

**Board of Selectmen
December 3, 2018
Town Hall**

Present:

Mary Blanchard, Chairman
Priscilla Gimás, Vice-Chair
Mary Dowling, Clerk
Michael Suprenant
Chase Kaitbenski
Ted Kozak, Interim Town Administrator
Jeneé Lacy, Admin Assistant

Also Present:

Matt Masselli
Kevin Scherer

Chairman Blanchard called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The Selectmen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Service Announcements

M. Blanchard read the public service announcements

- Grand opening & ribbon cutting at Paw Plaza Saturday Dec. 8 from 2-5 pm at 1 River Rd. Sturbridge
- Medieval Christmas Feast Dec. 7, Dec. 8 & Dec. 9 at 6pm at Saint John Paul II Parish Southbridge, cost is \$30/per person
- Announcement of an opening on the Housing Partnership Committee

Accept Donation of \$250 from the Bethlehem Lutheran Church to the Housing Partnership

M. Messelli came forward and discussed why the Bethlehem Lutheran Church wanted to donate to the Housing Partnership.

Motion: To accept the donation of \$250 from the Bethlehem Lutheran Church to the Housing Partnership. By: M. Suprenant

2nd: P. Gimás

Vote: All in Favor (5-0)

M. Suprenant suggested sending a letter to the Bethlehem Lutheran Church to thank them for the donation.

Town Administrator's Update

T. Kozak gave updates regarding the Land Use meeting he attended, the CMPO meeting and The Publick House Historic Inn Grand Opening that he attended.

T. Kozak asked the BOS if they would like to have a joint meeting with the Planning Board on January 8th or the 22nd. M. Blanchard suggested inviting the Planning Board to the BOS meeting on January 22nd.

T. Kozak asked the BOS what they would like to do regarding Town Hall holiday hours and suggested a half day on Christmas Eve and a normal full day on New Year's Eve.

P. Gimas stated that she is okay with Christmas Eve being a half day at the Town Hall and the Center Office Building but the Senior Center should be open all day so that is available for those who need it.

Motion: To have a half day on Christmas Eve at the Town Hall and the Center Office Building.

By: P. Gimas

2nd: M. Dowling

Discussion: M. Dowling stated that she remembers L. Gaumond giving the Town Hall a half day on Christmas Eve but stated that she doesn't think the Library is going to be very busy after noon on Christmas Eve. She stated that she would be inclined to add the half day to the Library hours.

Vote: All in Favor (5-0)

Motion: To have half day on Christmas Eve at the Library consistent with the Town Hall and Center Office Building hours.

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (5-0)

M. Dowling suggested checking with the Senior Center to see if they have any events planned on Christmas Eve.

Accept Resignation of Stephen Gagnon as Veterans Agent

Motion: To accept resignation of Stephen Gagnon as the Sturbridge Veteran's Agent. By: M. Dowling

2nd: M. Suprenant

Discussion: M. Suprenant suggested that the position be advertised immediately.

Vote: All in Favor (5-0)

T. Kozak stated that S. Gagnon had suggested that the hours for the Veterans Agent be increased to part-time after her leaves, possibly 10 hours a week.

M. Suprenant asked if the Town had appropriation for an increase in hours.

T. Kozak stated that they can move around funds for this year.

M. Dowling requested that S. Gagnon makes an outline of everything he does for the position.

T. Kozak suggested inviting S. Gagnon to come in to talk with the BOS.

Concur with Appointment of Kerry Quinn Carey to the Special Events Committee

Motion: To concur with appointment of Kerry Quinn Carey to the Special Events Committee.

By: P. Gimas

2nd: M. Suprenant

Vote: All in Favor (5-0)

Old Business

P. Gimas asked about the Search Committee for the DPW Director position.

T. Kozak stated that was going to be talking with all the people who applied for the committee and he has one more person to talk with the next day. He stated he already had the DPW Director position opening advertised.

P. Gimas stated that even though he advertised the position the search committee would be the ones looking at all the candidates and interviewing them.

T. Kozak stated that, that was correct.

P. Gimas asked if the DPW Director position was advertised as requiring an engineering degree.

T. Kozak stated that it wasn't because it's not a requirement for that position in the Town Charter.

The BOS and T. Kozak discussed DPW Director requirements.

Public Hearing: Logging Permit – Kevin Scherer

M. Dowling read the legal ad for the Logging Permit Hearing.

K. Scherer came forward and introduced himself and explained the forest harvesting project.

Motion: To close the public hearing. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (5-0)

Motion: To approve the logging permit for Kevin Scherer. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (5-0)

Old Business Continued

M. Suprenant asked if the State Police had gotten back to the BOS regarding the Sturbridge Auto Sales issues.

J. Lacy responded that they had not but she would reach out to them again.

M. Dowling asked T. Kozak about the Shepard Parcel and the Plimpton Property and asked him to follow up with conservation regarding the two issues.

New Business

P. Gimas bought up the "Meet the Selectmen" event that the BOS used to have and suggested they start it up again after the New Year.

P. Gimas asked if T. Kozak's hours could be posted on the Town website.

P. Gimas asked about department liaisons that the town used to have.

M. Blanchard stated that liaisons aren't needed anymore because there is a Town Administrator and that any department can approach the Selectmen whenever they need to.

M. Dowling brought up the fact that the Wikipedia page for Sturbridge is incorrect and the Board decided to wait for a new Town Administrator to update the page.

M. Blanchard stated that she received a notification from the Library that one of their Trustees passed away and they would need to advertise the Trustee opening.

Correspondence

M. Dowling read the correspondence.

Approval of Minutes

November 19, 2018

Motion: To approve minutes from November 19, 2018 as amended. By: M. Suprenant

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (5-0)

Motion: To move to executive session By: M. Dowling

(we will not be reconvening in open session – M. Blanchard)

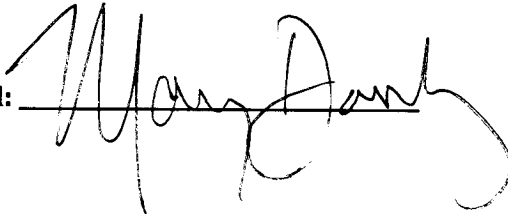
2nd: M. Suprenant

Roll Call Vote: M. Blanchard – Yes, P. Gimás – Yes, M. Suprenant – Yes, C. Kaitbenski – Yes, M. Dowling – Yes

Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Jeneé Lacy

Clerk of the Board:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mary Ann", written over a horizontal line.

Date approved:

12/17/18