

Select Board Minutes
Wednesday, August 22, 2012

Select Board: Doug Field, Chair; Paultette Leukhardt, Ron Coler

Interim Executive Administrator, Mary Fitz-Gibbon

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Minutes:

Minutes for June 6, 2012: Discussion of minutes, Leukhardt requests amendments to add three items to the document list; will vote on approval of amended draft at September 5, 2012 meeting.

Minutes for June 20, 2012: Leukhardt requests two amendments; amended minutes will be brought back to the September 5, 2012 meeting.

Minutes for June 25, 2012: Multiple amendments requested; amended minutes will be brought back to the September 5, 2012 meeting.

Minutes for August 8, 2012: Leukhardt makes a motion to approve the minutes of August 8, 2012, Field seconds, the motion passes 2-0-1 with Coler abstaining.

Appointments:

Amy Klippenstein: Although not in attendance, Klippenstein wishes to continue as a member of the Agriculture Commission. Leukhardt makes a motion to appoint Amy Klippenstein to the Agriculture Commission, Coler seconds. Motion passes 3-0-0

Priscilla Phelps: Phelps wishes to be appointed to the Personnel Board. Leukhardt makes a motion to appoint, Coler seconds. Motion passes 3-0-0

Fire Chief Del Haskins: Haskins reports on a radio communications problem in the Apple Valley area of town. He is seeking permission for a small temporary antenna to be placed at the transfer station. The antenna belongs to Buckland and will be used to test the spot for possible use to alleviate the radio communications issues in that area. Coler makes a motion to grant temporary permission for Buckland to test the antenna at the Transfer Station, Leukhardt seconds. Motion passes 3-0-0

Evan Dell'Ollio, Regional Representative from Senator John Kerry's office: Dell'Ollio is present to discuss 3-phase power between Ashfield and Plainfield on the 116 corridor as well as loan and grant options available through the Rural Electrification Program of the USDA. After a discussion of the public safety issues related to power outages and the potential to receive power from Plainfield if 3-phase power is installed, along with a mention of the Roberts Brothers Lumber Company's proposed gasification project, Dell'Ollio describes some of the grants and loans that might be pursued if the town wished.

According to Dell'Olio WEMCO estimates the cost 3-phase power for the section under discussion would be \$1-3 million.

Old Business:

Shelburne Falls Senior Center Agreement: Review of the final version of the Senior Center Agreement that has been to the Board previously in draft form. After brief discussion Coler makes a motion to accept and sign the agreement, Leukhardt seconds. Motion passes 3-0-0

Approval of extension to respond to complaint, Massachusetts Attorney General's Office; Select board response to Open Meeting Law Complaint filed against the Select Board on August 8, 2012. Leukhardt questions the procedure for an extension request. Leukhardt is concerned that a request for an extension may only be made if the Board has voted to request the extension. In this case the extension was requested at direction of the Chair as the next available Board meeting to respond to the complaint would fall after the deadline to respond given the Board's every other week meeting schedule. It is suggested that Leukhardt put her question in writing to be submitted to Town Counsel which she does. The Board then reviews the response letter to Sherril Jourdan's Open Meeting Law complaint regarding Select Board minutes. Motion made and seconded to approve the response. Motion passes 3-0-0

FRCOG Accounting and Software Services contract. Leukhardt would like the contract sent to Koppelman and Paige (K&P) for review. The Board directs Fitz-Gibbon to review the current contract as compared to the three previous contracts; if there are changes the contract should be sent to K&P for legal review.

Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program contract. The Board receives a proposal from the Town of Greenfield to provide Revolving Loan Fund Program services. Board members will review the Greenfield information and discuss at a future meeting.

New Business:

None scheduled at time of posting.

Leukhardt says she would like to raise the issue of who "Ashfield House, LLC" is. She says she is concerned about a current Appellate Tax Board case involving the Assessors and the Ashfield House LLC. Coler suggests that he will contact Ted Murray, Chair of the Finance Committee, to request that he conduct a review of the status of the town's lien on the Ashfield House, LLC.

The Board agrees to interview the two final candidates for the Executive Administrator job at the September 19th meeting.

Leukhardt, says that she has an additional item and presents an emailed letter, dated August 22, 2012 from Suzanne Corbett titled "ATB vs Ashfield House Assessment is what???"

Next Select Board Meeting will be Wednesday, September 5, 2012.

Motion to adjourn, second; meeting closes at 9:33 pm.

Document List

July 24, 2012 letter from Greenfield Department of Planning and Development regarding Revolving Loan Fund Program

Agreement Among The Towns of Ashfield, Buckland and Shelburne With respect to the Senior Center Operations, signed by Select Board

Office of the Attorney General letter granting an extension of time to respond to an Open Meeting Law Complaint filed August 8, 2012

August 22, 2012 Select Board letter of response to Sherrill Jourdan's Open Meeting Law Complaint dated August 8, 2012

August 22, 2012 Select Board cover letter to Amy Nable, Office of the Attorney General accompanying copy of Select Board response to Open Meeting Law Complaint dated August 8, 2012

Handwritten note from Select Board member Leukhardt with two questions to go to Town Counsel "exactly as worded" regarding requests for an extension to respond to an Open Meeting Law Complaint

Sample contract from Greenfield Department of Planning and Development regarding Revolving Loan Fund Program

Draft Attachment A to sample contract from Greenfield Department of Planning and Development regarding Revolving Loan Fund Program

Emailed letter, dated August 22, 2012 from Suzanne Corbett titled "ATB vs Ashfield House Assessment is what???"

Meeting Agenda

Draft Minutes

Note: These minutes were discussed, amended, and approved at the Select Board meeting dated 3/24/2014 and filed in the folder of the actual date of the said minutes.

Approved on 3/24/2014 3-0-0