

Town of Hawley, Massachusetts
Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting – September 22, 2015

Present: Phil Keenan, Bob Maclean – Board (John Sears absent)
Virginia Gabert – Administrative Assistant
Rick Kean, Lark Thwing, Terry Walker, Hussain Hamdan, Chris Tirone

The meeting was called to order at 7:31pm.

1. Review and signing of treasury warrant – warrant 2016-07 was reviewed and approved.
2. Review of prior meeting minutes – Minutes from September 8 were reviewed and approved.
3. Update from Treasurer – Terry reported that the transition is going well, but QuickBooks is still sub-par. She was able to get a price quote from Softrite for \$9,000 (down from \$22,000) with about \$2,000 per year for maintenance. She also recommended outsourcing payroll for \$13 every other week (\$338 per year). Hussain asked about the status of CSC software – Virginia explained that there is a separation underway from DOR-IT which has delayed development. Lark asked what office hours Terry would be keeping – she will be here on Tuesdays from 4pm until perhaps 9pm, or whenever she is done.
4. Discuss whether to schedule an audit (requested by former Treasurer) – Lark explained that the Finance Committee has not discussed this yet, but Carla Clark reviewed several reports and opined that the records were in good shape, so he does not recommend having a full audit at this time. Phil asked that the Finance Committee make a formal decision.
5. Status of storm damage reimbursement
 - a. Review change order for materials on Forge Hill Road – Davenport change order was reviewed and approved.
 - b. Discuss storm damage loan status – Virginia reviewed the storm damage loan status. The Town can do one more year of short-term borrowing, but will then need to do long term borrowing.
6. Chapter 90 reimbursement request (Savoy Road) – Board reviewed and signed.
7. Review and signing of MBI Planning Grant application – Grant was reviewed, but it had been drafted for John's signature. Rick explained the grant. Bob made a motion to authorize the Communications Committee to apply. Phil seconded. Authorization was unanimous.
8. Propose changes to the MTRSD agreement, if any – no new changes were suggested.
9. Schedule tax rate classification hearing – will be held on October 6.
10. Any other business not reasonably anticipated prior to posting agenda
 - a) Rick reported that the new website is now up! There were a few little glitches, but they are being worked on.

b) Rick reported that he and Lark had gone to a meeting in Colrain with Eric Nakajima, and were under the impression that MBI had been through a lot and appears that they may have taken on more than they can handle.

c) George Rice was appointed Constable for one year.

d) Chris Tirone asked about who makes decisions on what to spend Chapter 90 funds on? Bob explained that the Highway Superintendent was planning on saving two years of Chapter 90 funds to go toward larger repairs on Rte 8A. They will be resurfacing a section of 8A this year to preserve what is there.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Gabert, Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted by Board of Selectmen:

John Sears

Philip Keenan

Robert MacLean