

August 21, 2017

**Board of Selectmen
Minutes
August 21, 2017**

Present: Priscilla Gimas, Vice Chair
Mary Dowling, Clerk
Craig Moran
Michael Suprenant
Debra Gauthier, Administrative Assistant

Absent: Mary Blanchard, Chairman
Leon Gaumond Jr. Town Administrator

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., following the Pledge of Allegiance. She informed the Public that both the Chair Mary Blanchard and Leon Gaumond both are ill and will not be present and we wish them both a speedy recovery. The Executive Session that was scheduled today will not occur due to their absence.

Public Service Announcements

P. Gimas announced that West Nile Virus was confirmed in Sturbridge on August 8th by CMMCP near Wells State Park. P. Gimas announced vacancies on the Design Review Committee, Assoc. Members of Conservation Commission, and Open Space Committee.

P. Gimas added on Sunday August 27th at 11am in the Sturbridge Town Hall 308 Main Street in the Veterans Memorial Hall there will be a "Meet and Greet" for its New Fire Chief John Grasso, all resident are welcome to attend it is open to public and everyone with refreshments.

M. Dowling thanked all the Business and Restaurant establishments that participated in the Library's summer raffle.

Correspondence

M. Dowling read the correspondence.

M. Dowling added she received a memo from Larry Morrison indicating his desire to be on the Cultural Council

Public Hearing – Mann's Forest Land Management

M. Dowling read the hearing notice. Brett Mann and Lionel Hessler from Mann's Forest Land Management introduced themselves. B. Mann stated that this project is located on the Union Ct line it is an 80 acres of land on Breakneck road and it is owned by Florence B. Misselwitz Trust has been approved by the State. There are two landing areas to service this mile long property.

Motion: To close the Public Hearing By: M. Dowling
2nd: By: M. Suprenant

Vote: All in Favor Passed 4/0

Motion: To approve the Forest Cutting Plan from Mann's Forest Land Management for 80 acres of land located on Breakneck Road and owned by Florence B. Misselwitz Trust contingent upon issuance of a \$5000 bond issued to the Town and notifying the DPW Director upon the start of the project, not work after dusk, and any other conditions typically provided by the Town except the busing requirement. By: M. Dowling
2nd: By: M. Suprenant

Vote: All in Favor Passed 4/0

Appointment of Alternates to the Central Mass Regional Planning Commission for FY18

Motion: To appoint Mary Dowling as the alternates to the Central Mass Regional Planning Commission for FY18. By: M. Suprenant
2nd: By: C. Moran

Vote: In Favor Passed 4/0

Appointment to Special Events Committee

Motion: To concur with the appointment of Sandra Nasto to the Special Events Committee. By: M. Dowling
2nd: By: M. Suprenant

Vote: In Favor Passed 4/0

Motion: To concur with the appointment of Annie Roscioli as a representative of the Recreation Committee and Angela Smith as a representative of the Cultural Council to the Special Events Committee. By: C. Moran
2nd: By: M. Suprenant

Vote: In Favor Passed 4/0

Approval for IOD for Ronald Obuchowski

Motion: To approve the IOD for Ronald Obuchowski from the Sturbridge Fire Department. By: C. Moran
2nd: By: M. Suprenant

Vote: All in Favor Passed 4/0

P. Gimmas asked to delay the Riverlands discussion and to carry over to a future meeting the policy discussion for Conclusion of Selectmen's Meetings, Citizen Forums at Selectmen's Meetings, the Role of the Board of Selectmen and the Role of the Town Administrator so that the Chairman and Town Administrator can be present. Any comments on the policies should be sent to the Town Administrator. The discussion on the SAFER grant shall also be continued to a future meeting.

Old Business

C. Moran asked about telephone poles and said there were roughly 26 out of 30 double poles in the Rte 15 area. Also in the area across the street from the Cracker Barrel. He also announced that the solar project is on line.

Public Hearing – National Grid Pole Hearing – New Boston Road near intersection of Forest Lane.

M. Dowling read the hearing notice to provide a JO pole on New Boston Road near Forest Lane. The Board was joined by James Burney from National Grid. This service will service charging stations for electric vehicles at the new hotel and to feed the new out-buildings when they are built. There is only one pole to be installed. C. Moran noticed the contract spoke to 'poles' and asked to have the pole moved to 6 feet off the road. Mr. Burney agreed. There was discussion regarding the possible burying of the wires. M. Dowling stated that the DPW Director had no issues with the location but questioned the number of double poles in the area.

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Motion: To send this request back to National Grid to explore burying the lines and coming off of Pole 5 instead. By: C. Moran.
2nd: M. Suprenant

P. Gimas asked if this action would impact the property owner. J. Burney said it would delay the project and cost him money since it would not be ready for the next Selectmen's meeting. C. Moran also wanted to get the contracts done properly and feels that would be a busy entry due to traffic. M. Dowling asked for advice from G. Morse. G. Morse was concerned about encroachment of poles over a period of time. M. Dowling suggested we adopt a requirement for this and other applications that there can be no encroachment closer to the roads. J. Burney expressed concern about the project voted that way and asked to have this continued so that could be reviewed. P. Gimas stated this would continue to be an encumbrance upon the property owner. M. Suprenant thought that M. Dowling's comments were certainly reasonable.

