

Approved
9/5/12

SELECTBOARD MEETING

June 6, 2012

Present: Doug Field, Paullette Leukhardt, Ron Coler
Interim Executive Administrator, Mary Fitz-Gibbon

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm.

Chairman Field announced that this would be a brief meeting, as his wife is in intensive care at the hospital. Several items will be postponed until next week.

Police Department: Present: Chief Droney, Betty Lesure

- 1.) Award - The Chief stated that the department had an unsung hero who had been there to keep things going when the department fell apart. Betty Lesure, an auxiliary officer, stepped forward and managed the essential paperwork. She continues to handle most of the firearms ID processing. Droney presented her with a token of appreciation for her much appreciated efforts. Ms. Lesure said she was pleased to help people take advantage of their second amendment rights.
- 2.) Desk - The Chief reported that he is looking for a desk that will be a better fit for the space available in the downstairs police department space. **A motion was made by Ms. Leukhardt, seconded by Mr. Coler, and voted, to authorize the Chief to expend up to \$600.00 from the Accessibility/Renovation account to purchase a desk.**
- 3.) Speed sign - Ricki Carroll thanked the Chief for putting out the traffic sign (trailer) on Main Street, suggesting that it might be better placed near the entrance of Main Street. The Chief said he had borrowed the traffic control trailer from Conway Chief Quimet. A question was asked about the cost to purchase a speed control device trailer. Depending upon the model prices range from \$6,000 to \$8,500.

A motion was made by Mr. Coler, seconded by Ms. Leukhardt, and voted, to move the following items to next week's meeting: Nonpayment, Building Inspector discussion, and Liaison assignments.

Inspector programs: Present: Joanne Ostrowski

Ms. Ostrowski wished to quickly pass on information regarding available services should the Town decide to drop out of the FRCOG program. She suggested talking to Paul Tacy, a town resident and long time building inspector. She also suggested talking to Nicole Zebko, director of public health and inspection programs - not a FRCOG program. The Board will take this information under advisement.

She also asked about procedure for obtaining material from Goshen regarding a Mr. Ferentes. Since it is a BOH issue it was thought any fees for information might be waived by Goshen. Should there be a fee, she could post a BOH meeting and get approval to expend BOH funds.

Transfer of Funds: Present: Finance Committee - Ted Murray, Ricki Carroll, Tom Schreiber.

The Finance Committee was present to review with the Board three requests for transfers of funds to cover anticipated expenses as the fiscal year draws to a close.

- 1.) **Police Department** – There was a request for a transfer of \$3,000 from Police Fuel to Police Department expenses in order to cover payroll. Other potential expenses include possible police time due to an anticipated graduation party and a jacket for the chief. There was discussion about whether this would be an adequate amount. **A motion was made by Ms. Leukhardt, seconded by Mr. Coler, and voted, to transfer a total of \$3,500 (\$3,000.00 from the Police fuel account and \$500 from the Highland Ambulance account) to the Police Department expense account.**
- 2.) **Conservation Commission** – There have been more hearings than anticipated. **A motion was made by Ms. Leukhardt, seconded by Mr. Coler, and voted, to transfer \$500 from Elections account to the Conservation Commission account.**
- 3.) **Treasurer** - **A motion was made by Ms. Leukhardt, seconded by Mr. Coler, and voted, to transfer \$450.00 from the Collector’s expense account to the Treasurer’s expense account.** The request was entirely due to payroll expenses.

Application for Special Event on Town Common: Present: Dianne Wilder

Each year there is a National Night Out which Police Departments hold as a community outreach event. It will be held on August 9, 2012. **Mr. Coler had questions about any behind-the-scenes sponsors. A motion was made by Mr. Coler, seconded by Ms. Leukhardt, and voted, to approve the request.**

Franklin Regional Tech School: On June 13, 2012 there will be a presentation by Steve Herman of the Tech school. Ms. Fitz-Gibbon said she thought the presentation is in response to questions raised by the Ashfield Selectboard regarding membership in the district. Unfortunately, due to lateness in receiving this notice, the Board will not attend. Ms. Fitz-Gibbon will relay regrets and suggest interest should another opportunity present itself.

