

Minutes of the Select Board Meeting, April 10, 2018

Winton Pitcoff and Hilary Weeks were present; Howard Bronstein was absent. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Winton Pitcoff was elected temporary chair for the meeting. The minutes of March 27, 2018 were accepted as amended; the minutes of April 4, 2018 were accepted as submitted.

Buildings Committee

Claude DuPont met with the Board concerning the use of the Town Hall upstairs for the Annual Town Meeting. The upstairs will remain open for Town Meeting as of this date. Fire Chief Dennis Thatcher will inspect the fire escape and an inspection of the elevator will be scheduled.

Wild and Scenic Westfield River

Designated as a National Wild and Scenic River, the east branch of the Westfield River is fed by three Plainfield streams. Judy Williams, Conservation Commission Chair, stated Plainfield has been invited to become designated as one of the towns associated with the Wild and Scenic River. In answer to questions posed by Winton, a letter of support from the Select Board and a non-binding resolution town meeting warrant article would facilitate Plainfield's acceptance. Winton inquired about restrictions on private landowners. Hilary asked how the designation would affect vernal pools on private properties. Judy stated there would be no restrictions on private properties along the Plainfield streams other than conservation restrictions already in place. There would be no cost to the Town. Winton asked Judy to send him wording for the letter and a non-binding warrant article. The Board will vote on the issue at the next meeting.

Other Business

An individual looking for property in Plainfield or another area town asked the Board about processes required for farming/growing organic sustainable foods and storage for farming equipment, tools, etc. She was referred to the Building Commissioner, the Planning Board, the Agricultural Commission. It was suggested she check the Zoning By-laws on the Plainfield website or obtain a copy from the Town Office.

Winton e-mailed Attorney David Doneski for information and sample language on

local option tax on recreational marijuana retail sales.

Paula asked and received approval to contact someone to provide IT assistance to network the accountant's and treasurer's computers as well as assist with a Windows 10 issue.

Correspondence

The Board received a letter of resignation from Police Chief Stacey Hudson effective June 1, 2018.

A memorandum of understanding was received from Don Jacobs for the Wage and Salary Classification Plan/Human Resources Policies Study. The Board will meet with Don on April 24, 2018.

Paula will follow up on MassDOT's Lower Liberty Street bridge inspection report with Highway Superintendent Mert Taylor, Jr.

Notice of the Sustainable Materials Recovery Program Grant was received.

The Board received a follow up e-mail inviting Plainfield to participate in Worthington's parade and festivities celebrating 250 years on June 30, 2018.

Contact information for the 250th Committee Chair Evan Johnson is (413) 238-5556 or evanjohnson19@gmail.com. Parade Chair Bobby Dodge may be contacted at bnfcats@verizon.net. Tom Wisnaukas can be reached at (413) 238-0296 or modestowvuss@gmail.com.

Other mail was reviewed.

Warrants were signed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula J. King
Administrative Secretary