

Selectboard Meeting
January 30, 2012

Meeting opened at 7:01pm

Present: Noreen Suriner, Chair; Alan Vint, Clerk; Mitch Feldmesser
Duane Pease, Administrative Assistant

Michele Klemeszewski was present to request use of the kitchen for the Southern Hilltown Adult Education Cooperative (SHAEC). It will be used for 2 cooking classes being sponsored by SHAEC. After a short discussion, the Board approved the use, 3-0.

There were no warrants to review. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved 3-0 on a motion by Mitch, 2nd by Noreen.

Noreen gave the Board an update on the Hampshire Public Health Coalition. The larger communities of the coalition have petitioned the State to withdraw, that will greatly impact the remaining members as the funding is based on 2 criteria: population and number of member towns.

Jay Swift, Planning Board Chair, attended to request the Selectboard sign a contract with Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVAC) for \$2,620. The monies were previously approved but Selectboard signatures are required on the contract. PVPC will help in updating the Use Tables as well as any new By-laws. Mitch motioned to sign, Alan 2nd, vote was 3-0 in favor and the contract was signed.

Also, the Planning Board is going to be advertising the Wind Turbine By-Law shortly in the Country Journal, the first will be for the Small Wind Turbine and later for the Large Turbine.

There was additional discussion regarding a noise complaint Jay had filed with the Board regarding "engine type" noises he believed were coming from the Baker's residence. He would like any noise not be heard on Sunday afternoons. A question of the origin of the noise was discussed as Kim Baker has categorically denied the noise was coming from him. It could be originating from the Allsop property that is located in Chester. Further investigation will be done.

Highway Superintendent, **Skip Savery**, attended and had been given a copy of an email sent by Brian Janik regarding what he perceived to be threats to him by Skip. According to Skip, he had stopped at a friend's house to start her generator as the power was off and noticed Mr., Janik watching him. Later he had been using the grader to clear Skyline Trail and made stops to clear water runs and had motioned for Janik to pass in the opposite lane and he turned around and went the other way. According to Skip there were some emails that had been previously sent by Mr. Janik to this friend that were of a threatening nature. He will see if they are available and if so, will bring them to the Board. A letter will be sent to Mr. Janik concerning his complaint.

Skip also had a problem with one of the trucks during the previous storm as the chain on the sanding body had broke. This was after taking the sander off the truck to get it ready for the coming storm. He spoke to the employee involved and his performance continues to be an issue for Skip.

Next discussed was a meeting with Town Counsel, Attorney McKnight, she is available on Thursday morning and the Board agreed to meet with her in Executive Session at 10am. This meeting is concerning the Harry Pease Road situation. The Administrative Assistant will notify the land owners involved.

Sherri Venditti spoke regarding preserving the older Town documents, there are many on microfilm but the Town does not have a microfilm reader and it would make more sense to digitalize them. **Marge Batorski**, Town Clerk, and Sherri felt they could have a private fund raiser as they do not feel comfortable asking the townspeople for tax dollars for this project. There also may be funding available through the Community Preservation Act and they will check into it.

Sherri also questioned if the minutes from the older Executive Sessions could be released, she explained after a certain period of time has passed then they become available to the public. This will be looked into by the Board.

Tom Austin, Police Chief, came to the meeting and displayed the Emergency Kit the Town received. It contained everything from a first aid kit to a portable office. This will be very helpful in times of emergency or natural disaster.

The Board will send a letter to Fire Chief, Larry Pease, requesting a roster of his members, copies of certifications and provide all of the departments training documents. It is extremely important that the volunteer members have the proper training for their safety and the safety of the townspeople when they respond to an emergency whether it is a fire, accident or medical call. A motion was made by Alan and 2nd by Noreen that Larry provides this information by February 29th. Motion passed 3-0.

Town Clerk, Marge Batorski requested the Board approve Tuesday, March 6, 2012 as the date for the Presidential Primary. This is a formality as the date is set by the State. Noreen motioned to approve, Mitch 2nd, vote 3-0 in favor.

There was an anonymous letter sent to the Board regarding the position of Assistant Town Clerk and why the position was not posted. It is the Town clerk that chooses the Assistant and the Board has no input into the selection. However, any pay for the position must go before a Town Meeting as with any paid position.

Noreen suggested a meeting with Jackie Duda, Health Agent, on February 27th and see if the new Building Commissioner can also attend the meeting. This will be beneficial as both positions sometimes overlap on issues.

Alan received positive feedback from a resident regarding his interaction with the new Building Commissioner.

Noreen is looking for feed back from the other Boards that may have dealings with hi.

Alan motioned to adjourn, Mitch 2nd, vote was 3-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:45pm.

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Duane Pease
Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted with/without changes:

Noreen Suriner, Chair

Alan Vint, Clerk

Mitch Feldmesser