

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting – May 6, 2014

Present: Philip Keenan, John Sears, Bob MacLean – Board
Virginia Gabert – Administrative Assistant
Charlie Stetson, Donna MacNicol, Bob and Brandon Root, Skip Chaffee, Jeff Carantit, Trina Sternstein, Rick Kean, Pamela Shrimpton

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

1. Executive Session (7:00-7:30) – to consider complaints brought against a public employee
Phil read the introduction into executive session. John made a motion to go into executive session, to return to public session once it is complete. Bob affirmative; John affirmative, Phil affirmative.

Meeting returned to open session at 8:10pm.

2. Review and signing of treasury warrants – warrants 44 and 45 were approved unanimously.

3. Review of prior meeting minutes – Minutes from April 22 were reviewed and accepted unanimously.

4. Vote on who will be Chairman of Board of Selectmen – John nominated Phil; Bob seconded; Phil was unanimously chosen to be Chairman.

5. Vote on who will be Chairman of Board of Health – Bob nominated Phil; John seconded; Phil was unanimously chosen to be Chairman.

6. Follow up on status of unregistered vehicle inquiry – Jeff Carantit reported that he had talked with other similar businesses and was told that Plainfield has a bylaw basing it on acreage; Matt's in Greenfield is allowed 9 unregistered vehicles; Dennis in Ashfield doesn't have any real parking, so there is no space for unregistered vehicles. He also explained that a few of the vehicles belong to owners who could not afford to fix them, but have opted to not keep them registered. When he gets title from the owner, he can then junk the vehicles.

Phil brought up that one of the biggest problems is lack of fencing. Jeff explained that he had put up fencing after getting the permit in 2009, but it blew over in a few months, because it is very muddy in that area.

Discussion ensued about combining the unregistered vehicle permit with the business license. Jeff suggested that he considered \$100 a fair fee. Phil suggested that if we do adopt such a permit, adding a penalty for failure to maintain fencing.

Virginia will check with other towns again to see how they handle automotive repair shop permitting, and will follow up at the next meeting.

7. Status of Vocational Advisory Committee (including whether Board would like Virginia to attend future meetings) – Charlie is willing to stay on the Committee. Virginia does not have to attend any further meetings of that Committee.

8. Discuss financing of Fire Pumper – Charlie suggested that we have money available to pay for the Pumper, and can then possibly combine borrowing with that for a new Highway truck.

9. Update on status of Forge Hill Road and East Road projects – East Road is with FEMA. Forge Hill Road is still being looked at by Stantec, and Virginia is trying to set up a joint meeting to make sure that FEMA is on the “same page”.

10. Vote on Community Public Health Service fee schedule changes – Board reviewed proposed changes. John made a motion to accept the changes to the CPHS fee structure; Bob seconded; fees were accepted unanimously.

11. New business

a. Registrars of Voters were appointed as follows:

Dan Hoyt (term expiring 2015)

Margaret Eggert (term expiring 2016)

Melanie Poudrier (term expiring 2017)

b. Consider proposing bylaw change to move date of Annual Town Meeting – John proposed referring this to the Bylaw Review Committee for research and preparation.

c. New DEP Recycle grant round – opted to request 11 outdoor composters as they went quickly this year.

d. Charlemont Ambulance – Vaughn Tower had requested a letter of support. Bob will check in with him to see what he needs.

There being no further new business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Gabert, Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted by Board of Selectmen:

Philip Keenan

John Sears

Robert MacLean