

**Board of Selectmen  
October 17, 2016  
Town Hall**

**Present:**

Mary Blanchard, Chairman  
Mary Dowling  
Priscilla Gimas  
Michael Suprenant

**Absent:**

Craig Moran

**Open Session**

Meeting opened at 6:30pm

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Service Announcements**

- Ms. Dowling thanked everyone involved with Octoberfest. It was a wonderful event.
- Cedar Street Café ribbon cutting October 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:45. Fun at Five will be right after.
- Trick or Treat 5-7 on Monday, October 31 with Horribles Parade to follow at 7pm.
- As of October 1, Sturbridge is in a voluntary water ban.
- Notice of MMA fall conference will be held at Holy Cross.
- Town Clerk – early voting hours start

**Department Head Update**

**Melisa Beachium Senior Center Director.**

Silver Sneakers just started this month; with Sims closing there was no longer a local Silver Sneakers program in town. There is now an evening exercise class at 5:30 on Wednesdays. Other exercise classes, writing classes, cards and game, and numerous other activities. Five volunteer drivers have provided 28 medical rides through the Senior Center. Wellness checks have also been done in conjunction

**Shane Moody – Water & Sewer**

July and August operations reports have been submitted. September is on the way. There are 13 residential and 12 commercial meter changeovers outstanding. Consideration of expanding the water ban; the town will skip the fall flushing to help with that. The Fiske Hill pump station plan is almost done. All of Route 20 was camera'd and will be provided to MassDOT. One large water main break at the bottom of Whittemore.

**Greg Morse – DPW Director**

Chapter 90 forms just need to be re-signed; there is new administration that is asking for the forms in a different manner than they used to be submitted.

**Motion to re-sign the Chapter 90 forms. By: P. Gimas**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Suprenant**

**Vote: 4-0**

The roofing project at the library was completed. New hydraulic trash compactor at the recycling center, including hydraulic heater for winter use. The winter plow bids are in.

**Motion to approve plowing and sanding bids. By: P. Gimas**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Suprenant**

**Vote: 4-0**

Page 12 under "compensation" numbers have been put in on final forms. Town Counsel has reviewed the documents.

**Motion to approve plowing and sanding contract. By: P. Gimas**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Suprenant**

**Vote: 4-0**

Increasing the septage rate to 6 cents a gallon is recommended by Mr. Morse. Mr. Suprenant asked if the costs of sludge removal are covered by this rate. Mr. Morse stated it doesn't cover costs of all transportation and disposal. The Board, Mr. Morse and Mr. Moody discussed the process of accepting waste and determining controlling intake of out of town waste.

**Motion to accept the rates of 6 cents a gallon and revisit it in November. By: P. Gimas**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Blanchard**

**Vote: 4-0**

#### Kevin Flichak – Economic Development and Tourism.

Economic Development – working to reach out businesses and make contact. The Trolley study involved going business to business and opened up doors for dialogue and discussion between Mr. Filchak and the local businesses. Roughly 300 surveys of the Trolley service were completed. Those businesses not in the study area were sent a letter to establish a connection. Asking business what works for them, what can the Town do to help, what would they like to see moving forward? A common theme was to increase accessibility. In response to this, Mr. Filchak is developing a guidebook regarding permitting, licenses, etc. for residents and businesses owners.

#### Fire Chief Ford

Chief Ford discussed the options of replacing the old ladder truck that needs to be replaced. There are several options available, including buying a new truck (very expensive) or buying a used truck (more cost efficient). Chief Ford also working with the capital budget to plan for eventually replacing other equipment too. Chief Ford is asking for \$350,000 to replace the existing ladder truck with the hope of a trade to compensate some of the price of half a million dollars.

**Motion: to hold a Special Town Meeting to be held December 12, 2016 at 7pm. By P.**

**Gimas**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Suprenant**

**Vote: 4-0**

**Motion: to support the Fire Chief exploring hiring a new paramedic. By P. Gimas**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Suprenant**

**Vote: 4-0**

#### Town Administrator's Update

- Appointment of Paul Zapun to be appointed to the Conservation Commission

**Motion to approve appointment of Paul Zapun to the Conservation Commission. By: P.**

**Gimas**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Dowling**

**Vote: 4-0**

- Mr. Gaumond reviewed the goals and objectives that have been assigned to the Town Administrator for the year.

#### Correspondence

Mary Dowling read into the record the list of correspondence received. Mary Blanchard read a message from Stourbridge England.

**Old Business**

- Carried over from last meeting: a draft policy of the use of social media by the Town of Sturbridge. The Board discussed the policy.

**Motion to accept the social media policy, as amended by P. Gimas**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Suprenant**

**Vote: 4-0**

➤

**New Business**

None

**Citizen's Forum**


Jean Soloroi longtime resident of town brought up her concern of putting fluoride into the Town drinking water. The Board of Health might be able to provide more information and guidance of this.

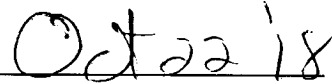
**Motion to adjourn at 8:51pm by P. Gimas**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Blanchard**

**Vote: 4-0**

Minutes Prepared By: Rebekah DeCourcey

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Dowling, Clerk of the Board of Selectmen

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date