

Minutes of the Select Board Meeting, June 13, 2017

Howard Bronstein, Leslie Rule, and Winton Pitcoff were present. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. The minutes of May 23, 2017 were accepted as submitted.

Howard began the meeting by sharing an e-mail from David Alvord thanking Robert Corash, a fifty-year Plainfield property owner, for his thirty years of service on the PVFD. Bob retired from the PVFD as a captain in 2007. His contributions to the PVFD, PVFA, and the Town of Plainfield include firefighter, training officer, fund raiser, Clint Fiske Award inductee, legal advisor, cole slaw creator, Town Moderator, member of the Library Addition Committee, etc. Bob and Mary have sold their home and are planning a summer of travel. To quote both Dave and Howard, "Bob, you will be missed." Thank you.

Special Town Meeting Warrant

The Special Town Meeting Warrant was signed and given to Constable Ed Morann for posting. The STM will take place June 27, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Highway Superintendent

HCOG bids for cold patch, hot mix, gravel, and sand were signed.

Three estimates, just under \$41,000.00 each, for the proposed 1 ton truck were received from Highway Superintendent Mert Taylor, Jr. An article for the truck has been placed on the June 27th Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Mert expressed his appreciation to Tree Warden Winton Pitcoff for the removal of dangerous trees along Plainfield roadsides.

Hampshire Council of Governments

HCOG Executive Director Todd Ford, Director of Procurement Services Ellen Batchelder, and HCOG Councilor Peg Keller updated the Board on recent activities and services offered by HCOG. Services include Hampshire Purchasing, Hampshire Power, Hampshire Solar, Hampshire IT, and Hampshire Web. HCOG is also willing to work with member towns on personnel policies. Todd encouraged the Board to check with HCOG for new projects, grants, etc.

Plainfield Councilor Peg Keller attends HCOG meetings and is available as

Plainfield's liaison to HCOG.

Senior Van

HCDC is taking over the Goshen senior van as of July 1, 2017 serving the towns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Plainfield, and Worthington. Executive Director Dave Christopolis and Community Development Specialist Kate Bavelock updated the Board on the project. The van, funded by FRTA, has the capacity for twelve and has a wheel chair lift and slot. Care givers may ride, as well. Rides will be available to seniors, veterans, and those with disabilities for medical appointments and grocery shopping, etc. Trips to the Northampton Big Y and Walmart are scheduled for Tuesdays and Pittsfield on Thursdays. Forms will need to be filled out in advance by those planning to utilize the service. A launch party for the project will take place at 3:00 p.m. on June 30, 2017 at the Chesterfield Community Center.

Green Communities Grants

Applications for \$5,000(updated) and \$12,500.00 META grants were signed. Conrad Liebenow also presented an agreement between the Town of Plainfield and Bowman Engineering in the amount of \$2,500.00 for a Highway Garage energy audit for signing. The document was signed. Conrad noted the Energy Committee and the Buildings Committee are working together on the Green Communities Grant.

Other Business

The Board reviewed a Special Event Permit application from Peppermint Park owners Gale and David Bulissa for a beer and cider tasting on July 8, 2017. Signatures from police, fire, and EMS officials were obtained. Winton moved to approve the Special Event Application for the July 8th beer and cider tasting. The motion, seconded by Leslie, was unanimously approved. The proposed NEXAMP PILOT agreement was discussed. The proposed payment amounts over a 20 year period are based on the system capacity. It was noted Personal Property Taxes are assessed annually. The cost of hiring an outside consultant to assist in the assessment process was also mentioned. Howard favors a PILOT agreement with NEXAMP for the 29 Union Street solar project. Leslie suggested an informational meeting on the proposed PILOT program. The Board agreed to hold an informational meeting at 7:00 p.m. on June 27, 2017 prior to the Special Town Meeting. The Board will meet at 6:30 p.m. adjourning for both meetings and reconvening following the STM, if necessary. Howard reported on a productive meeting with the Board of Assessors. He noted Assistant Assessor Cathy Hall has been invaluable during his inquiries regarding

PILOT vs. Personal Property Taxes. Cathy noted the need for proper records storage. A new agreement for assessors' software is in the works.
Winton received salary information from Ashfield.
A copy of the current FY'17 appropriation balances was received.
The Swift River Project has been approved according to the Daily Hampshire Gazette. Plainfield has not heard anything concerning the project approval.
An endorsement from MIIA concerning the removal of the 345/347 Main Street property from the Town's liability policy was received.

Correspondence

Eversource Community Relations Manager Hayley Dunn sent an e-mail seeking a meeting to discuss Eversource transmission work planned for this year. She will be contacted regarding both Winton's and Howard's interest in said meeting.
MassDOT has approved the Chapter 90 Project Request.
The Board received notice of House Bill NO. 2252 from the Massachusetts Bay Constables Association, Inc. A copy of the letter will be forwarded to Constable Ed Morann. Constables play a significant role in local government.

Other mail was reviewed.

Warrants were signed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula J. King
Administrative Secretary