

Minutes of the Select Board Meeting, December 10, 2019

Howard Bronstein, Winton Pitcoff, and Hilary Weeks were present. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The minutes of November 26, 2019 were accepted as submitted.

Weights and Measures Cabinet

Historical Society members: Rich Potter, Pleun Bouricius, and Dario Coletta and Historical Commission member Matt Stowell were present to discuss the Town's weights and measures cabinet currently housed in Hathaway Hall. The Historical Commission (town appointed) is charged with preserving the town's historical assets, buildings and possessions while the Historical Society is a private 501 3c organization. Pleun addressed the history of the cabinet and its contents. Each Massachusetts town was given a weights and measures cabinet in 1848, the purpose being to calibrate scales and other measuring devices of local merchants ensuring the measurements of goods purchased by customers were fair and accurate. Plainfield's cabinet is complete; use of weights and measures was discontinued in 1946. The cabinet has been moved from the Town Hall to the former Gun House and upon its sale by the Historical Society to Hathaway Hall. The Select Board received a letter from the Library Trustees and the library director stating there is not room for the cabinet in the library. Thelma Pilgrim suggested an informational meeting to educate the public about the cabinet and its contents. Howard stated he would like to speak with the Chief Litchfield and the Buildings Committee about the cabinet. The consensus of those present does not perceive the weight of the cabinet to be an issue. Rich Potter stated the need for the cabinet to be housed and exhibited.

The Board will research the matter then ask the Historical Commission and Historical Society to hold an informational meeting.

Fire Department Permit Fee Schedule

Fire Chief David Alvord informed the Board other towns charge in the \$20.00 - \$25.00 range for permits issued by their fire departments. David recommended a flat \$25.00 fee for all permits issued by the Plainfield Fire Department. Howard moved to adopt a flat \$25.00 for Fire Department issued permits payable to the Town of Plainfield to be deposited in the general fund. The motion, seconded by

Winton, was unanimously approved.

Chief Alvord noted the department has been busy and is fortunate to have a great crew. Medical calls at the Swift River Addiction Center are where they ought to be.

Other Business

Winton moved to renew the 2020 alcoholic beverage licenses for VAHALLAMA LLC d/b/a Pub 116 and Green Mountain Variety and Liquor, Inc. The motion, seconded by Hilary, was unanimously approved. Winton moved to estimate the population as of July 10, 2020 at 744 for the ABCC. The motion was seconded by Hilary and unanimously approved.

Howard attended the disaster recovery training made available through a grant awarded to Highland Ambulance/EMS. The training addressed disaster recovery processes and expenses funded by FEMA through MEMA. Progress is being made on Plainfield's Complete Emergency Management Plan. The MPG Grant application for culvert repair has been submitted.

Howard also attended the PVPC Regional Round table discussion on a regional approach for services. Plainfield can benefit from local technical assistance from PVPC. It was noted Plainfield does not have a current Open Space Plan on file with the state.

There has been no word on the IT Grant application.

MLP: WG&E is one month into the drop construction.

Job descriptions will be discussed at the January 14th meeting. The HR Manual will be distributed to employees by email pdf or hard copy. A signature page acknowledging receipt will accompany the distribution.

Other mail and meeting notices were discussed.

Warrants were signed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula J. King
Administrative Secretary