

Approved 5/2

Select Board Minutes

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Present: Select Board Members Doug Field, Chair (DF), Poullette Leukhardt (PL), Ron Coler (RC)
Interim Executive Administrator Mary Fitz-Gibbon

Meeting called to order At 7:02 pm.

Doug Field welcomed Ron Coler, newly elected member, to the Select Board.

Select Board Reorganization

Vote to name a new Chair of Board: Poullette Leukhardt made a motion to elect Doug Field Chair, Ron Coler seconded. The motion passed 2-0-1.

Liaison Positions: Board began discussion of new liaison positions for Board members. Some discussion of possible assignments, more discussion to follow. Once liaison assignments are finalized, Mary will send out e-mail to Dept. Heads and Committees.

New Business:

Building Inspection Program

A letter from Ted Murray was read by each Select Board member. Mr. Murray's letter urged the Board to reconsider their decision to withdraw from the FRCOG Building Inspection Program. Jim Hawkins, FRCOG Building Inspector, handed a letter to the Board which DF read into the record. Mr. Hawkins' letter asked the Board to reconsider their decision to withdraw from the FRCOG program and expressed a desire to work with the Board to address any concerns they have. PL reported that this year the Town is paying approximately \$38,000 to the FRCOG BIP and have so far taken in about \$7,000K in permit fees. She also expressed concern that permitting requirements might not have been equitably enforced. DF mentioned that many residents do not have internet access and that perhaps the old paper system might be better. Jim Hawkins reminded the Board that the old forms are still legal to use and that a lot of the permitting is done by contractors rather than individuals and that for contractors the on-line system is an improvement.

Website Annual Service Agreement

The agreement had been reviewed by the Board at previous meetings with the signing postponed until after Town Meeting approval of the new budget line. Approval having been voted at the May 5th ATM, PL made a motion to sign, the motion was seconded and passed.

Northampton Cycling Club

Chief Droney has approved the route and will have an officer on duty Sat. July 21, 2012 10:00AM.

VOTE: Motion made and seconded to approve the route through Ashfield. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Annual Town Meeting and Election review

ATM: All Warrant Articles passed

Election: The debt exclusion ballot question, to finance a portion of the new fire truck passed by the required majority vote.

New Fire Truck Contract

The contract for the winning bid for a new fire truck has been sent to Town Counsel for review. With TC approval the contract will be signed at the May 16th SB meeting.

Minutes

VOTE: A motion was made, and seconded, to accept the minutes of the May 3, 2012 meeting with one correction. The motion passed unanimously.

Liaison Reports:

Police:

PL would like to come up with \$500.00 for the police Chief to get his dress uniform jacket.

Highway:

DF states that Tom Poissant has signed 17 more FEMA work projects.

Town Hall:

RC spoke with Norm Russell and is available and may call him at any time for advice regarding SB and the Town Hall liaison position.

Mail:

Tree Planting Request

Friends of the South River want permission to plant trees near spillway DF said they would need to talk with Nina Coler, Park Commission. RC also states Tom Poissant, Harry Dodson, and the Conservation Commissioner should also be notified.

Ashfield Open Space Plan

DF read a letter from Alan Rice reminding the Board that the OSP was never finalized in 2008 and that the Town has until July 2013 to complete and submit it to the State. RC will meet with Alan and report back.

Future Meetings & Appointments:

Select Board Meeting: May 16, 2012, 7:00 pm at Town Hall.

Pole Hearing, Pleasant Street: May 16, 2012, 6:45 pm

Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Meeting: May 10, 2012, 5:00 pm, Hadley Snr. Center

Note: there will not be a SB Meeting on May 23, 2012

PL made a motion to adjourn, RC seconded, motion passed.

Adjourned 9:30 pm

Respectfully submitted: Lynn Taylor/MF