

Town of Hawley, Massachusetts
Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting – November 17, 2015

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

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

1. Review and signing of treasury warrant – warrant 2016-12 and 2016-12 payroll were reviewed and signed after inquiry about Atherton Farms bill and request for confirmation that we are only paying for gift certificates that are redeemed. Virginia will ask Ann Falwell for confirmation.
2. Review of prior meeting minutes – Minutes from October 20, November 3 and 10 were reviewed and approved.
3. Beaver issue status update – John reported on the beaver status. Board opted to wait and watch as there is no imminent threat at the moment.
4. Ambulance update – John reported that the Charlemont Board of Selectmen is down one member, and another one recuses herself from discussion about the Ambulance services. The Town had appropriated \$40,000 to hire a full time EMT on the Highway Department to respond to calls, and work on Highway when not on calls. However, they have not hired anyone into this position. Bob Root suggested visiting Highland Ambulance service as they are about the same size, but are successful.
5. Any other business not reasonably anticipated prior to posting agenda
 - a. CPHS Annual Meeting (Thursday night at Berkshire East) – Virginia reported that she may not be able to make it as she will be attending a wake. Phil will try to go.
 - b. No office hours on Friday 11/27 – Virginia will be off that day.
 - c. Discussion ensued about the Garage Bank Stabilization project. Milone & MacBroom did the original engineering, so it would be reasonable for them to continue and do the final plan preparation. John and Virginia will check with MEMA and MassWorks to make sure that is acceptable. If we do not have to go out to bid, the Board voted to stay with Milone & MacBroom.
 - d. Rick reported on behalf of the Communications Committee and presented a hard copy of the MBI planning grant agreement. He also reminded the Board that Paul Mark will be coming on Thursday evening to talk about funding options – this meeting conflicts with the CPHS Annual Meeting. Reportedly, Monroe and New Braintree have withdrawn – they are not even interested in working with MBI anymore. Rick also reminded the Board of two meetings next week – one is Tuesday evening at 6:30 – Clark Rowell from UniBank will meet with the Finance Committee to discuss funding alternatives; and on Wednesday there will be a special Communications Committee meeting with five other towns exploring fiber options. Hussain explained how fiber would work, in theory.
 - e. John reported on the Community Compact conference. He had the opportunity to informally speak with Secretary Beaton and learned that DCR is creating a deferred maintenance plan to address the lack of maintenance of their current assets.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Gabert, Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted by Board of Selectmen:

John Sears

Philip Keenan

Robert MacLean