C. Moran withdrew his motion.

Motion: To continue the Public Hearing to September 5th. By: C. Moran
2nd: By: M. Suprenant

Vote: All in Favor Passed 4/0

Department Heads Reports

G. Morse approached the Board for his monthly report for the DPW. He advised on brush cutting and brush cutting. There is a good amount of work on New Boston Road. Several bids are due soon including the paving projects. Ambulance service was recently done.

S. Moody approached the Board for his monthly report from the Water-Sewer/Wastewater Department. The Board had no questions regarding his monthly reports. He stated that they have been meeting the permit requirements. School testing will be done in September including day cares and the OSV school. We will be doing all of them. M. Suprenant asked about the meter installations. S. Moody announced that only bank owned homes remain.

G. Colburn approached the Board for his report as Conservation Agent. P. Gimas announced this will be his last meeting with the Board before his retirement. He read his annual report and announced that the Conservation meetings are recorded and aired on cable. His commissioners have been trained this year. The work in the department has been increasing as is the number of applications for notices of intent. Many seasonal camps are being replaced with permanent homes around the lakes and he expressed concerns about pollution. He spoke about tree removal process around the lakes and the certificates for compliance. He spoke about their work on leadmine trails this past year. P. Gimas asked about the ConCom alternates vacancies which was explained. Lake testing results have been consistent over the years. They do not appear to be very clear but the results appear in good quality. G. Colburn thanked the Selectmen for the opportunity to work for the Town.

D. Matte approached the Board to discuss his work as the Facilities Director. He announced his completed projects including 150-200 work orders. He performs inspections in the municipal buildings including checking the systems and alarms. He has spent a good deal of time on the dorm project at the Fire Department. He spoke to the mold issue at the COB and that it was rectified. P. Gimas questioned how the mold issue was rectified. D. Matte responded that the mold was cut out and removed. The exterior painting has begun on the columns and trim. Contractors for supplies and pest control have been identified for all buildings. He spoke about the HVAC study at the library as well as the painting issue at the nursery school. P. Gimas asked if there is a lead issue at the nursery school. D. Matte was confused about the start date but assured that this project would be done by next June. The Selectmen pushed D. Matte on getting this work done as soon as possible. Electrical work at Town Hall for holiday lighting needs to be done. C. Moran asked about the inspections for the slate roof. D. Matte will go back and check on that. P. Gimas asked about the window project at the senior center and whether or not the building is historical. She was concerned about the delay in the project regarding the possible historical window issue. He expressed concerns about security at some of the municipal buildings, especially Town Hall. He recommends security cameras for our buildings. He feels 8 Brookfield Rd should be developed and he is developing a 5, 10 and 15 year building plan. P. Gimas suggested that he submit the report in writing on town letterhead and signed so people in the future will know when these items occurred. M. Suprenant asked about an HVAC study for

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Town Hall and COB. D. Matte responded that was the case. M. Dowling suggested that he should give examples of the work orders being done in the future.

Discussion on Riverland Parking Issue

Tom Chamberland came before the Selectmen to speak on the issue. He reminded the Board that they approved a trail plan but not a parking plan. The plan was worked on by WPI students and has sat for a number of years. This is a critical project for the Trails Committee and feels that the Riverlands Trail could eventually connect to a number of other trails in Town. It is planned for 24 parking spots as well as horse trailers. The money has been approved for engineering and surveying and permitting. M. Suprenant asked about what will be inside the fenced in area. T. Chamberland replied that there are existing storage sheds there. M. Dowling noted the trail easements needed from OSV. T. Chamberland feels they are receptive to the easements. M. Suprenant asked if 24 spaces were adequate; T. Chamberland pointed out that the road is also long enough to accommodate overflow parking. We also can ask to park at OSV for overflow parking. The only area to be paved would be the apron but the remainder will be compacted gravel.

Motion: To approve the preliminary parking plans as presented by the Trails Committee. By: M. Dowling
2nd: By: C. Moran

Vote: In Favor 4/0

Notice of Award for Permitting Software

M. Suprenant asked if there was any rush to do this now. P. Gimás stated that the sooner we can award the sooner we can start implementation. M. Suprenant trusted the Town officials who were working on the project.

Motion: To accept the recommendation of the Permitting Software Committee and award the upgrade project to Accela/ZedIT and to approve the agreement to begin the project. By: M. Suprenant
2nd: By: P. Gimás

Under discussion M. Dowling asked if the Town Administrator supported this. P. Gimás replied yes.

Vote: Passed 3/1 (C. Moran opposed)

Approval of Minutes

Acting Chair, P. Gimás, requested that approval of the minutes be carried over to a later date when all Board members were present.

New Business

The Selectmen had no new business.

Citizen's Forum

There were no citizens to speak.

Adjourn

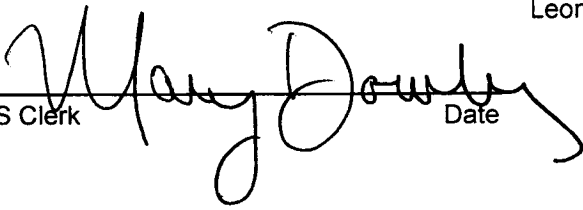
Motion: To adjourn tonight meeting. By: C. Moran
2nd: By: M. Suprenant

Vote: All in Favor Passed 4/0

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Respectfully submitted

Leon Gaumond, Town Administrator


BOS Clerk Date 2/21/18