

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting – September 23, 2014

Present: Phil Keenan, John Sears, Bob Maclean – Board
Virginia Gabert – Administrative Assistant
Pam Shrimpton, Hussain Hamdan, Lisa Turner, Rick Kean

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

1. Review and signing of treasury warrants – warrants 12, 13 and 13A approved unanimously.
2. Review of prior meeting minutes – minutes from September 2 and September 10 were reviewed and approved.
3. Appoint Planning Board member - Peter Beck was appointed to fill out a vacant term on the Planning Board.
4. Appoint Regional Planning Board representatives - Lloyd Crawford and John Sears were appointed.

(Inserted item, not on original agenda): Lisa Turner brought up two items with the Board. One was to let them know that Cathy Buntin (of the Shelburne/Buckland/Ashfield COA) would like to talk about a potential merger with our COA. The Board agreed to have her on the agenda for the next meeting – October 7 at 7:30pm. Lisa will contact her to confirm that the date would work.

The second item was regarding approval of payments. As Cyndie is intending on resigning, and Charlie is no longer Treasurer, there will be less oversight. Thus, bills need to be submitted to the COA for approval before being placed on a warrant. Lisa will be tracking the expenses, so all bills should go to her via the COA mail slot.

5. Status of Forge Hill Rd bids – Virginia reported that she still hadn't heard back from FEMA. John will contact Lorraine Eddy at MEMA.
6. Status of East Road repairs – Phil will stop at the site tomorrow to check on the progress.
7. Schedule Special Town Meeting – Meeting date was set for Thursday, October 16 at 7:00pm. The Finance Committee will be meeting the prior week, so salary recommendation for Accountant will be made on the floor. Kristi submitted her two week notice, and Betty will be interviewed on Thursday for that position as well. John reported on last week's Ambulance meeting, and added that Hawley might want to consider appropriating money to train two EMT's. An article will be included on the Special Town Meeting warrant to transfer \$2,000 from Free Cash to establish an EMT training fund. Hussain announced that he would be interested in taking the training, if it was offered in the summer. He has also joined the Hawley Fire Department.

8. CSC applying for expansion grant for accounting software. Discuss likelihood of being a pilot community – The Board expressed definite interest. Virginia will let Rebecca Krause-Hardie (the coordinator) know.
9. Discuss ZBA hearing scheduled (Tues 9/30, 7:30pm) – Virginia provided information for the Board to review. As the ZBA is currently vacant, the Board will have to fill in.
10. Discuss inquiry about changing weekly payroll to bi-weekly – Phil will talk with Ritchie to see if it will be possible.
11. Discuss request for Treasurer and Collector to be paid on a monthly basis – John made a motion to pay the Treasurer, Collector, and Accountant (if the position is approved) on a monthly basis. Bob seconded; vote was unanimous.
12. New business not anticipated at time of posting

(Phil made a statement that although he is not currently staying in Hawley, his attorney informed him that as long as he is paying a mortgage, he is considered a resident. He is currently staying in Conway, but intends to maintain his responsibilities on the Board and to the Town. John stated his support – since he is doing his job, he should continue. Hussain asked if he still considered Hawley his home? Phil responded that he did, and always will.)

- a. Franklin County Selectboard Assoc. Quarterly Meeting (Tues. 9/30) – unfortunately this is at the same time as the ZBA hearing for Paul Levine’s Variance.
- b. Citizen Planner Training Collaborative fall workshops – Virginia provided schedules of upcoming trainings to the Board.
- c. Email from Comer Contracting (MC Cutback bid inquiry) – Phil had drafted a handwritten response. Virginia will type it up and email it back to Comer.
- d. Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education letter draft for review – Letter was drafted by David Newell asking for clarification on a few issues, and requesting approval of the Board to send the letter. Hussain mentioned that it is standard operating procedure that we don’t allow someone to go to Smith, if the same program is offered at Franklin Tech. He also suggested taking this up with the Superintendent first. John will pass the recommendations on to David Newell, and will suggest that David hold off on sending the letter until get input from the Superintendent. Hussain will speak with the Superintendent.
- e. “Preparing for Climate Effects at the Municipal Level: A Public Health Symposium” (Fri. 10/3) – It is still not clear whether this training would pertain to a community like Hawley. John had suggested to Greg that the town should do a drill, essentially to review with people who would be involved in handling an emergency or disaster.
- f. Hussain asked about the appointment of Peter Beck to the Planning Board. Discussion ensued about residency generally not being required for appointed positions, and that Peter’s expertise is an important contribution. Also pointed out was that this is a vacant position, and no one else has come forward to serve in the position.
- g. Bob spoke with Liberty Chevrolet. The truck should be ready this week or next week. He will ask them to send an invoice as soon as possible.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Gabert, Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted by Board of Selectmen:

Philip Keenan

John Sears

Robert MacLean