

Select Board meeting minutes November 16, 2011

Present: Select Board – Chair Norman Russell, Doug Field, Paulette Leukhardt

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Minutes

Motion made, seconded and passed to approve the minutes for the November 9, 2011 Select Board meeting, with one change of a word from present to past tense.

Appointments

Arianna Grindrod, Ashfield Winter Solstice Community Committee: The Solstice Community group submitted an application for a permit to have a contained fire on Town Common on December 22, 2011 in observation of the winter solstice. The celebration is a family event open to all and will include Morris dancers, storytelling, and singing. It is usually well-attended year after year and there have not been any issues or concerns that have arisen in prior years. A motion was made, seconded and passed to grant the permit.

Brian Clark and Mary Quigley, Green Committee: Brian and Mary sought Select Board signatures on three final documents to complete the Town's Green Communities Designation submission to the State: an Efficient Vehicle Policy document (with some updates since the Board last voted to accept it), a letter attesting that the Town voted to adopt the State Building Stretch Code, and a letter stating that the Select Board has approved the Green Communities Designation application. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept and incorporate the changes (Attachment B) to the Efficient Vehicle Policy. A further motion was made, seconded and passed to adopt the Efficient Vehicle Policy effective 11/16/11.

Old Business

The Select Board reviewed a new version of a Reciprocal Sewer Easement Agreement between the Town of Ashfield, the Trustees of Sanderson Academy, The Field Board Inc., Dennis B. Colson and Robert A. Crafts and Marilyn K. Crafts. The minor revision is the inclusion, in two places, of some wording required by DEP that had been inadvertently dropped from the original Agreement. The new document replaces and supercedes the prior version dated October 12, 2011. A motion to sign was made, seconded and passed and the signatures were notarized.

New Business

Lake Spillway: Doug Field, Select Board member and Emergency Management Director briefly described some newly apparent problems with one of the two Ashfield Lake Dam spillways. The

spillway in question was the original spillway and a portion of it runs underground with at least one house later being built over it. A hole has recently opened up on a portion of the covered area causing concern about the condition of the underground section. Mr. Field has talked to the State Dam Safety office and DEP and will contact the engineering firm that has worked with the Town on the dam in the past. He will report back to the Board at the next meeting.

Liquor License Renewal Applications: The Board reviewed three liquor license renewal applications prepared by Town Clerk. As part of the process Town Clerk determined that there were not any complaints or infractions recorded for any of the licenses in the last year. A motion was made, seconded and passed to renew an On Premises License for Elmer's Store, LLC. A motion was made, seconded and passed to renew an Off-Premises License for Lakeside Ventures, Inc. (dba Ashfield Neighbors). A motion was made, seconded and passed to renew an On Premises License for Mark D. Graves, June L. Heideman, Suzanne Connell (dba Edge Hill Golf Course).

At the request of Town Clerk the Board reviewed a proposed Resolution in support of H1972 "An Act Regulating Election Primaries" now pending before the General Court at the Massachusetts State House. Adoption of the act is intended to insure that all votes of military members, overseas voters and their families will be counted. HB1972 proposes moving the Massachusetts September primary back to June which would provide ample time for Massachusetts' election officials to certify a ballot and insure that it is mailed at least 45 days prior to Election Day. Based on a review of the materials provided and the recommendation of Town Clerk a motion was made, seconded and passed to sign a letter of support for HB1972. Select Board Chair Norman Russell signed on behalf of the Board.

Liaison Reports:

Doug Field reported that the County-wide estimate for Tropical Storm Irene damages is about \$34 million.

Mail: Upon reading a letter provided to the Board by Fire Chief Del Haskins calling attention to a hearing on S.914 and H.537, An Act to Protect Call/Volunteer Firefighters from Dismissal, a motion was made seconded and passed that the Select Board send a letter of support to legislators.

Future Meetings

The Select Board will not meet on Wednesday November 23. The Select Board will next meet on Wednesday November 30, 2011.

After a motion was made, seconded and passed, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.