Hampshire County Group Insurance Reporting Form: Although, because of its size, the Town of Ashfield is not required by MGL 32B to participate in a state mandated group medical insurance program, it is required to submit a report each year. Ms. Fitz-Gibbon explained that the Treasurer said it’s fine and just needs a signature from the Board. Mr. Coler felt he would feel more comfortable if the treasurer would say to the Board, “This is consistent with last year.” He requested more advice. Since the form is not due until the end of the month, the Board will look at it again next week.

Senior Center Contract: Joe Judd, Selectman of Shelburne, has made some changes in the proposed agreement. All that is requested at this time is acknowledgement that the Board agrees with the changes. Mr. Field pointed out what the changes are. Mr. Wickland said he has not seen the latest version. Mr. Coler asked if the local CoA members should have an opportunity to view the document and comment. Mr. Wickland does not want this to be delayed. **A motion was made by Mr. Coler, seconded by Ms. Leukhardt, and unanimously voted, to approve this interim agreement.**

Open Meeting Complaint: Accusations by Suzanne Corbett of violations of the open meeting on two occasions have appeared before the Board. After reading aloud the procedure for filing such a complaint, Mr. Coler stated that he felt the filing had not been properly executed and suggested that they not be addressed at this meeting. He pointed out that there is no stamp from the Town Clerk indicating when the filing was done. The date of receipt by the Clerk is important as that is when the

clock starts. **Mr. Coler made a motion, seconded by Ms. Leukhardt, and voted, that the Board take no action until the complaints have been properly received by the Town Clerk.**

Liaison Reports:

Personnel Board - Mr. Coler met with the Personnel Committee and said he had nothing out of the usual to report.

Police - Ms. Leukhardt met with the Police Chief and reported having a good conversation about rearranging schedules to provide coverage at the busiest times, especially on Main Street. Mr. Field commented on use of the hand held radar on Main Street. He also reported on an accident on Cummington Road where a telephone pole was snapped off. Hazmat had to be called.

Highway - Mr. Field reported that all 62 Tropical Storm Irene project work sheets have been signed, sealed , and sent off .

Letters to Legislators: The board signed letters to legislators Olver, Kerry, Kulik, Mark, Downing, and Brown.

Mail: Mr. Coler said he has written a letter to the Board. It's seven pages long. He suggested discussion of it be postponed until next week, when fellow Board members have had a chance to review it.

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 13, 2012.

Public Comment: Just one to wish Mrs. Field a speedy recovery.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and voted at 9:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Priscilla Phelps

Document List:

Copy of OML Violation Complaint form submitted to Select Board at their meeting June 6, 2012; subject of complaint: Ashfield Select Board Members, and Assistant Administrator; specific persons named as subject of this complaint: Douglas Field, Paullette Leukhardt, Ron Coler, Mary Fitz-Gibbon; alleged violation date: May 30, 2012; complaint signed Suzanne Corbett, Williamsburg Road, Ashfield

Copy of OML Violation Complaint form submitted to Select Board at their meeting June 6, 2012; subject of complaint: Ashfield Select Board Member; specific person named as subject of this complaint: Douglas Field, Chair; alleged violation date: May 30, 2012; complaint signed Suzanne Corbett, Williamsburg Road, Ashfield

Application for special event license for use of Ashfield Town Common by Ashfield Police Force

Four End of FY12 Request for Transfer Forms signed by Select Board and Finance Committee

Seven page Letter to the Select Board and accompanying CD written and submitted to the Board by Select Board member Ron Coler

Shelburne Senior Center Contract

Franklin County Technical School invitation letter

Six letters submitted to Massachusetts legislators regarding Town Meeting vote on Citizens United Citizens Petition