

Selectboard Meeting
February 13, 2012

Meeting opened at 7:00pm

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

No warrants to review.

Minutes reviewed and approved 2-0 on Mitch's motion and Noreen's 2nd.

Steve Harris of the Communication Committee (CC) addressed the Board on the possibility of placing a Geographic Information System (GIS) on the Town web-site. This would allow the digitize property records to be viewed as an overlay on the satellite view of the Town. Additional overlays would also be possible. The mapping company, Cartographic Associates, has received a grant from the state and Middlefield is included in this round. The cost to the Town would be \$1,000 for the first year and then \$1,800 annually.

Mitch questioned whose budget the cost would come out of. Steve said that with the savings realized from changing the Town's web provider the costs would be paid for by the CC and their budget would not increase.

Tom Austin, Police Chief questioned who would have access and if any areas would be privileged. The data would be available to all as it would be a public record but there could also be certain areas that would be password accessible only according to Steve. The views are not real-time but the maps would show properties, wet lands, charitable, state and federal lands. It would be helpful to the Building Commissioner, Conservation Committed, Assessors, Board of Health and Zoning personnel as it would be fairly accurate and would be a good starting place when questions arose to those departments.

There was a general discussion on the pros and cons of having this information available.

Sherri Venditti said wouldn't the majority of use be by the assessors and was informed the Assessors voted 2-1 in favor of the GIS.

Steve is to obtain more information and report back to the Board next week.

Tom Austin spoke to the Board next; he would like the Board to create the position of EMS coordinator and suggested Ed Vivier for that position. Ed is a qualified EMT in town and along with his wife; they are the only 2 in town. There are 3 individuals who are currently taking the EMT course being offered in Becket. Ed would set the protocols for the EMTs. EMT responders have to make judgment calls and report incidents that

may involve crime scenes, elder or spousal abuse, auto accidents and know what not to disturb if reconstruction is going to be done later.

Ron Radwich and **Bob Hoynoski** of the Fire Department were in attendance and both spoke regarding the funding and it was felt it could be a line item in the Fire Dept budget. When the 3 EMT candidates graduate the Fire Dept plans on buying each a jump kit, they cost \$153 per kit and will be paid for out of the dept. budget.

Tom also informed the Board he had received 13 applications for taking the Firefighter I course that will be offered in Chester, there is no charge for the course. One of the prerequisites is that each will have to pass the First Responder Course; the cost of this course will be paid for by the Fire Dept.

Tom next spoke of using the current police cruiser for an incident command vehicle when the cruiser is replaced. This would allow for the vehicle to respond to emergencies and not require anyone to have knowledge of how to drive a fire truck.

Finally, **Tom** suggested **Noreen** be made the Public Safety Liaison for the Fire Dept, Police Dept and the EMS as she has been involved with the HCOG Emergency Management. Mitch agreed and motioned to appoint Noreen, Noreen 2nd and the vote was 2-0 in favor.

Next, a meeting with the Finance Committee, Selectboard, Accountant, Treasurer and Collector was suggested for Friday, February 24th at 3pm. This meeting will be for discussing issues and funding for the next Fiscal Year. The meeting will be posted as a Selectboard Meeting.

Noreen had received a request from Peter Oligny to use the Town Hall for the Grange Meeting. It was agreed the Grange could use the facility at no charge. Peter will fill out the use application and place the date on the calendar.

Skip Savery, Highway Superintendent, advised the Board the refurbished generator was ready to be installed at the Senior Center. He will need to check on the best location to install it and then pour a concrete pad for it to sit on. This generator will not have an automatic start when the power goes off but will have to be manually started. It will have a battery to provide the starting power. He will get additional information prior to the installation.

Noreen asked about paving the Transfer Station area and if Chapter 90 monies could be used. Skip said he would have to use some of his other monies or Transfer Station funds for the paving but he needs to know what is going to be done at the area before he paves anything.

Noreen brought up the issue of the Assistant Town Clerk, when Marge was out earlier this Fiscal Year, her son would come in to find things and then bring them to Marge who had been hospitalized and went then into re-hab. It was very frustrating for all involved. Also, on voting days, it made for a long day as the Clerk has to be in attendance from

prior to the polls opening until the final vote count. With an assistant, the day can be broken up and if the Clerk is unavailable, the assistant will be there.

Joe Kearns, Finance Chair, suggested the assistant position can be funded on the annual Town meeting warrant. In the interim, the assistant can be paid out of Marge's current account or a request can be made for funding on a Special Town Meeting Warrant. Currently, the assistant is putting in the same number of hours as Marge as she is learning the position.

Marge gave the Board a note from Munger who was complaining about his neighbors constantly barking dogs. This was the first notice of this complaint and a letter was sent requesting he attend a Selectboard Meeting and provide additional information.

A brief discussion was held regarding Attorney Quirks memo on the Town By-Law requiring all businesses obtain a permit from the Town. There is no penalty for not obtaining the permit, no enforcement policy set by the Town and therefore not much initiative to obtain a permit. Further discussion will be held on this matter.

Mitch motioned to adjourn and 9:07pm, Noreen 2nd; vote was 2-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:07pm.

Prior to all leaving, **Eric Main** came in to request permission to park his State vehicle on Town property. Since this could not be addressed without a Board vote, the meeting was reconvened at 9:15pm with Noreen, Mitch, Eric Main and Joe Kearns in attendance.

Eric explained when he brings his State vehicle home, his department rules prohibit him from parking it at his residence and it can only be parked on State, Federal or Municipal property. He would like to be able to park it in the vicinity of the Town Garage and but out of the way of any activity that may be occurring.

Noreen motioned to allow him to park on Town Property, Mitch 2nd; vote was 2-0 in favor.

Noreen motion to adjourn at 9:16pm, Mitch 2nd; meeting adjourned at 9:16pm.

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Duane Pease
Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted with/without changes

Noreen Suriner, Chair

Mitch Feldmesser

