

SELECTBOARD MINUTES
APRIL 24, 2017

Meeting opened at 6:00pm

Present: David DiNicola, Chair; Judith Hoag

Warrants reviewed and signed; Payroll: \$12,834.38; Expenses: \$14,869.20

Minutes approved on motion by Dave; Judy 2nd; vote 2-0.

Mail reviewed nothing significant.

Dave said he had left a message with Tom Grady, Berkshire Dispatch and had not received a call back to date. He is going to inquire if Town's costs can be reduced due to small number of 911 calls going to dispatch. Switch to Northampton Dispatch is delayed as they are processing Chicopee's switch.

Dave also said he spoke with Bev (accountant) and Jane (treasurer) on Saturday trying to get info on outstanding loans. He discovered a loan for the Ford 550 had never been taken out by Jane. There was discussion on this issue; Dave would like to review all of the bank statements since 2014. Sherri Venditti said the Annual Town Meeting Warrant allowed Jane to borrow the money but did not mandate. The treasurer could use money that was available to pay for the vehicle. This will be investigated further.

Judy spoke on the Town Report; she is adding the date of the Town Meeting to the front of the report over the picture of the Town Flag Dedication. The back cover will have a picture of the Purple Heart proposed signage and page 2 will have the Purple Heart Proclamation and image.

Kathy O'Brien dropped off a written complaint against Suzanne Lemieux. Judy volunteered to speak with Suzanne, there was also an incident with Skip Savery and Judy will also speak with him. These incidents can not happen while Kathy is performing her Town duties.

Kathy also dropped off a request for repairs on the compactor, hopper and chain on the "mall" door.

Personnel Policy is a continuing work in progress but getting closer to a conclusion.

Pre Town Meeting to be on May 2nd at 7:00pm. There will be a short Selectboard Meeting at 6:30pm.

Judy said there is a safe in the Fire Station that came from the former General Store and the Fire Dept. would like it moved from the station. Not sure where it could be stored, its value is historical but is too heavy for the museum.

Joe Kearns said the Collaborative is looking to hire an Economic Developer to aid in promoting the Hilltowns. This is paid through a grant from the State. PVPC is also looking at providing IT support to its towns.

There was discussion on the awarding of grants and how it is based on economic needs of the individual community. The grants are based on a median income and not an average income of the towns. This puts Middlefield at a disadvantage.

Dave motioned to adjourn, July 2nd; vote 2-0 and meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Duane Pease
Town Administrator

Minutes accepted with/without changes by:

David DiNicola, Chair

Judith Hoag