

Minutes of the Select Board Meeting, February 9, 2016

Judy Feeley and Dennis Mimitz were present; Phil Lococo was absent. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Dennis moved that Judy act as chair for the meeting. The motion, seconded by Judy was approved. The minutes of January 26, 2016 were accepted as submitted.

Proposed Drinking Water Protection By-law

Board of Health members Ellen DuPont and Gale Bulissa as well as members of the community were in attendance for discussion pertaining to a proposed by-law for the protection of drinking water. The text, written by Charles Sullivan (a New York attorney), calls for the testing of wells within a one mile radius of any blasting site. Gale Bulissa suggested a two mile radius. The Board of Health recommends residents have their water tested two to four times annually prior to any blasting to establish documentation of drinking water status. Erik Burcroff stated there is documented evidence of damaged wells in New York as a result of blasting. Judy moved to appoint an advisory committee to address the contents of the proposed by-law. The motion, seconded by Dennis, was approved.

Appointments were not made. Lawrence Young, Jack Nelson, and Polly Ryan expressed an interest in serving. Consensus of a straw vote was that there is enough concern for consideration of a by-law to protect the Town in the event the proposed Northeast Energy Direct Project (gas pipeline) is approved. Judy noted the text of the by-law will be sent to town counsel for review before proceeding. She also noted the Zoning Board of Appeals Special Permitting process may cover many of the concerns raised. Drafts of a comprehensive by-law and model by-law for the protection of roads were distributed to the Board. Copies of M.G.L. Chapter 40, Sec. 21, the statute which outlines the purposes for which towns may establish by-laws, were also distributed to the Board.

New Business

The FY'17 assessment of \$2,423.37 was received from HRMC. There is an additional special assessment of \$1,357.15, Plainfield's share of the replacement and repair of recycling containers.

The FY'17 assessment for the Hampshire County Regional Loc-up Facility is \$616.00. (The assessment is a part of the Police Department FY'17 budget.)

The Governor's FY'17 Cherry Sheet estimate for Plainfield is \$119,455.00 while the state assessment estimate is \$259.00.

Correspondence

Copies of Kopelman and Paige e-Updates were distributed to Board members.

The Board received a copy of the Colrain Select Board's letter to MBI. After reviewing the MBI's RFP for Design and Engineering Services for the last mile broadband network they have found it to be satisfactory.

The MTRSD School Committee FY'17 Budget Hearing is slated for February 10, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

The MTRSD School Committee has voted to approve the formation of an ad hoc Strategic Plan Steering Committee "to oversee the development of and implementation of a 3-5 year strategic plan intended to facilitate the long-term viability of the District by enhancing educational programs and improving educational outcomes for our students; controlling costs and assessments to member towns; and maximizing revenue opportunities." Select Boards of member towns are being asked to appoint someone to serve on the committee.

Copies of MTRSD School Committee and Budget Subcommittee draft minutes of January 27, 2016 were received.

PVPC is updating the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

Miscellaneous mail and meeting notices were reviewed.

Warrants were signed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula J. King
Administrative Secretary