

Selectboard Meeting
January 9, 2012

Meeting opened at 7:00pm

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

Warrants reviewed and approved; Payroll: \$6,814.40; Expenses: \$18,352.22
Minutes of 1-3-12 were approved 3-0 with changes

John Tulloch, Western Mass Electric, was present in response to utility poles erected on Chester Road. The Conservation Committee (ConComm) had signed off for 3 poles to be installed and there were 4 poles installed. The Selectboard had not approved the pole petition. According to the information Toulach provided the pole in question, the one closest to the Chester Town Line, was actually in Chester. The engineering firm of Tighe and Bond (T&B) had filed the Notice of Intent and according to the GIS the town line is actually 174' further into Middlefield. There was also a 10' discrepancy between the town and county line.

Alan received a copy of the report that T&B had prepared for the original pole hearing and is to investigate, but he believes the Town is on legal ground for having the pole removed. Also, the ConComm has separate issues with this pole placement.

Mitch said the order of the hearings would be for the ConComm to hold their public hearings on the matter first and sign off and then have it go to the Selectboard for their sign off.

When questioned about what he would prefer, Tulloch said he would prefer the petition for the 3 poles proceed stating the T&B report is accurate and the 4th pole is in Chester.

Alan said he would contact DEP and get back to Toulach with his findings.

Larry Pease, Fire Chief, spoke to the Board regarding the brush burning permits and how residents would be able to obtain the permits. He is going to leave a message on his home answering machine advising if burning is

allowed or not. He will change the message as the conditions change. He is also going to ask Ron Radwich, Asst Fire Chief, to do the same.

Larry was then asked about the chimney fire a Myrtle Pease's on Friday night. He stated she had left a message on his home answering machine but he did not get the message until Saturday morning. He has not returned her call but said he would. The proper procedure would have been for her to call 9-1-1, he would have been contacted over the Fire Dept radio and would have responded, or if he was not available, other members would have responded. He was not aware of the message that she left on Ron Radwich's phone.

Noreen questioned him on the training, as safety is most important to the members, and how many active members of the department there are.

Larry said there are about 12 active members and it varies due to personal circumstances how many come to the weekly meetings. They do have training; however, if some members aren't comfortable about doing certain things, he will not ask them to. He stated he will call for Mutual Aid if he feels the situation warrants it. He is also looking to improve the gear for the department and hopes to find grant money to replace the old gear. The gear for each fireman costs between \$2,000-2,500.

Highway Superintendent, **Skip Savery**, spoke to the Board next. He had made some calls regarding the Town Hall generator servicing and found that the companies he contacted could do the maintenance but they do not supply parts for the Generac generator. Also, the other generator has been repaired and is ready; this will be at the Senior Center. He will need to check with an electrician before it can be installed.

Also, he received quotes for a card system of dispensing fuel at the Town Garage and it will cost \$5,000 for an entry level system. A more sophisticated system would cost approximately \$10,000 but he feels the \$5,000 one is sufficient. The fuel tank is too close to the building under current codes and also needs a 6" vent as well as a longer vent pipe. He is able to do this so the costs will be minimal, just for the materials.

Mitch questioned Skip on the Driveway Permit and how the location is determined. Skip said the drive has to be 25' from the property line and he keeps records of all permits he issues.

Lastly, Skip advised the tires have been removed from the transfer station and that FEMA had been in contact with him and the Town is eligible for reimbursement from the October snow storm. He did not think it would be a great amount of money, just for the over-time, equipment and material.

Linda Grenier was at the meeting and received her Class II auto license. She provided a copy of her bond as required by the Commonwealth.

Leanne Every of the Communication Committee came before the Board to request the Board sign off so Wired West can apply for grant money to fund the fiber optic network that is going to be installed in the area. Noreen motioned to sign off, Mitch 2nd vote 3-0 in favor.

Sherri Venditti, gave a brief update on the records preservation as she continues to research the previous microfilming.

Alan motioned to adjourn, Noreen 2nd; vote was 3-0 in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Duane Pease
Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted with/without changes:

Noreen Suriner, Chair

Alan Vint, Clerk

Mitch Feldmesser