

MIDDLEFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Middlefield Town Hall

February 22, 2010

Present: Robert Gazda, Mary Courtney, Larry Pease

Others: Sherry Venditti, Skip Savery, Wally Smith, Noreen Suriner, Terry Walker, Marge Batorski, Mike Jamula.

- Meeting officially began 7:33 p.m.
- Noreen Suriner made a presentation regarding the Mass. Broadband Institute whose mission is to extend affordable high-speed Internet, with particular focus on western mass. This institute is a non-profit utility who can provide television, phone and Internet to underserved towns. There are 34 out of 44 underserved towns, of which we are one. Noreen has attended 3 events concerning this. The institute has laid fiber optics along 1-91. They would like to continue to lay it along routes 7, 2, and 8 which would complete the loop and provide coverage for every town in Western Ma. They are applying for a grant which will need to be completed by March 15. People who are interested should write a letter by March 5 stating why we need HSI. Some examples given were higher property values, more accessible education. The Broadband Institute would have an info meeting in town that would help us understand the strengths and weaknesses of what it is that we would need to do, and what the challenges are. They need permission to do the mapping. We would also need to change our by-laws. In order to do this, the BOS would need to put a warrant onto the town meeting, that asks the people if they have an interest in pursuing this. Possible dates for an info meeting are March 23 or April 12. Information concerning this is on the town's web page: @ middlefieldma.us.
- Mike Jamula, submitted a copy of a request made to Skip Savery requesting a drive way permit. It's understood that the status of the road has not been established legally.
- Eric Weiss, " Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative" has been successful in applying for a grant which will allow the town to install a new high efficiency boiler and replace all single pane windows with energy efficient windows at the town hall. Eric will be attending the March 1 BOS meeting.
- Mary C. read previous week's minutes. Minutes were approved and signed, with the provision that secretary will check out specific wording.
- Winter Storm Budget discussed.
- BOS scheduled work meeting for Sunday, February 28 @ 9:00 a.m. Secretary will post.
- The DEP will put a package out to bid by March for clean-up at the old store. If a contract can be awarded by March, work should begin by May. There will be a

pre-construction meeting in front of the store on 3/2/10 @ 10:00 a.m. Skip will attend.

- Wally Smith informed BOS that Paul Tacy "Building Inspector" is discontinuing his Wednesday office hours in Huntington. Secretary will call and ask how this will affect Middlefield.
- Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by Suzanne C. Lemieux

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Larry Pease, Chairman Robert Gazda, Selectman Mary Courtney, Selectman