

## Minutes of the Select Board Meeting, January 23rd, 2024

Ben Gillett, Hilary Weeks, and Judy Cole were in attendance. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The minutes of January 9th, 2024 were accepted as submitted.

Highway Department: Walter Jennings

-The Select Board signed the NEMA (National Emergency Management Association) grant for two battery powered chainsaws for the Emergency Management Vehicle.

-Warner Hill Road and Jones Ave. Dead End: Walter gave an update on the process of the discontinuation of roads and the proposed discontinuation of Warner Hill Road and of Jones Ave. Dead End. Walter said that the next step should be a public hearing followed by a town vote and that the two abutters should be notified. The Planning Board should also be notified.

Pub 116: 2024 Common Victualer License: Hilary moved to the Select Board to vote to approve the 2024 Common Victualer License for Pub 116 for the sale of food. The Board voted unanimously to approve the license and the license was signed.

Board to vote to add to May 4<sup>th</sup> election ballot: Referendum Ballot Questions: To exclude the debt from the tax levy for the new highway truck and the new fire truck that were approved at last year's town meeting. Paula King explained that there were two loans approved at last year's Town Meeting, one for the fire truck and one for the highway truck, and that the debt exclusion will exclude the loan principle, loan interest, and the tax levy. Hillary moved to the Select Board to vote to add two Referendum Ballot Questions to exclude the debt from the tax levy for the new highway truck and fire truck approved at last year's town meeting. The Board voted unanimously to approve adding the two separate Referendum Ballot Questions to the May 4<sup>th</sup> election ballot.

Charlene Baiardi Resignation Letter: A resignation letter was received from Charlene Baiardi, the Building Commissioner. Charlene recommended Robert Walden as the new Building Commissioner and Julie Pavia as the Assistant Building Commissioner. Robert was also interviewed when Charlene interviewed

for the position so Hilary feels comfortable with the hire. Charlene will continue assisting with the Bow Street case as needed. Hilary moved to the Select Board to vote to approve to accept Charlene's resignation with appreciation and regret. Judy moved that the Select Board ask Robert Walden if he would be willing to serve as Plainfield's Building Commissioner and that Julie Pavia be asked to be his assistant. The Board voted unanimously to accept Charlene's resignation and to hire both Robert Walden and Julie Pavia.

#### Miscellaneous Mail and Meeting Notices:

-Letter from Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) informing that they are starting the development process for the 2025 to 2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

-Letter from CABOT Risk Strategies, LLC regarding "Public Safety Accident" coverage. Letter outlines highlights of the program including benefits, coverages, and rates.

-Letter from MIIA, Town of Plainfield Valuation update for Public Safety Building and Town Library/Offices: Total Additional Premium for remainder of FY 24' is: \$1,711

Warrants were signed.

A motion to adjourn was approved at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Dry