

MEETING MINUTES
Town of Heath
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Sawyer Hall
December 6, 2016

Call to Order at 7:00 p.m. by Sheila Litchfield with Brian DeVriese, Robyn Provost-Carlson and Kara Leistyna, Town Coordinator present. See sign in sheet for other attendees.

Reviewed Agenda: Add: Discuss mandate of Broadband Committee; Board of Health Appointment

Minutes: *On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to approve minutes of 11/15/16 Select Board meeting as submitted.*

Follow Up: Open positions that need appointments include School Committee Rep., till May, 2017; Zoning Board of Appeals.

Mail/Email and Town Coordinator Report:

1. Email from Todd Corcoran, MBI
2. Email from Todd Corcoran, MBI
3. Email from Jansen McNay re: resignation and suggestions for broadband
4. Returns of Service from KP Law re: Bradway matter
5. Email from Don Freeman re: Levy issues
6. Email update on BOH from Betsy Kovacs
7. Last week's mail (separate file)
8. Town Nurse Monthly Report

Other Separate Documents for review and/or signatures:

1. Heath COA FY17 Formula Grant/Allocation paperwork
2. FCSWMD 3rd Party Inspection Report and Corrective Action Form – sign where flagged
3. The Beacon
4. Treasury and Payroll Warrants
5. Order of Taking, Project #607671

Other Business:

- **MBI/Broadband Update:** submitted documents for readiness, in queue for pole survey but not scheduled yet. Need to finalize Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). Sheila will bring marked up MOA to Broadband Comm. for discussion and await MBI response. Want MBI to act on Heath's behalf to participate in pole survey. Need to finalize whether needed or will email authorization suffice to proceed with survey. Just in case we need to sign an MOA, Sheila will bring form on 12/13/16 meeting night.
- **Budget Calendar:** Reviewed calendar for FY18. Decided to include target dates and with an annual review and update as needed.

7:30 p.m. Eric Sumner, Pay as you Throw (PAYT): Eric feels this is a big decision and should come before Annual Town Meeting. This is a change that will affect each household in town and he says that it is a service that the town provides for a fee. The Board has been advised that they have the authority to make this change. Heath is one of three towns not using PAYT in all of Franklin County. Landfills are filling up and reducing trash that goes to the landfill extends the

life of the landfill. Transportation costs will rise when landfill is maxed. PAYT is used by many towns and is an easy way to manage costs. Eric shared that he is not here tonight to argue the merits of the program but feels it is a large decision that should be decided by voters. The Board says that towns initially begrudge change but eventually see the benefits of trash reduction and costs. The Board will work with the FC Solid Waste District to inform residents about the program and its benefits over the winter months. PAYT is equitable - just as it says, Pay as you Throw. You pay for the trash you discard. Summer residents have complained that they should not pay the same for a permit when they are only here for a few months. Now they will pay for only the trash they discard. If you use the transfer station more, you pay more. If you use it less, you pay less. It also discourages out of towners from using the transfer station. Discussed stickers vs. bags. Will explore with residents during informational sessions. Need to resolve how larger, bulky items will be handled. Perhaps more bulky waste days, or electronic waste days will be needed. Discussed incinerator vs. landfill. Single stream processing is utilized and not as clean as dual stream recycling. Discussed rates and possible impact on transfer station attendant.

Eric left meeting.

Heath Education Initiative Task Force: Gloria Fisher and Robyn offered update. Task Force met with Superintendent Buoniconti, Michael Kociela, Martha Thurber, and the District's attorney on 11/22/16. The purpose was to find out paths/direction/steps and order to transition regarding Heath School. They shared that Martha and Mike seemed supportive of the idea of District to District Tuition option. A negotiating committee needs to form. The superintendent wants to be on the committee but the Task Force wants to be sure Heath's best interest is represented. Need the help of the Board of Selectmen to decide on who will serve on team. Task Force feels the current members would like to serve as negotiating team and represent the town in a balanced way. Discussed timing. District is willing to pay costs to keep building maintained. For every dollar saved by the District, Heath saves .07 cents. Consensus of the meeting on 11/22 was to get this completed by next year. Deb responded on the contrary – it will take time. Will need a transition team as well for building.

On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to appoint the current members of the Heath Education Initiative Task Force to serve as the negotiating team on behalf of the Town of Heath.

Next steps are to inform residents. There is a school committee meeting Wednesday and Budge Litchfield and Ken Rocke will attend to make presentation. Still discussing which school (Hawlemont or Rowe – maybe both) will be chosen. Process may begin without making that decision. Need to do thorough research to ensure it's done correctly. Discussed budget process.

Sheila attended Small Town Summit meeting. Chesterfield District shared they had some difficulty closing school building(s), and only saved \$200,000 but they did not own buildings yet. Heath owns the Heath School building. Legislators will connect with DESE to find out if special legislation is needed for transition. Discussed a waiver that may be needed. 2015 changes to the regional agreement that were approved by voters have not been approved yet at state level – need to push those through or may cause delay. Legislators need to act. Thank you to Gloria and Robyn.

8:12 p.m. Gloria Fisher left meeting.

Other Business Continued:

- **Colonial Power/Municipal Aggregation:** Select Board has chosen not to participate at this time. Would like the residents to know more about program prior to implementation.
- **On a motion by Brian DeVriese and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson,** the Board voted unanimously to accept the resignation of Jansen McNay with regrets, effective immediately.
- **Levy Ceiling:** Discussed the planning of a meeting with MJ Handy, Director of Accounts, Division of Local Services/MA DOR to discuss Heath's levy limit/ceiling. The Board would like to invite Finance Committee representatives, Assessors, Assistant Assessor and Accountant to the meeting. Chosen date: Jan. 13, 2 pm. Kara will confirm.
- Reviewed applications for **Officer in Charge.** Kara will invite Ken Gilbert and Margo Newton to interviews. Kara will schedule an interview with Melinda Herzig. Current job description and rate will apply.
- **Brownfields Program:** Town owns #5 Ledges Road property. Kara will inquire regarding general liability insurance with treasurer. Will also inquire how demo will affect the Brownfields Project. Need to find a contractor to demo structure. On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to proceed with Phase II. Kara will inform Board of Health Chair, Betsy Kovacs.
- **Board of Health:** On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Tucker Jenkins to serve on the Board of Health contingent upon Board of Health approval at their scheduled meeting on 12/7/16.
- **Capital Planning:** Awaiting Joe Markarian's updates for final review.
- **Highway Dept.:** Will ask Mike Shattuck for vehicle maintenance schedule. Will be added to Capital Planning binder. Robyn will discuss roads with Mike.
- **Budget Memo:** Will finalize on 12/13/16.
- **Order of Taking (Dell):** *On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to sign Order of Taking for project #607671.*
- **Formula FY17 Grant:** *On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to sign application for FY17 Formula Grant for Council on Aging in the amount of \$4,500.*

Next meeting scheduled for Dec. 13, 2016 at 7 p.m.

On a motion by Brian DeVriese, and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kara Leistyna
Town Coordinator