

SELECTBOARD MINUTES
JANUARY 19, 2016

Meeting opened at 6:00pm

Present: Alan Vint, Chair; David DiNicola; Robert Costa
Duane Pease, Town Administrator

Warrants reviewed and signed; Payroll: \$12,739.36; Expenses: \$102,445.18.

Minutes from 1/4/16 approved on motion by Alan, Bob 2nd; vote 3-0.
Minutes from 1/11/16 approved on motion by Alan, Bob 2nd; vote 3-0.
Minutes from 1/14/16 approved on motion by Alan, bob 2nd; vote 3-0.

Stanley Bandoski met with the Board regarding obtaining a license for doing mechanical work on automobiles. None of his work would be performed at his house but he would go to various garages to do the work. There was discussion and he was advised he would need to obtain a Doing Business As license from the Town Clerk. He will put a description of the work he will be doing into writing and give it to the Board for further consideration.

Anita Myers discussed the former landfill that is on her property; this was there when she purchased the property in 1988 and had not been in use for a number of years. The DEP had recently been to the property and met with her and the Town. DEP suggestion was that the Town purchase the property the land the landfill is located on to avoid any future issues with any possible pollutants. The testing that was done in 2008 by Huntley Associates did not show any dangerous issues but by buying the area it would prohibit any building on the area. The landfill only comprised approximately 1.3 acres but the Town would like to maintain control of an area of about 7 acres. An independent appraisal would have to be done and the Town and Anita would have to agree upon a purchase price. This sale can only be approved at the Annual Town Meeting by a vote of the residents. The area would also have to be surveyed. This will be discussed further at a future Board meeting.

Highway Superintendent, Skip Savery, told the board he has been testing radios in the highway vehicles and so far they are working to his satisfaction and there seems to be no "dead spots" in the coverage. Also, he is waiting for the final release from the temporary worker's doctor.

Howard Knickerbocker addressed the Board regarding the high speed broad band proposal that was presented by the Communication Committee (CC) and Fred Goldstein of Interisle Consulting. Howard was surprised the Board selected the wireless option for the Town as his proposal was for a hybrid system that could be implemented in 2 phases. Alan said the letter the board signed was a letter of intent and did not bind the Town to only wireless. Alan also stated he was impressed with Fred's presentation.

Dave said he didn't understand the technology for the high speed and Howard said no one on the CC has any knowledge of these systems, only him.

Alan asked why wireless is a problem. Howard said the wireless system stays at the same speed and there are problems streaming video. The Town should have gotten their own consultant for this. With his hybrid system there would be 16 miles of fiber and the rest of the Town would be covered by dedicated wireless. The State would provide \$600,000 for the system and MBI would engineer the whole town so fiber could be added in increments as money became available.

Sherri Venditti said the Town should invest the State money wisely the optimal system is fiber and in the past, the Town has taken \$1,186,975 from Free Cash for various items. These dollars could be used for extending the fiber in the future. The wireless decision was made with no voice from the townspeople and 30% of the town would have substantial service with wireless.

Alan said the \$1,000,000 plus the town would have to borrow to construct the fiber system and then turn it over to WiredWest was a terrible business plan.

There was extended discussion on this topic and Howard suggested to have Fred cost out what a hybrid system would cost the Town. Howard said he would send a map of his plan. There are problems with fiber such as degradation of the system as well as breakage.

Joe Kearns, Finance Chair, said he had given out budget request to the various departments.

At 7:55pm Bob Costa had to leave the meeting.

Judy Hoag said the Finance Committee would be meeting on Tuesday to start the budgeting process for the Annual Town Meeting.

Steve Harris said he would follow with Fred on costing out a hybrid system and review Howard's hybrid system.

Steve also stated he and Joe Kearns would be installing a wireless output on the outside of the building. That way the system would be available when the Town Hall is closed.

Alan motioned to adjourn, Dave 2nd; vote 2-0 and meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Duane Pease
Town Administrator

Minutes accepted with/without changes by:

Alan Vint; Chair

David DiNicola

Robert Costa