

Minutes of the Select Board Meeting, August 8, 2017

Howard Bronstein, Leslie Rule, and Winton Pitcoff were present. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The minutes of July 25, 2017 were accepted as amended.

MLP Update

MLP Manager Kimberly Longey updated the Board on broadband progress (Kimberly's presentation attached). Discussion included insurance coverages, performance bonds, a September 22nd workshop in Heath, a meeting with Plainfield officials, and ongoing dialog with other towns such as Windsor and Cummington. Two options for operations are contracting with WiredWest who would subcontract with Westfield Gas & Electric (W.G.& E.) or a direct contract with W.G. & E. Broadband is expected to be operational by the end of 2018.

NEXAMP PILOT Agreement

The latest version of the NEXAMP PILOT agreement was discussed. Winton moved to authorize Howard to sign the latest version of the NEXAMP PILOT agreement. The motion, seconded by Leslie, was unanimously approved.

Mass Medi-Spa, Inc. Community Host Benefit Agreement

Attorney David Doneski's revisions to the proposed Community Host Benefit Agreement with Mass Medi-Spa, Inc. were reviewed. The Board agreed the words "real property" in Section 1 of the document should be removed.

Pending confirmation from the Roos', an informational meeting will be held on September 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

It was also noted the Building Commissioner will not need additional hours for the Mass Medi-Spa, Inc. project.

Strategic Planning: Job Descriptions

Proposed job descriptions for the Tax Collector, Town Accountant, and Highway Department were reviewed and discussed. Leslie agreed to work on a consistent format.

Other Business

The Board received a letter from James Pugliese expressing questions and concerns about the NEXAMP solar project and Mass Medi-Spa, Inc.'s proposal to grow medical marijuana. Winton reached out to Jim who was appreciative of the direct contact.

In his capacity as Tree Warden, Winton reported the concerns of West Hill residents about damage to tree roots caused by the cleaning of ditches and application of gravel on West Hill Road.

Winton agreed to contact state legislators in support of a \$250,000 supplemental FY'18 appropriation for vocational transportation reimbursement to towns.

Correspondence

A copy of the Highland Ambulance Quarterly Report was received.

KP Law issued e-Updates entitled "Solar Energy 'Smart' Program" and "SJC Issues Important Ruling Concerning Employee Off-Duty Use of medical Marijuana".

KP Law acknowledged the FY'18 appointment as Plainfield Town Counsel.

PVPC acknowledged the FY'18 appointment of Robert Silberberg as PVPC Alternate Commissioner.

The Board agreed to support participation in the MMA Statewide Essay Contest for eighth graders and the Annual Poster Contest for third graders.

Due to a lack of funds and time constraints the Board will not register for the Local Update of Census Operation (LUCA).

Miscellaneous mail and meeting notices were reviewed.

Warrants were signed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula J. King
Administrative Secretary