Officer has not issued a citation for this additional complaint from Mr. Brown. The Selectmen's Administrative Assistant will reach out to Nancy Long.

**Country Lane Garden**-Selectmen agreed no structures should be allowed on town owned land. The garden that the Wasserman/Plotkin family has been keeping on the cul-de-sac is unsightly should be removed.

**Minutes**-tabled.

**Adjournment**-Motion to adjourn at 7:42pm, unanimously approved.

**Documents Examined**

Burning Man Principles Article, FRCOG Agreement for Highway Products and Services Program, Cybersecurity Awareness grant agreement, and APRSD letter from School Committee.

Respectfully submitted, Susannah Carey