

Selectboard Minutes
April 1, 2013

Meeting opened at 7:20pm

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

Board member Mitch Feldmesser arrived at 7:12pm

Expense warrants of \$12,897.51 and \$1,869.27 and payroll warrant of \$7,762.91 were approved and signed.

Kathy O'Brien, Transfer Station (TS) attendant, met with the Board to go over the rules and regulations at the TS. She provided the Board with a handout she gives to the users that was developed by Eric Weiss of HMRC. It has not been updated for a number of years. There was discussion on updating the handout and Noreen said she would draft the update and send a copy to Kathy to review. Also, the current yearly fee of \$35 has been in place for quite some time. Alan motioned to increase the yearly fee to \$50, Noreen 2nd and the increase passed, the stickers are valid from 7/1-6/30.

There was also discussion on when a sticker is valid, currently; there is nothing to prevent a former sticker holder from continuing to use it once they move out of town. Alan motioned that once a person moves out of town the sticker is no longer valid and they can apply for a pro-rated refund. Noreen 2nd and motioned passed on 3-0 vote.

Marge Batorski, Historical Commission member, addressed the Board regarding the recent installation of an electrical box with a large cable in the entrance to the Town Museum. It had previously been on the back side of the wall in the bathroom and no one was contacted prior to the box being moved. Alan was told the box had to be there as it was against electrical code to have the box in a bathroom. Additional discussion followed and it was agreed to have John Savery, an electrician and member of the Historical Commission, and Eric Main, electrical inspector, look at the installation and see what could be done to rectify the situation.

Noreen submitted a draft of Guidelines for Selectboard Meetings which the Board reviewed and discussed. The draft was amended to require a person requesting to be on the agenda notify the Administrative Assistant by 5pm on the Wednesday before the next meeting. Also, the Open Forum was amended to allow 5 minutes per person and a total of 15 minutes per topic. Any discussion that would take longer will require reserving time on the agenda at the next scheduled Selectboard meeting. Noreen moved to approve the draft as amended, Mitch 2nd, vote was 3-0.

The Post Office requested permission to pour concrete pads to install additional outside mail boxes now that the hours are to be reduced. This would be for the convenience of the inside box holders so they may pick up their mail and not worry about the hours the

lobby would be open. There was discussion as to the location and Highway Superintendent Skip Savery was concerned as his department has to plow the lot during the winter as no plan was submitted as to location of these pads. It was questioned as to why the lobby could not remain open with the rest of the building secured. There was no one from the USPS present to answer these questions and this matter will be placed on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

The Town Clerk had received Citizens' Petitions for inclusion on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant and had given them to the board. Some of the petitions concerned issued for the Planning Board (PB). Noreen motioned to hand the petitions to the person authorized by the PB, Alan Vint. Alan 2nd, vote was 3-0 and petitions were handed to Alan.

Skip Savery advised the Board he was just over \$4,500 over his snow budget for the year and did not expect any additional snow expenses for the rest of the year.

Wally Smith spoke from the audience and advised Western Mass Electric was replacing electrical poles on Alderman Road.

There was also discussion regarding Maryann Walsh's request to use the Town Hall for her summer program. The fee for use will be \$1 per child and she will need to name the Town as an Additional Insured on her liability insurance policy.

Town Clerk, Marge Batorski, advised the Board there will be a Voter Registration on April 10th in preparation for the Special Election to fill the U.S. Senate seat that was vacated by John Carey. The election will be on April 30th.

Noreen motioned to hold the Pre-Annual Town Meeting on Wednesday, May 1st, Alan 2nd, vote was 3-0.

Alan motioned to adjourn, Noreen 2nd, vote was 3-0 and meeting was adjourned at 8:46pm.

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Duane Pease
Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted with/without changes:

Noreen Suriner, Chair

Alan Vint, Clerk

Mitch Feldmesser