

Town of Hawley, Massachusetts
Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting – December 15, 2015

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

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

1. Review and signing of treasury warrant – warrant 2016-14 and 2016-14 payroll were reviewed and signed.
2. Review of prior meeting minutes – Minutes from December 1 were not ready.

A memo was received from Linda Dunlavy (FRCOG) about funds available for Technical Assistance through HRDA to support the development of Best Practices/Community Compact. Board reviewed the list and ranked items that could benefit Hawley.

3. Review information about Baystate Accounting service – Rick reported on the conference call with Baystate Accounting Services. For various reasons, the Committee recommends not going with them at this time. The Personnel Committee recommended to the Board to reorganize using Virginia Gabert's skills in finance and administration and hiring a clerical assistant/Administrative Assistant. The Committee looked at competitive salaries and Hawley's abilities to pay and proposes advertising for 15 hours at \$14 per hour, and to increase Virginia's rate to \$25 per hour. Phil made a motion to approve the recommendations of the Committee. Bob seconded; vote was unanimous.
4. Discuss proposed Committee to make recommendations on a Revised Solar Bylaw – John stated that he felt strongly that the Board should encourage the Planning Board to consider looking at a committee and keep working on the bylaw. John will speak with Lloyd to see if the Planning Board would be open to an ad hoc committee coming up with an alternative.
5. Tri-town Landfill follow up meeting schedule proposals – The Board is waiting to hear from Heath about DEP possibly re-permitting with lower testing requirements.
6. Any other business not reasonably anticipated prior to posting agenda
 - a) John updated the Board on Milone and MacBroom proposal for engineering for the Garage bank project.
 - b) Virginia reminded the Board that Richie intends to retire on September 9, 2016, and with his vacation and sick time that has accrued, his last day at work will be around May 15. She will do an actual day count to come up with an exact date.
 - c) Virginia reported on a potential disagreement about plowing at the Town Office. Apparently Wayne does not want the town to plow toward the north. Peter Beck is fine with the Town plowing to the south, even though Wayne has marked that direction as well. If Wayne has any objections, Richie can direct him to talk with the Selectmen.
 - d) Virginia will be on vacation for the next two Wednesdays.

e) John reported that he was able to get in to the MBI/WiredWest meeting. He explained that MBI is apparently concerned about town money security and user fees most likely being 25% higher than WiredWest is estimating.

f) Rick reported that the consultant came back with a proposal of around \$400,000 but they are still working on evaluating the concept, and will provide further details at a later date.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Gabert, Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted by Board of Selectmen:

John Sears

Philip Keenan

Robert MacLean