

Minutes of the Select Board Meeting, July 26, 2016

Phil Lococo and Howard Bronstein were present. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The minutes of July 12, 2016 were accepted as submitted.

River Road

John Swanson approached the Board concerning the condition of culverts on River Road. He stated one is heaving and one is caving in. John has talked with the Highway Superintendent who is aware of the matter. Howard will confer with Mert, Jr. about his plans to address the situation.

Energy Committee

Energy Committee members Tim Walter and Conrad Liebenow asked the Board to consider reducing the number of Energy Committee members from seven to five. There are currently five members. Phil moved to reduce the number of members of the Energy Committee from seven to five as of July 1, 2016. The motion, seconded by Howard, was approved.

In their efforts to proceed with the Green Communities application, Conrad noted plans for an Energy Reduction Plan which include establishing an energy use data base and Mass Save energy audits for Town buildings. Conrad was asked to coordinate building access with the appropriate officials.

Town Clerk Ruth Osgood received notice the Solar By-Law passed at Town meeting has been approved by the Attorney General. The by-law has been posted as required.

Organization of the Board/FY'17 Appointments

Reorganization of the Board was tabled until the next meeting.

FY'17 appointments were made per the attached schedule provided by Town Clerk Ruth Osgood. A request for an appointee to the FRTA and several other appointments were tabled until the next meeting.

Other Business

Mark Fortier, Hilltop proprietor, submitted a Special Event permit application for the Fall Run slated for September 25, 2016. The application will be forwarded to the Police and Fire Departments for approval.

An invoice was received from CMR on behalf of Verizon for damage to underground cable on Prospect Street on April 24, 2015. The claim was previously denied by MIIA, the Town's insurer. MIIA has been contacted regarding the matter. Permission to contact town counsel was granted if deemed necessary. Copies of the "Public Records Procedure Checklist" were distributed.

Phil moved to pay the HCOG quarterly assessment invoice #2017009 in the amount of \$100.57. The motion, seconded by Howard, was approved.

After consulting with Tax Title Attorney Ronald Berenson, Paula reported the former Jackson property can be auctioned as a Tax Title property since it was acquired by foreclosure. Treasurer Allan Kidston is working on plans to auction the 324 Main Street, 345/347 Main Street, and West Street properties. Howard will ask Highway Superintendent Mert Taylor, Jr. to see if the 345/347 Main Street property can be made somewhat presentable.

According to information received from Department of Elementary and Secondary Education local Select Boards can select a "preferred vocational school or schools". Subsequently, the School Committee will then vote on each town's selection.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Plainfield member of the Vocational Educational Advisory Committee should be the only one contacting vocational schools in regard to student enrollment regarding Plainfield.

The Charlemont Select Board wrote to VEAC seeking answers to what VEAC sees as its purpose, how the committee plans to ask for representing towns' input, and what procedures, time line, and authority VEAC would have.

The Broadband Committee will meet with MBI representative Cornell Robinson on August 1, 2016.

Correspondence

KP Law issued an eUpdate entitled "An Act Relative to Transgender Anti-Discrimination".

Other mail was reviewed and distributed.

Warrants were signed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula J. King, Administrative Secretary