

Approved 3-0-0
6/8/11

SELECT BOARD MEETING – June 2, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Mr. Russell welcomed everyone present.

Present: Select Board - Norm Russell, Doug Field, Paullette Leukhardt
Executive Assistant- Mary Fitz-Gibbon

Minutes of the May 26, 2011 were reviewed and accepted as amended. (removal of one sentence)

Appointments: WiredWest meeting with David Kulp has been rescheduled to next Wednesday.

OLD BUSINESS

Special Town Meeting - The STM is scheduled for June 29th. It must be posted 14 days prior., which will be June 14th. Possible articles: 1) The roof project at Mohawk. There is no new information from the school. It is hoped that information about the status of the grant will be known before STM. 2) Acceptance of Grant Program Income money and transfer to the Town Hall Accessibility and Renovation fund. 3) Transfers of other monies as needed to balance accounts.

Ms. Fitz-Gibbon said next week will be the last chance to work on the articles. She suggested liaisons check with their departments. Meeting dates for the balance of FY'11 were scheduled: 6/8, 6/13, 6/22, 6/29. The Moderator will be invited to the 6/22 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Regional Health Program - Phoebe Walker, Director of Community Services at the FRCOG has submitted a request for a letter in support of an application for grant money to be used for regional health issues including such things as training for health workers. Ms. Fitz-Gibbon has spoken with Duncan Colter, chair of the Board of Health. He is in favor of supporting the application. Ms. Fitz-Gibbon thought this grant would be used for a survey to find out what the medical needs of the area are : access to medical facilities, transportation of get needed services, etc. After some discussion of wording which the Board could support, a motion was made by Ms. Leukhardt, seconded by Mr. Field, and voted, to authorize the chair to sign a letter of interest for the CHA-CHIP project, as amended.

3 Phase electrical service – A letter directed to Senator Downing and prepared by the Board was read and discussed. Roberts Brothers secured a grant to construct an advanced biomass conversion plant to generate heat and power to operate the sawmill. By converting low grade timber waste into energy, Roberts Brothers would be positioned to become a transportation and wood processing hub capable of serving five counties in four states. It will be model for the area. The plant is currently in production.

To operate the plant Peter Clark of W.M.E.C.O. reportedly circulated information that the power company would extend 3 phase capability to the area of the mill, where currently such service is not available. However, Mr. Roberts, owner of the mill, has learned that extension of the service is no longer being planned. Included in the letter was reference to the fact that bringing 3 phase to that part of town would help in restoration of power in an emergency, thus improving the health and safety of residents in that area.

Mr. Roberts had requested this letter of support from the Select Board. He will deliver it to Senator Downing in Boston. A motion was made, seconded, and voted to send the letter to Senator Downing.

sufficient to meet the need. The suggestion was made that some blankets, cots, and pillows be purchased, along with a generator that could run on propane or gas.

Fire Department Ms. Leukhardt reported that three emergency personnel (Mark Hurley, Matt Haskins, and Kyle Walker) left for the Monson-Palmer area this morning to assist in the aftermath of the tornados that swept through the region. They wound up being assigned to Wilbraham. This having been declared as emergency situation, MEMA provided fuel for the fire engine's return trip.

Police Department The chief reported to Ms. Leukhardt that the Explorer is expected to be returned by next Friday.

DOR Training meeting Ms Leukhardt and Ricki Carroll (Finance Committee) attended a meeting in Worcester on Wednesday. They found the meeting informative and brought back material to share.

Green Community Committee Mr. Russell had copies of a policy that would require the Town to accept a fuel efficient vehicle purchasing agreement which he suggested Board members review for discussion at another time. He said there were some exceptions to the requirement, one of which was police cruisers.

Town Hall building Mr. Russell said he has spent time twice in the past two weeks bailing out water in the basement. He said there was as much as 6" of water in the furnace room. There is a hole big enough to get a bucket in. Some thought the hole might have been intended for a sump pump. The source of water needs to be found. Someone in the room said this had been a problem since the new sills were put in town hall. There had been a flood of the entire basement area, including the space used by the police at that time. The problem had been partially solved by asphaltting the area on the west front side of the building, where run off from the roof tends to collect. Someone else suggested that the ramp on the west side was also a contributing factor. Someone suggested a sump pump. Possibly the fire department had one that could be used.

Other 1) Next week Wayne Gardner will talk about crowd control training which he has become certified in.

2) Pat Thayer, Park Commissioner will be present to discuss the life guard policy and monitoring the beach for residents and guests.

3) Jeanie Robertson's second graders will visit town hall on June 9th as part of their tour of the important town buildings.

A motion was made, seconded, and voted to adjourn at 8:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Priscilla Phelps