

Town of Hawley, Massachusetts
Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting – July 28, 2015

Present: Phil Keenan, John Sears, Bob Maclean – Board
Virginia Gabert – Administrative Assistant
Pam Shrimpton, Chris Tirone, Lark Thwing, Rick Kean, Lisa Turner, Lloyd Crawford, Dick Ohmann, Sarah Ohmann, Charles Cutler, Thomas Hoyt, Susan Olson

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.

1. Review and signing of treasury warrant
 - a. Amended warrant 39 for FY15 was signed.
 - b. Warrant 2016-03 was approved.
2. Review of prior meeting minutes – minutes for July 14 were not ready for review.
3. Lisa Turner re: replacement Right to Farm Community signs; grant contract review and signatures – COA grant award has increased to \$4500. FY16 application was signed by the Board. Two of the Right to Farm signs has disappeared – both in fairly remote areas. There is enough funding remaining for one replacement sign. The Agricultural Committee wants to get a maple sugaring sign (instead of the hunting dog and tractor signs that disappeared) and put it on West Hawley Road near the Purinton property (instead of a remote town line location). The Board supported the idea, as long as the Agricultural Commission and Purinton's are supportive.
4. Discuss beaver issues on LaBelle and West Hill Roads – Dick Ohmann reported that the water level has receded, so he thought it would be fine to just keep an eye on it. Lloyd reported that the water level at the West Hill Road site is still rising. The 2' diameter overflow pipe that Eric Carle installed prior to selling his property is apparently plugged. The Fire Department has offered to help draw down the pond in order to locate the stand pipe and clear it, in hopes that that will settle the issue.
5. Consideration and comments on proposed Recall Provision Act draft – Lloyd explained that the draft was compiled after reviewing approximately 20 other town's bylaws. They added a section allowing the accused to opt for a public meeting. Several minor edits were suggested. The Board agreed that they are basically in favor, following some fine-tuning.
6. Reaffirm that intent to sign Special Town Meeting warrant was also intent to proceed with layout procedure and send required notices – The Board clearly affirmed that they intended to proceed with the layout procedure, and that it was appropriate for Virginia to have sent out the required notices.
7. Vote to accept the layout of Savoy Road as described in preliminary right of way plans dated June 24, 2015 - John made a motion to accept the layout of Savoy Road as described; Bob seconded; layout accepted unanimously. Documents signed.

8. Review authorization for additional services for Stantec to provide construction phase services for the Forge Hill Road repair project – Due to scope of project, the Board voted to authorize Stantec to perform construction oversight. John signed agreement.

9. Appoint election officers: Appointed as follows:

Election Officers (exp. 9/16)

Margaret Eggert	Kathryn Sternstein	Elvira Scott
Susan Olson	Jerry Sternstein	Mary Gelinas
Beth Thwing	Shinichi Miyazaki	Ann Hamilton-Kean
Juanita Clark	Christine Hicks	Melanie Poudrier
Gloria Decker	Lorraine McCarthy	Courtney Hoyt
Lark Thwing	Paul Norcross	Jane Grant
Tammy Schofield		

Constable/Clerk

Christine Hicks	Gloria Decker	Tammy Schofield
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Deputy Warden

Melanie Poudrier

Registrar (3-year term expiring 2018)

Daniel Hoyt

10. Any other business not reasonably anticipated prior to posting agenda

a) Lloyd reported that the Planning Board may have a proposed Solar Bylaw ready for a special town meeting in September or October.

b) Virginia reported that due to some fine-tuning between Donna MacNicol and Karen Axtel (MassDOT), the wording of the articles on the Special Town Meeting warrant for Savoy Road will need to be changed in some specific ways. She provided recommended language for the motions. This language was approved by both Donna MacNicol and Karen Axtel.

c) Virginia reviewed the payroll schedule that she wrote up and plans to follow over the next year, if the Board agrees. Board reviewed and approved.

d) Virginia reminded the Board of the paving bid opening scheduled for next Tuesday at 7:30; and Special Town Meeting next Thursday at 7pm.

e) Chris Tirone informed the Board that Kim Brandt (Hunt Road) has a microchip reader, and is also capable of injecting microchips into pets.

f) Lark reported to the Board that the School Committee recognized a high expense item for a special needs student in 6th grade that is approximately \$250,000 per year. This will have an impact on future budgets that we need to keep in mind. Also, there will be some proposed amendments to the Regional Agreement being worked on.

g) Rick reported that the Personnel Committee met on Wednesday and received the resignation of Betty Nichols from her position as Treasurer, effective and the end of August. They are in the process of searching for a replacement, and have placed a three-day ad in The Recorder.

h) Rick reported that the Communications Committee has been meeting almost monthly lately – looking at alternative ways to provide internet service. The Committee has been told that there is no funding remaining from the State this year, but Rep. Paul Mark is committed to continuing to help get more funding for the 17-18 small towns. Board approved

the Committee setting up a meeting with the affected small towns and legislators as well as MBI's Nakajima. Rick also reported that the website conversion is expected within a couple of weeks.

i) John reported on several items. First, he attended Paul Mark's Hawley office hours and found out that Middle Road funding was cut by the Governor, but we should keep trying. Virginia reviewed the current status of the exempt conservation land issue and narrowed down potential solutions to pursue that were preliminarily discussed with Rep. Mark. Other items reported on by John were that the vocational school busing gas deal saved the four towns \$20,000 – this deal will continue for the next school year. Charlemont voted to authorize borrowing money for the wood pellet heating system at Hawlemont. Charlemont Ambulance successfully got licensed for two years, although the root problem remains.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Gabert, Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted by Board of Selectmen:

John Sears

Philip Keenan

Robert MacLean