

Selectboard Minutes
June 10, 2013

Meeting opened 6:33pm

Present: Alan Vint, Chair; Howard Knickerbocker, Clerk; Mitch Feldmesser
Duane Pease, Administrative Assistant (AA)

Warrants reviewed and signed. Payroll: \$9,122.50; Expenses: \$17,934.11

Minutes of last Selectboard Meeting approved 3-0.

Question from Sherri Venditti asking if letters sent to S/B could be scanned and attached to minutes on line. General discussion and letters would just be ones pertinent to discussions held by Board, complaints, etc. At present time, Board does not have ability to scan documents but is in process of obtaining scanner.

Motion to adjourn S/B meeting to open brief Board of Health meeting to approve minutes of prior hearing by Alan, Howard 2nd, vote 3-0.

BOH meeting opened at 6:50pm, minutes reviewed and motion by Howard, Alan 2nd to approve minutes, vote 3-0.

Alan motioned to close BOH meeting, Howard 2nd, vote 3-0 to close.

Alan motioned to re-open S/B meeting, Howard 2nd, vote 3-0 and S/b meeting re-opened at 6:52pm.

Steve Harris, Communication Committee, came before Board to give progress report (report attached to minutes). There was discussion among Board and Steve regarding lack of backup for the Town computer files and Steve suggested bringing in Kurt Zinnack who was involved in setting up the current IT system for the Town. He could review and make recommendations as to what would be best for the Town, including most cost effective. The fiber optic system that has been provided by Mass Broadband (MBI) should be activated within the next 2 weeks. Steve will research any costs in obtaining a new provider versus our current costs with Verizon. Wired West has been very active and MBI is now doing the "last mile" but is still in the planning stages of how to most effectively bring broadband to homes.

Also, Howard volunteered to join the Communication Committee, Alan motioned to appoint, Mitch 2nd, vote was 3-0.

Alan noted that not all Boards/Committees/Commissions are posting their minutes or agendas on the Town web site. Discussion ensued; Mitch hand writes his minutes for the Conservation Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals and gives them to the Town Clerk. Once the scanner is available, they can be scanned to the web site. The other involved entities will have to be made aware of the need for posting minutes and agendas.

Howard discussed the security issues in the Town Hall and is waiting for an analysis and recommendation from a security firm he walked through the Town Hall. He felt there could be a police presence if all users of the Hall could have core hours at the same time. Alan advised this

was difficult as the employees are part-time, have positions elsewhere and come to Middlefield when their schedules allow.

Joe Kearns suggested the Board check with other Towns to see what type of security they have in their Town Halls.

Jack Cobb recommended and requested Tim Pease be appointed to the Historical Society to fill a vacancy, his appointment would carry through the remainder of this year and for next year as well. Alan motioned to appoint Tim, Howard 2nd, vote 3-0.

Eleanor Doyle said she had spoken with the Building Commissioner (BC), Gerry Garner, regarding replacing the Library door; he was willing to forgo an architect as long as the door was replaced by a licensed contractor. There will be no other modifications, just the door replacement. Also, she was advised that the front door must remain open during library hours; she did not understand this as the door has a crash bar on the inside and does not impede anyone's egress in case of an emergency. The Librarian wanted to just have her door open to provide access as a means of security. Finally, Eleanor requested the Board sign a Building Permit for the library to install a sign near the beginning of the new walk. When she spoke with the BC about this, she was advised there is only one sign allowed according to the Town By-Laws and her request would be denied as there is a lit sign in front of the Town Hall. There was discussion regarding the current sign as it is a message board rather than a sign. Alan motioned to sign the building permit, Howard 2nd, vote was 3-0. When the permit is denied, the library will to the ZBA and appeal.

There was also discussion regarding the handicap door in the Hall, it is not working and the Town will have to arrange for someone to come in and see what can be done to repair it.

The AA requested permission to speak with Jonathan Silverstein, Town Counsel, regarding the request for documents made by Attorney Lynch in the ongoing suit that no longer involves the Town. Alan motioned to allow, Mitch 2nd, vote 3-0.

At 8:45pm Alan motioned to go into Executive Session to review minutes from prior Executive Sessions and not reconvene the S/B meeting. Howard 2nd. Vote was: Alan, Aye; Howard, Aye; Mitch Aye. S/B meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm

Minutes respectively submitted by

Duane Pease
Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted with/without changes:

Alan Vint, Chair

Howard Knickerbocker, Clerk

Mitch Feldmesser

