

MEETING MINUTES
Town of Heath
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Sawyer Hall
June 19, 2018

Call to Order at 6:00 p.m. by Brian DeVriese with Gloria Fisher, and Kara Leistyna present. See sign in sheet for additional attendees.

Review Agenda: Add Agreement establishing a Steering Committee to Form a Police Cooperative; Barbara Vernon – resident regarding Taylor Brook Road with Mike Shattuck joining.

Review Minutes: *On a motion by Gloria Fisher and seconded by Brian DeVriese, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of 5/29/18 as amended.*

6:15 p.m. Barbara Vernon/Taylor Brook Road: A petition was circulated to neighbors living on Taylor Brook Road by Ms. Vernon in an effort to show that this busy road becomes very dusty and dust inhibitor is requested for treatment to remedy the problem. Ms. Vernon reported that twelve dump trucks passed her house as well as trailers, campers, etc. She came to Town Hall and reported the problem. Shortly after, the road was treated. Mike Shattuck uses liquid calcium with a 5% rust inhibitor. Ms. Vernon requests treatment be applied just before the homes and extend shortly beyond rather than the entire roadway. The Board explained that the roads are treated. Mike Shattuck shared that the road was treated on June 13 and June 18. The weather has been dry but it rained on Monday. When asked if more frequent treatment could be applied, the Board responded that after July 1 there will be more funds available for the purchase of the inhibitor. Mike will keep apprised of the conditions and apply treatment as necessary to keep dust in check.

6:30 p.m. Bob Bourke entered meeting; and Barbara Vernon left.

Highway Matters: Mike reported to the Board the year-end transfer requests for meeting scheduled for July 3. The highway dept. is in need of a liquid sprayer for dust control. The current method is outdated and requires two crew members to operate and it's unsafe according to Mike. The cost estimate is \$5,500 for poly pressurized tank to allow consistent application. An electronic switch will be located inside cab and it will only require one crew member to operate. Mike would like to transfer money from Vehicle, Gas & Oil to Machinery Maintenance. This purchase will be discussed on July 3, 2018 with Finance Committee. Money is available and therefore the Select Board agrees with Mike and authorizes him to use his account to order the equipment. Mike also will have a request to transfer funds to cover a shortfall in Uniforms account. Thank you, Mike.

6:35 p.m. Mike Shattuck left meeting.

Broadband Update: Bob Bourke reported that Heath is back on track after a slight pause in order to allow time to research any viable wireless opportunities for the town. Westfield Gas & Electric is able to provide a detailed budget analysis spreadsheet to provide drop costs per household. This data may help Select Board to establish a drop policy. Discussed CAF II federal program which may provide extra funding for construction and operation. Bidding will commence last week in July and Heath could receive up to \$132,000/year for ten years. WG&E is still in beginning phase and there remain many unknowns. Fiber Optic is considered the #1 option for funding points/bidding. Regarding Mohawk Estates (ME), Bob reviewed a preliminary design treating ME as a unique area. Telrad, the wireless parent of RedZone, is going to review and design a wireless hybrid design for this area with towers, etc. or mini hub with central distribution. Some areas could incorporate fiber. RedZone is not interested in building out a wireless option for one town however will participate in this alternative, unique system. However, it

could create contention for ME residents if the other parts of town have the option of fiber. Need to come up with options for homeowners to choose. Designers have been provided maps with permanent households. When numbers become available, perhaps a public informational meeting could be held. Discussed edge cases. Currently there is no case with Charlemont as they are going with Comcast. Need to consider future planning, however. Need IGAs (Inter Government Agreements) with Colrain and Rowe as there are edge cases involving these neighbors. Bob Bourke will reach out to both towns. Once pole applications are submitted there is a 45-day window to resolve any issues and pay fee. Bob is double checking poles prior to submittal including any areas for future growth where additional fiber would be provided. To ensure accuracy, Bill Ennen has offered to participate in the submittal of the pole applications, according to Bob. Bob reports we are in sync with neighboring towns. Thank you.

7:05 p.m. Bob Bourke left meeting.

7:12 p.m. Robyn Provost-Carlson entered meeting.

Littering in Town: Pam Porter, Sandy Gilbert, and Margaret Freeman attended tonight. Pam brought notes for a meeting held at Margaret's house on June 6 to follow up on the issue of littering in town. Some feel litter is on the increase. They group inquired whether Heath has additional bylaws regarding littering. The Board feels the State laws are sufficient and public health officials and police officers may enforce. Better enforcement is needed. Discussed a sign campaign where signs discouraging littering and the posting of fines could be placed throughout town. Awareness and enforcement may make a difference. An Education campaign could help as well. Use of the press may aid in getting the word out to people, including those whom pass through town and litter. Discussed need for a "green" sticker to be distributed to those residents interested in picking up roadside trash and bringing it to the transfer station. Board of Health organizes a Clean Sweep for bulky waste disposal. Having one in Heath, in addition to Solid Waste District's event in Buckland, provides a convenience to residents. The group suggested an Earth Day, Town-wide trash collection on April 20 annually. It's helpful to have an event prior to the growth of roadside vegetation that makes trash collection more difficult. A group of volunteers may be helpful to assist residents who have no way to transport large items and to assist with Freon removal. Perhaps a fund to assist with fees if income eligible. Raising awareness of this issue is very critical – a letter was suggested to be signed by Select Board members. Pam will draft a letter and submit to Select Board for review and distribution. Thank you.

