

## Minutes of the Select Board Meeting, March 26, 2019

Howard Bronstein, Winton Pitcoff, and Hilary Weeks were present. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The minutes of March 12, 2019 were accepted as submitted.

### Highway Superintendent

Mert Taylor, Jr. reported dirt roads are passable. The department has applied stone to areas to alleviate muddy conditions. Potholes will be filled with hot mix shortly. The top portion of Governor Street is still closed. All of the trucks are in good condition and in service with the 2010 International truck having been recently repaired.

Howard plans to file an MVP Action Grant application to repair a segment of Union Street where mud is a problem due to freeze/thaw conditions resulting from climate change. The grant requires a 25% in kind match.

### MLP Update (document attached)

The following dates were noted: April 15<sup>th</sup> deadline for “network extension property owners”; Kimberly is reaching out to those who have not yet responded. Information sessions to answer questions, show how to stream TV, etc. will take place on April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Town Hall and May 11<sup>th</sup> at the Library. June 30<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for broadband sign-ups.

Winton moved to accept the proposed broadband financial planning model. The motion, seconded by Hilary, was unanimously approved.

Winton move to accept the Drop Policy as written. The motion was seconded by Hilary and was unanimously approved.

Winton moved to accept the new easement documents for North Central Street per recommendation of KP Law Attorney David Doneski. The motion, seconded by Hilary, was unanimously approved. The chair will sign the document.

Additional broadband funding is still being sought from the state.

### Hilltown Tree Alliance

An Arbor Day celebration has been planned for April 27, 2019. In order to achieve the honorary designation as a “Tree City” several requirements must be met including an Arbor Day Proclamation, Tree Warden budget, Arbor Day

celebration, and Tree Survey. Howard noted the planting of any trees on Town owned property requires approval from the Select Board, public safety officials, and the Buildings Committee. (The idea for tree planting has been put in the MVP file for future MVP grants with the notation of the 25% match requirement.) The group will be receiving a \$1,000 grant from Eversource for tree planting. Hilary moved to adopt the Arbor Day Proclamation. The motion, seconded by Winton, was unanimously approved. Winton moved to sign the letter designating April 27, 2019 as the first official Arbor Day celebration. The motion, seconded by Hilary, was unanimously approved.

#### Compactor Retaining Wall

Estimates are being sought for repairs to the compactor retaining wall. \$6,450 was appropriated as a special article for FY'19, but is not sufficient. Peter Lapointe stated new block wall (\$6,000) could be built in front the existing wall with fill in between. Drainage can be addressed by raising the grade on the compactor drive (\$1,800) and pouring a new 320 square foot concrete pad (\$2,400).

Board of Health Chair Ellen Dupont informed the Board the town-owned compactor box is rusted and no longer road-worthy with repair costs estimated at \$5,000. The cost of a new box is \$7,805. Dave Wickles told Ellen he trades out town-owned boxes with one of his own every other haul. Ellen stated the cost of renting a box is \$90. (The current box was a part of Plainfield's original compactor purchase over 25 years ago.)

#### Plainfield Reads Grant

According to Plainfield Reads members Pleun Bouricius and Erik Burcroff, the Library Trustees have agreed to be the sponsor for the Reading Frederick Douglas and Founding Documents grant application from Mass Humanities. Discussion of procedures followed. Grant funds will be issued to the Town of Plainfield Library/Plainfield Reads Grant with invoices signed by a Library Trustee prior to payment.

Plainfield Reads has also been awarded a grant from the Plainfield Cultural Council.

#### Resignation

The Board accepted Lynne Robbin's resignation from the Board of Library Trustees with appreciation and regret.

### Other Business

Additional articles for the Annual Town Meeting Warrant include funds for Compactor Retaining Wall, Compactor Box, and proposed Zoning By-law changes.

Notice of estimated shortfalls for the following FY'19 accounts was reported by the accountant: Building Operations, Medicare, and Vocational Tuition/Transportation.

Winton moved to sign the MIIA renewal form for FY'20. The motion, seconded by Hilary, was unanimously approved.

A letter of appreciation to Westside Clock Shop for voting machine repairs was signed per request of the Town Clerk.

### Correspondence

Notice of the Franklin Land Trust D2R2 recreational bike ride on August 17<sup>th</sup> was received.

Eversource provided notice of equipment upgrades to the substation located at 2 North Union Street.

Notice of planned and scheduled vegetation management on transmission right-of-ways for the 2019 calendar year was received from Eversource.

An e-mail from Pleun Bouricius noted the Weights and Measures Cabinet currently located in Hathaway Hall needs to be moved under the guidance of the Plainfield Historical Commission once a new location is found.

A letter of instruction concerning sexual assault evidence kits being sent to police chiefs was received from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security.

Information concerning KCST USA, INC.'s bankruptcy filing was received.

Other mail was reviewed.

Warrants were signed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula J. King  
Administrative Secretary