

Minutes of the Select Board Meeting, September 25, 2018

Howard Bronstein, Winton Pitcoff, and Hilary Weeks were present. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. The minutes of August 28, 2018 were accepted as submitted.

7:02 Verizon Pole Hearing

Paul Davis, representing Verizon, explained Verizon Petition #A2XQ7B as four jointly owned poles to be placed on Bow Street to lessen the span between poles as a part of the Eversource upgrade. Plainfield MLP Manager Kimberly Longey expressed the Town's interest in attaching fiber to these poles. The hearing was closed. Winton moved to approve Verizon Petition #A2XQ7B. The motion, seconded by Hilary, was unanimously approved.

Highway Superintendent

Highway Superintendent, Merton Taylor, Jr., recommended hiring Justin Litchfield as an employee of the Highway Department. He has conversed with Justin about keeping police work separate from that of highway department work. Winton expressed concerns with 60-65 hours per week between both positions, but is not opposed. Hilary and Howard are not opposed. After consulting with KP Law Attorney David Doneski, Howard stated two positions may be held by the same person. Finance Committee member Bob Baker said Justin mentioned 20 hours of police work to him. It was also noted someone could have a 40 hour a week job in another place and 20 hours here in another position. Hilary moved to approve Mert, Jr.'s recommendation to hire Justin Litchfield as a Highway Department employee. The motion, seconded by Howard, was approved; Winton abstained.

MLP Update (Attached)

According to MLP Manager Kimberly Longey there has been a lot of forward momentum. The Board was asked to permit Howard and Kimberly to co-sign a letter to the Building Commissioner asking him to waive the requirement of hiring a construction supervisor during the placement of the MLP hub on North Central Street. The letter was signed.

Kimberly would like to hold a celebration towards the end of October after the hub is installed.

The leadership of WiredWest has changed. Doug McNally, Windsor, has agreed to serve as WiredWest chair. WiredWest has proposed hiring Jim Drawe, former WiredWest chair, as a WiredWest employee in order to retain his expertise. There is no budgetary provision for hiring employees. Kimberly feels hiring Jim as a consultant would be better. Winton supports Kimberly's concerns.

WiredWest is in the process of updating its by-laws.

Kimberly will work with Allan Kidston, Treasurer, on cash flow statements and borrowing.

Special Town Meeting Warrant

Warrant articles for the October 30, 2018 Special Town Meeting were finalized.

Articles include: Police Salaries \$43,650 - from Stabilization, Police Expense \$7,536 - from Stabilization, Highway Department fully outfitted truck \$225,000 - \$100,000 down payment from Satbilization with up to \$125,000 to be borrowed, and potential fine for absence of Town Hall lift inspection \$5,000 - from Stabilization.

Appointments

Winton moved to reappoint Susi Westwood and Lina Bernstein and to appoint Kathryn Jenson, Rebecca Coletta, and Dario Coletta to the Cultural Council for through September 2021. The motion, seconded by Hilary, was unanimously approved.

Other Business

Claude DuPont gave his verbal resignation from the Board of Assessors. A written resignation to the Town Clerk is required. Information on the cost to the taxpayers for land owned by Mass Audubon and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was provided. Claude also expressed his angst about the Finance Committee's manner of seeking a financial member of the Buildings Committee noting rumors following the publication in the Plainfield Post. Howard expressed the Board's appreciation of everyone's service.

Later in the meeting Finance Committee Chair David Kramer would like to find a way to make an appointment to the Building s Committee without contention.

Howard will approach the Buildings Committee.

Plainfield Tree Alliance (ad hoc group) member Pleun Bouricius addressed the Board about the applying for a DCR grant for the purpose of establishing a Community Wood Bank. A letter of intent is due on October 1, 2018 with a grant application due on November 11, 2018. Pleun stated the Plainfield Historical Society will act as 501-3 C for the PTA.

A reading of the Constitution (Town Hall upstairs) and the ZBA Public Hearing

on the request for a variance to cultivate recreational marijuana by 27 Broom Street LLC (Town Hall downstairs) are scheduled for October 18th at the Town Hall. The Board received a copy of the Public Hearing advertisement.

The Board will meet with Don Jacobs on Wednesday, September 26, 2018 to further the development of the Wage and Salary Classification plan.

Howard will meet with the MVP and HMP teams on Wednesday, September 26, 2018.

Howard noted the Wooldridge's attempt to record the variance for solar at the Registry of Deeds.

The Plainfield Congregational Church has cancelled plans for bingo on October 20, 2018.

Winton moved to pay KP Law invoice #117302 in the amount of \$192.50. The motion, seconded by Hilary, was unanimously approved. Charges listed are for the MLP. Paula will check with Kimberly concerning payment.

Winton agreed to fill out the Cannabis Commission Survey.

Police Department Review: Attorney Dave Doneski concurs with Howard that full operating police departments are necessary as there is more and more case law concerning police department operations.

Correspondence

A copy of an e-mail from Bea von Hagke, HCDC regarding Plainfield's closed landfills was received.

The Board received a copy of a request for variance from Thomas Marcoux, West Hill Road.

Other mail was reviewed.

Warrants were signed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula J. King
Administrative Secretary

