

**Board of Selectmen
April 10, 2019
Town Hall**

Present:

Mary Blanchard, Chairman
Priscilla Gimas, Vice-Chair
Mary Dowling, Clerk
Chase Kaitbenski
Jeff Bridges, Town Administrator
Jeneé Lacy, Admin Assistant

Absent:

Michael Suprenant

Also Present:

Annie Roscioli, Recreation Coordinator
Erin Carson, Recreation Committee

Chairman Blanchard called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

The Selectmen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

M. Blanchard read the agenda.

Vote to Approve 1-Day License Bay State Brewing – Community Bonfire

Motion: To approve the 1-Day Liquor License for Baystate Brewing for the Community Bonfire with amendment that they stop selling at 9:30pm when the bonfire is over. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: 3-0-1 (M. Dowling Abstained & M. Suprenant Absent)

Close Warrants for Annual and Special Town Meeting

Motion: To close the warrants for Annual Town Meeting. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Motion: To close the warrants for Special Town Meeting. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Vote on Warrant Articles for Annual and Special Town Meeting

Article 1 – Town Reports

Motion: To place and support the Town Reports article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 2 – Community Preservation Committee Report

Motion: To place and support the Community Preservation Committee Report article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 3 – Community Preservation Committee Administration Funds

Motion: To place and support the Community Preservation Committee Administration Funds article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

The Board and J. Bridges discussed the grant money regarding the Community Preservation Committee.

Article 4 – Community Preservation Debt Service

Motion: To place and support the Community Preservation Debt Service article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 5 – Community Preservation Committee – Gravestones Restoration

The Board discussed which cemeteries in Town this article referred to and decided to only place the article until the specific cemeteries are known.

Motion: To place the Community Preservation Committee – Gravestones Restoration article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 6 – Community Preservation Committee – Comprehensive Housing Study

Motion: To place and support the Community Preservation Committee – Comprehensive Housing Study article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 7 – Community Preservation Committee – Riverland Development and General Trail Improvement

P. Gimas asked what is meant by Riverland development. M. Blanchard stated that it is most likely in regards to trails. P. Gimas asked if the Board could get a trail report, specifically how many miles of trail the CPC hope to finish and how many have been completed.

Motion: To place and support the Community Preservation Committee – Riverland Development and General Trail Improvement article. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 8 – Community Preservation Committee – Town Cemetery Signs

M. Blanchard stated that this CPC article is a request from the Historical Commission and she would like to know what is going to be on the sign before voting to place and support. P. Gimas suggested putting this article on hold.

Community Preservation Committee – Town Cemetery Signs article on hold pending more information.

Article 9 – Community Preservation Committee – Grand Trunk Trail Central Section Feasibility Study

P. Gimas stated that she doesn't want to support the article until the Board receives the trails report, suggested putting the article on hold. M. Dowling suggested that the Board place the article on the warrant but wait for the trails report to support the article.

Motion: To place the Community Preservation – Grand Trunk Trail Central Section Feasibility Study article. By: M. Dowling

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 10 – Community Preservation Committee – OSV Easement Costs for Grand Trunk Trail Easement

P. Gimas stated that she would like to wait for the trails report for this article as well. J. Bridges discussed the basics around this article regarding legality and filing costs.

J. Brides stated he received a text message from B. Barry stating that Barbara Search would be coming before the Board of Selectmen in the future regarding the cemetery signs.

Motion: To place and support the Community Preservation Committee – OSV Easement Costs for Grand Trunk Trail Easement article. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 11 – Town Budget

The Board decided to skip this article until they voted on the line-item budget.

Article 41 – Feasibility Study – Senior Center/Article 42 – Feasibility Study – 60 Cedar Street – Recreation Facilities/Article 43 – Feasibility Study – 70 Cedar Street – Recreation Facilities and New Senior Center/Article 44 – Feasibility Study – 70 Cedar Street – Recreation Facilities (\$11,300)/Article 45 - Feasibility Study – 70 Cedar Street – Recreation Facilities (\$51,100)/Article 46 - Feasibility Study – 70 Cedar Street – Senior Center

Annie Roscioli and Erin Carson from the Recreation Committee came before the Board to discuss the Recreation and Senior Center articles for 70 Cedar Street feasibility studies.

The Board, Town Administrator, A. Roscioli and E. Carson discussed the four (4) articles in question and the proposals from CME regarding possible feasibility studies. It was determined that there was a lack of information and conflicting information from CME, and that before the articles are voted on J. Bridges should meet with CME to straighten the information out.

All Feasibility Study articles regarding 60 & 70 Cedar Street were put on hold.

Article 12 – Road Construction, Repairs and Maintenance

Motion: To place and support the Road Construction, Repairs and Maintenance article. By: P. Gimás

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 13 – Public Access Department

M. Blanchard asked J. Bridges to check the numbers regarding the Public Access salaries and benefits funds.

Motion: To place and support the Public Access Department article. By: M. Dowling

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 14 – Sturbridge Tourist Association

Motion: To place and support the Sturbridge Tourist Association article. By: P. Gimás

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 15 – Betterment Committee

M. Dowling suggested that in the future the Board should meet with the Betterment Committee to plan to fund one big project with the Betterment Fund instead of all the little things or create a Capital Fund inside the Betterment Fund for bigger projects.

Motion: To place and support the Betterment Committee article. By: P. Gimás

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 16 – Capital Improvement Plan

Motion: To place and support the Capital Improvement Plan article. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 17 – Ambulance Stabilization Fund

Motion: To place and support the Ambulance Stabilization Fund article. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 18 – Fire Vehicle Stabilization Fund

Motion: To place and support the Fire Vehicle Stabilization Fund article. By: M. Dowling

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 19 – OPEB Trust Fund

J. Bridges suggested dropping the OPEB Trust Fund free cash transfer from \$500,000 to \$200,000. The Board of Selectmen agreed.

