

TOWN OF PLAINFIELD

Plainfield, Massachusetts 01070

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Minutes of the Select Board Meeting September 10th, 2024

Ben Gillett, Judy Cole, and Polly Ryan were in attendance. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The minutes of August 13th, 2024 were accepted as submitted.

- Public Hearing: Eversource Pole Hearing:

Location: The areas of W Main St and Union St, Plainfield, MA

Reason: Eversource is requesting permission to install new poles and relocate existing poles within the ROW of the above-mentioned roads. This project is planned to improve reliability, protection, address the load increase in the area, and bring the main lines towards the road to make it easily accessible via W Main St.

Kimberly Longey, the Broadband Manager, asked several clarifying questions about the placement of the poles and how this would affect current placement of fibers and about our license agreement with Eversource regarding who pays repairs when damage to (MLP) Broadband fibers is incurred. Kimberly agreed that there were no issues with the placement of the new poles and the relocation of several existing ones. Judy Cole moved that the Board vote to approve the installation and the relocation of the existing poles. The board voted unanimously to approve the work on the poles and the order was signed.

-Highway Superintendent: Mark Hebert: Update on Highway Department projects. Mark said that the paving on Prospect Street is complete, and that the

Highway Department will be adding a single yellow line down the center of the street. The Highway Department is currently working on adding gravel to South Union Street and Summit Street. They will then move on to West Street, then Mountain Street, then Campbell. They will soon begin brush hogging and string trimming roads as well. Mark also said that landowners really need culverts in their driveways and suggested that this be discussed soon and that this might be added to zoning bylaws if it's not there already.

-Fire Department: Rob Shearer: Swift River land license for applicable fuel tanks procedures. A compliance officer recently did an inspection of Swift River and found that several underground fuel tanks were not historically registered or licenced, which was, more than likely, an oversight. Rob Shearer will work with Swift River to make sure that they get the licenses that they need. Rob asked if the public hearing portion of the application process could be waived to further expedite the process. Judy Cole moved that the Board vote to approve waiving the public hearing. The board voted unanimously to waive the public hearing.

-Fire Truck Stabilization Funds: Select Board to vote to hold a Special Town Meeting at the September 24th Select Board Meeting in order to vote to approve the use of the Fire Truck Stabilization funds. Judy Cole moved that the Board vote to approve to hold the Special Town Meeting on September 24th, 2024. The Board voted unanimously to hold the meeting.

-Franklin Regional Transit Authority (FRTA): Board Chair to sign letter of acknowledgment to appoint Polly Ryan as Plainfield's representative to the FRTA Advisory Board. The letter was signed and Polly Ryan will serve as the Plainfield representative for the Board for the fiscal period beginning July 1, 2024 through June 30th, 2025.

-KP Law Payment: Judy Cole moved that the Board vote to approve the payment of \$312.07 to KP Law. The Board voted unanimously to approve the payment.

-Polly Ryan and Shannon Dry: Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) Telephone System installation at Town Offices Update. The Select Board discussed the

three vendors that were options and decided that Novus Insight would be the best option based on Plainfield already working with them in other capacities, their customer support, and that they already know the ins and outs of the Town buildings and infrastructure. Judy Cole moved that the Board vote to approve the installation of a VOIP Telephone system within the Town Offices, (including the Highway Department, Police Department, Public Safety Complex, Town Hall, as well as extensions for Boards and Committee Members and all Town employees.)The board voted unanimously to approve the VOIP project and will work with Novus Insight.

Police Department: Chief Justin Litchfield: Notified the Select Board of new body cameras for the police department.

Miscellaneous Mail and Meeting Notices:

Email from Department of Energy Resources: Informing that Plainfield has received a Green Communities Competitive Grant for \$47,180

Theresa Thatcher: Email regarding current road conditions on Broom Street

The Board received a letter of resignation from Susi Westwood from the Finance Committee. The Board accepted her resignation with appreciation and regret.

Warrants were signed.

A motion to adjourn was approved at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Shannon Dry