

Selectboard Meeting
September 19, 2011

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

Meeting called to order at 7:10pm

Warrants were approved and signed; Payroll: \$12,652.08; Expenses:
\$31,107.21

Erica Johnson of Pioneer Valley Planning Commission was present and spoke to the Board. She reviewed the Community Assistance Programs from Fiscal Year 2010, there were 4 beneficiaries for Housing Rehab including one in Middlefield. Also, the assessment of the Middlefield Senior Center roof is to be completed by November of this year. PVPC focuses the grant application on 1) solid infrastructure; 2) Housing and 3) Social Services. She felt FY '10 is going to be the last of the million dollar grants for a while based on the current economy.

The revised 2011 project budget was reduced but PVPC will still attempt to provide Housing Rehab to 4 residences, one in each town. A new program, Hilltown Elder Network, is being funded at the requested \$10,000. This will help seniors to remain living safely in their own homes. Services include chores, meal preparing, yard work, snow removal and transportation.

Johnson is currently working on the application for FY 2012 as is it due 12/26/11. This application will include the roof work needed on the Senior Center. PVPC will receive the results of their requests sometime in either May or June. The Senior Center is the infrastructure improvement in the budget request.

The minutes of the September 12th meeting were reviewed and approved 2-0 with some changes.

Susan Baker-Donnelly reported the septic pump alarm at the Senior Center was going off and she had not been able to find the plans for the system. **Noreen** referred her to **Jackie Duda**, the new Health Agent, for additional assistance.

Noreen attended a meeting of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness

(PHEP) on Thursday night, PHEP is made up of big and small towns. It seems the needs of the small towns are going unnoticed as the Board is made up of members from the larger towns. The meetings are usually held during the day and small towns are not always able to attend as most officials have regular employment. The larger towns have a lesser need for some of the services as they have employees that fill that need whereas the small towns rely on PHEP for the expertise. The current executive committee was voted out and **Noreen** is chairing the sub-committee to bring equal representation to PHEP.

Noreen also related the recent equipment the Town received, including the TV, DVD player, sandwich boards and stanchions will have to be returned as there was a miscalculation in the funds available. She would like to keep one of the sandwich boards but it will be dependant on the cost.

Mutual Aid: there will be a meeting on October 4th with Berkshire County Sheriff Tom Bowler at the jail at 11:30am to discuss the 911 system. The Board is inviting all of the responders, including police, fire, e.m.s. and highway, to attend. That way there will be no misinformation about what transpires.

Also, on October 11th, Blair Sullivan of Northampton 911 will make a presentation to the Board at the Town Hall. Again, all will be invited.

Police Chief, **Tom Austin**, is interested in setting up an emergency command center in the Town Hall for any crises that may arise, such as the recent hurricane. That way there will be organization for the people in the field and residents will be have a central location to contact for information.

Personnel Policy was discussed; all had reviewed the first 9 pages of the template. **Mitch** felt it precise but not so complicated. **Noreen** was also in agreement. Selectman **Alan Vint** was not able to attend the meeting but sent an e-mail stating he had no problems with the first 9 pages.

Mitch and Noreen agreed to review pages 10-17 prior to the next meeting and then discuss.

Mitch also felt when the Personnel Policy has been completed, it should be posted so the residents may review it and provide feedback.

There was no further discussion and Mitch made a Motion to Adjourn at

8:22, Noreen seconded. **Vote was 2-0 to adjourn.**
Minutes respectively submitted

Duane Pease
Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted with/without changes

Noreen Suriner, Chair

Mitch Feldmesser