7:50 p.m. Pam Porter, Sandy Gilbert, and Margaret Freeman left meeting.

Finance Committee: Ned Wolf drafted a letter to Dean Seavers, President National Grid US. Ned has undertaken a great deal of research on the utility assessment matter. He noticed after looking at fluctuations since 2003, that suddenly as of 2016, there was a 51% drop in valuation. In 2006, there was a 20% drop. Group is wondering the reason for the fluctuation and is reaching out in writing to get answers. Ned will work on tightening the letter and format for sending. Ned will also reach out to Clark Rowell, Financial Advisor, to ask questions regarding borrowing.

Robyn and Gloria shared Mike's request for new sprayer that he'd like to purchase for dust treatment on dirt roadways in Heath. Tracy may have an update on IRENE matter so that Heath may request a reimbursement from the state.

On a motion by Gloria Fisher and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to authorize Mike Shattuck to order pressurized sprayer for estimated purchase price of \$5,500 (total transfer request \$8,675).

Finance Committee left meeting at 8:21 p.m.

Melinda Herzig entered meeting for Quarterly Review: Board reviewed action points from last scheduled meeting with Melinda Herzig (Feb., 2018). Melinda did not meet with Marcottes as requested. Board feels the matter has come to a conclusion and at this time it is not necessary to meet. Melinda has missed two office hours this month. Select Board asks that Melinda post on her office door if she is unable to hold office hours. If last minute, she may call Town Coordinator. Friday nights is an alternate option for office hours but Melinda shared that she's typically here on Tuesdays. The Board has not received a monthly report yet despite several requests. It is very helpful documentation and it is still requested on a monthly basis in the required format. Discussed Animal Control issues. The Board shared that for FY19 they will be advertising for a Chief. Heath continues to have on-going conversations regarding shared police services with neighboring Charlemont. The level three option states that each town shall employ its own chief and will have own budget. Reduction in costs will be derived from training and materials as well as a region-wide uniform rather than each town paying the costs for each. The Steering Committee that has formed will determine if the shared model will be viable. Melinda shall serve as officer-in-charge until an appointment to chief is made. This job description will be reviewed and finalized. The position will be advertised in newspaper and on website. Melinda is welcome to apply. Melinda was thanked for being willing to stay on as an officer for the Town.

Other Business:

- **Select Board will hold a public informational meeting** to present proposed project to repave South Road to Burrington down to Charlemont line. The town will apply for a Massworks/STRAP grant for funding for this project.
- **Appointments:** *On a motion by Gloria Fisher and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Daniel White, Summer Temporary Help, and Lorena Loubsky, Post Office Substitute.*
- **Sale of Trash Stickers and permits:** During week of June 28-July 6, residents unable to purchase a permit will be allowed use of Transfer Station during that time. Trash Stickers will be required. Transfer Station will be closed July 4, 2018.
- **Highway Dept.** Robyn will meet with crew to review recent changes to take effect in the new fiscal year.

Mail/ Email:

- Megan Rhodes re: Open Space & Recreation Plan: Yes, Heath is interested and will develop a committee. Kara will let Ms. Rhodes know.
- Rebecca Krause-Hardie re: Contract for Collector Software. BOS will review contract after Beta Testing complete.
- Betsy Kovacs re: Dog litter receptacles. BOS does not feel this is necessary at this time.
- Tom Donaldson re: Fence Claim
- Paul Mark re: Bond Bill. Brian will draft a plan and work with Paul Mark.
- George Randall re: Earl Gleason
- Draft Volunteer Application for Swap Shed
- Mike Shattuck re: public hearing
- Mark Ringie re: Dell Bridge
- Betsy Kovacs re: Resignation of Tucker Jenkins. *On a motion by Gloria Fisher and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to accept Tucker Jenkins' resignation from the Board of Health with regret.*
- Alyssa Larose re: Draft ASHRAE Level II Energy Audit
- Mass Town Clerks Association re: Hilma Sumner

- Dan Nietsche re: West County Fire and EMD Discussion. Kara will respond and reiterate that Heath is happy with our shared fire relationship with Colrain.
- Opportunity Zone Designation Follow Up (Con Call June 21 at 9 am). Kara will participate.
- Betsy Kovacs re: R. Kragen
- Memo from Tracey Baronas re: Year End Information

Other Separate Documents for review and/or signatures:

- Vacation Request(s)
- Treasury and Payroll Warrants
- Town Coordinator Report
- 5/11/18 Minutes
- May Cash Reconciliation from accountant
- Chap. 90 Project Request 281,477.57 (West Branch Road)
- Agreement Establishing a Steering Committee to Form a Police Cooperative (revised). ***On a motion by Gloria Fisher and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to sign. Kara will send hard copy to Charlemont and cc Dan Nietsche at FRCOG.***

There being no further business to come before the Board: *On a motion by Robyn Provost-Carlson, and seconded by Gloria Fisher, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:35 p.m.*

Respectfully presented,

**Kara M. Leistyna
Town Coordinator**