Motion: To change free cash transfer for the OPEB Trust Fund article from \$500,000 to \$200,000. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Motion: To place and support the OPEB Trust Fund article as amended. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 20 – Tax Rate Relief

Motion: To place and support the Tax Rate Relief article. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 21 – Capital Stabilization Fund

Motion: To place and support the Capital Stabilization Fund article. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 22 – Revaluation/Interim Adjustments

Motion: To place and support the Revaluation/Interim Adjustments article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 23 – Revolving Funds – Spending Limits FY20

Motion: To place and support the Revolving Funds – Spending Limits FY20 article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 24 – General Code – Codification Services

Motion: To place and support the General Code – Codification Services article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 25 – Personnel Classification Plan

Motion: To place and support the Personnel Classification Plan article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 26 – Water Department

Motion: To place and support the Water Department article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 27 – Sewer Department

Motion: To place and support the Sewer Department article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 28 – Sewer Project Debt

Motion: To place and support the Sewer Project Debt article
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 29 – Water & Sewer Rate Study

Motion: To place and support the Water & Sewer Rate Study article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 30 – Fluoride Saturator System for Water Treatment Plants

Motion: To place and support the Fluoride Saturator System for Water Treatment Plants article. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 31 – Decommission Well #2

Motion: To place and support the Decommission Well #2 article. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 32 – Upgrade of Fiske Hill Pump Station

Motion: To place and support the Upgrade of Fiske Hill Pump Station article. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 33 – Betterment Payoffs – Dissolving of Betterment

Motion: To place and support the Betterment Payoffs – Dissolving of Betterment article. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 34 – Poll Time Change

Motion: To place and support the Poll Time Change article. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 35 – Establish Commission on Disability

Motion: To place and support the Establish Commission on Disability article. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 36 – Proposed Amendment to Zoning Map

Motion: To place and support the Proposed Amendment to Zoning Map article. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 37 – 226 Cedar Street – Affordable Housing

Motion: To place and support the 226 Cedar Street – Affordable Housing article. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 38 – Establish Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund

Motion: To place and support the Establish Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund article.

By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 39 – Route 20 Improvement Preliminary Submission

M. Blanchard stated that she wouldn't support this article now and thinks that it should go through the Planning Department. The Board discussed the plan that was brought forward in this article. P. Gimas suggested that the article be put on hold. M. Dowling suggested that it be placed so that M. Suprenant can defend his position since he was absent from this meeting.

Motion: To place the Route 20 Improvement Preliminary Submission article. By: M. Dowling

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: 2-2 (M. Blanchard & P. Gimas Opposed) (M. Suprenant Absent) Motion Fails

Article 40 – Additional Parking at the Senior Center

The Board discussed this article and the impact the possible renovations to the Senior Center would have on the parking. P. Gimas and C. Kaitbenski stated that they wouldn't support this article and wanted to wait for the Senior Center feasibility studies to be completed first. M. Dowling suggested it should be placed but wanted more information from M. Suprenant regarding the impact of the possible Senior Center renovations. M. Dowling requested that as a courtesy to M. Suprenant that the Board wait to vote on this article when he is present.

Motion: To withdraw Additional Parking at the Senior Center article. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: 3-1 (M. Dowling Opposed) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article Withdrawn from Warrant.

Article 47 – Borrowing Authorization – Tantasqua Regional School District

The Board discussed this article in regards to whether the school had a building committee.

Motion: To place and support the Borrowing Authorization – Tantasqua Regional School District article. By: P. Gimas

2nd: C. Kaitbenski

Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 48 – Public Marijuana Consumption Bylaw

M. Dowling inquired as to how the \$300 penalty was chosen.

Motion: To place and support the Public Marijuana Consumption Bylaw article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 49 – Local Excise on Retail Sales of Marijuana

Motion: To place and support the Local Excise on Retail Sales of Marijuana article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Article 50 - Quacumquasit Lake (South Pond) – Alum Treatment

Motion: To place the Quacumquasit Lake (South Pond) – Alum Treatment article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

STM Article 54 – Free Cash Transfer – Snow and Ice Deficit

Motion: To place and support the Free Cash Transfer – Snow and Ice Deficit article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

STM Article 55 – Unpaid Bills of a Previous Fiscal Year

Motion: To place and support the Unpaid Bills of a Previous Fiscal Year article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

STM Article 56 – Tree Warden Salary Account

Motion: To place and support the Tree Warden Salary Account article. By: C. Kaitbenski
2nd: P. Gimas
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

STM Article 57 – Emergency Action Plan (EAP) – Cedar Pond Dam and Big Alum Pond Dam

Motion: To place and support the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) – Cedar Pond Dam and Big Alum Pond Dam article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

STM Article 58 – Funding for Police Union Contract

Motion: To place and support the Funding for Police Union Contract article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

STM Article 59 – Software/Hardware Upgrade – Badger Meter System

Motion: To place and support the Software/Hardware Upgrade – Badger Meter System
article. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Vote on the Line Item Budget

The Board decided to schedule another meeting on April 16th at 1pm to review and vote on the Line Item Budget.

Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn at 8:30 PM. By: P. Gimas
2nd: C. Kaitbenski
Vote: All in Favor (4-0) (M. Suprenant Absent)

Adjourned at 8:30PM.

Minutes prepared by: Jeneé Lacy

Clerk of the Board:

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

Date signed:

A handwritten date in black ink, "May 6 '19", written in a cursive style.