



**Middlefield Town Hall  
Selectboard Meeting  
September 29, 2014**

**Board Members Present:** Chairman Alan Vint, Howard Knickerbocker  
**Regrets:** David Dinicola

Meeting was opened at 6:00 P.M.

**Warrants:** Warrants were reviewed. WP7 was approved for \$7,871.25. WT8 was approved for \$19,787.25.

**Handyman update:** Donald Munger has completed all of the tasks on his list except for shelving requested by the Town Clerk. He will get the measurements for the shelves. Debate ensued among the Selectboard concerning the Posting Board at the Disposal Unit. Different opinions were voiced about the convenience and hazards of the location of the Board. Town Clerk Marge Batorski stated that the article to place the Posting Board at the Disposal Area was not passed at town meeting. Donald was advised to contact Erica Johnson at the PVPC about the removal of the construction dumpsters at the Senior Center before Middlefield Day.

**Town By-Laws Update:** Howard uncovered this information in his research:

There are posting requirements after the Attorney General approves the by-laws. Marge will research documents pertaining to unapproved by-laws. Alan will research the simplest way to publish the approved by-laws.

- A by-law requesting that the Town will provide legal coverage to all Town Offices was unanimously voted down at a town meeting.
- Among approved by-laws sent to the town in 1987 by the Attorney General was a notice that the AG will not approve the Zoning Board of Appeals as an elected office. This is not legal in the state of Massachusetts.
  1. There is a 20 day statute of limitations that people have to act after a ruling by the ZBA.
  2. The claims of an illegal constituted body are illegal.

The ZBA members will be appointed at the next legally advertised Selectboard meeting.

**Town Clerk:** Town Clerk Marge Batorski requested that it be noted that these things occurred before she became Town Clerk. She requested permission to contact Town Counsel. Permission was granted.

**Personnel Manual:** Mary Courtney drafted a personnel manual for the town. Mary reviewed her draft with the Selectboard. She will email a list of specific questions to the Selectboard. The next meeting is scheduled for November 24 at 6:30 P.M.

**Town Electrician Update:** The search for an electrician will resume when the Administrative Secretary returns from vacation. Duane will be asked to run an ad.

**Open Forum:** The Assessors requested permission to continue a conversation with Town Counsel concerning a current case. Discussion ensued. Alan authorized two hours to be used by the Assessors to converse with Town Counsel.

**Communications Committee:** The Committee requested to purchase an overhead projector, ceiling mount, microphone, pull-down screens, amplifier and speakers, to be used for presentations, movies, training, etc., for use in the auditorium.

The approximate cost for this is \$3,000. Discussion ensued. Alan made a motion to accept the proposal. Howard seconded the motion. All were in favor. 0 opposed.

**Library:** The Library Trustees composed a letter with the assistance of the Massachusetts Library Commission in Boston stating the rules regulating Massachusetts libraries. This was submitted to the Selectboard for their information in order to address complaints by residents concerning library hours.

**Green Communities Grants:** The Highway Supervisor was concerned that the contract for the work done at the garage was signed off without a walk through. Final payment should not have been made without his approval. Any discrepancies that existed could have been negotiated before signing off.

Upcoming Meetings: Meetings were scheduled for October 14<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

Alan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 P.M. Howard seconded the motion. All were in favor. 0 opposed.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne C. Lemieux  
Recording Secretary