

**MEETING MINUTES**  
Town of Heath  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
Sawyer Hall  
August 28, 2018

**Call to Order at 6:03 p.m.** by Brian DeVriese with Gloria Cronin Fisher, Robyn Provost-Carlson, and Kara Leistyna present. See sign in sheet for other attendees.

**Review Agenda:** Bob Viarengo sends his apologies for not attending tonight.

**Review Minutes:** *On a motion by Gloria Cronin Fisher, and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 8/14/18 minutes as amended, with one abstention.*

**Mail/ Email:**

- Andrea Woods re: RFP Heath School
- Ned Wolf re: posting FinCom meeting
- Bill Ennen re: confirmation that pole apps are paid and he'll proceed with 2nd disbursement
- Bob Bourke re: Mohawk Estates/Broadband follow up
- Bob Bourke re: Mohawk Estates/Broadband follow up from WG&E
- FRCOG FCCIP re: 594 Route 8A
- Eileen Lively re: Sr. Center grant awards. BOS appreciates Eileen's efforts on behalf of Heath's Seniors to renew foot clinic grant and obtain funding for small home repair.
- Bethann Steiner re: TS Irene Reimbursement efforts
- Christian Kelly re: TS Irene Reimbursement efforts and letter attached
- Office of Governor re: Recycling Dividends Program grant \$3,500 – up from \$500!
- Public Hearing Notice – Planning Board Sept. 6, 2018
- Municipal Official Workshop Series for 2018
- Schedule A Approval Free Cash Certification \$342,102
- Hazardous Waste Collection Day 9/22/18
- Sean Powers re: Community Compact Year 4. Heath is eligible this year – Heath can submit one application. There is also an IT grant offer as well as Efficiency and Regionalization. BOS will review options for FY19.
- Tracy Rogers re: Update on West County Public Safety Collaboration Discussions. Heath is happy with our collaboration with Colrain. We want to keep apprised but not actively participate.

**Other Separate Documents for review and/or signatures:**

- Treasury and Payroll Warrants
- Town Coordinator Report
- 8/14/18 minutes
- STM Warrant Draft
- Request for Leave
- ATC estimate for NTWP and Monitoring Services. Robyn took paperwork and will research further for cost of disposal of contaminated material and contractors who perform demo and removal of such material/ cost. Kara will inquire with Tom Danek on whether he provides this service.
- Packet re: Robert Kragen
- City & Town 8/16/18
- Packet re: Shared ACO Discussion (summary in TC Report)
- Police Chief Applications. Discussed but made no decisions.

- ASHRAE Audit reports
- Draft letter re: Safety Complex/DCAMM
- ACO Allocating Costs in Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing (Phoebe Walker)
- Draft letter re: Roadside Trash and Roadside Trash Sticker – made revisions. Kara will order rolls of roadside trash stickers. Residents offering to assist with roadside clean-up may pick up stickers at Town Hall.

**Bob Kragen, Calvin Carr:** Mr. Kragen who lives at 8 Swamp Road attended tonight to discuss his temporary occupancy permit. In past years, permits were issued in error allowing him to have two/three trailers on his property. The Board of Health issued a current permit allowing one trailer on his lot – per Town of Heath Zoning Bylaws Section 4.10.3 E, which only allows one camper/trailer per Mohawk Estates lot. Mr. Kragen has requested that the Town reimburse him for the cost for him to remove his excess trailers from his lot. The Board will consider his request and respond to him in writing. Jenny Hamilton, a resident of Mohawk Estates, suggested that Mr. Kragen post his trailers on the bulletin board at the Estates. She offered to assist. Discussed grand-father clause – upon passage of bylaw 4.10.3 E, owners of a property could retain existing camper/trailers however, that does not apply to this matter as Mr. Kragen is not the original owner of the property. Mr. Kragen informed the Board that he has collected 28 signatures in an effort to place an article(s) on the next ATM warrant. He is asking if enforcement may be delayed until next May (5/11/19). Board responded that Mr. Kragen is currently in non-compliance and he will need to remove his two additional trailers. Building Inspector enforces density regulations and the Board of Health may enforce any health related issues and occupancy permitting. Jenny Hamilton stated that the ME Board charges a fee for unregistered and/or excessive camper/trailers on a lot. If fees are paid, there is no further action – she shared that this issue needs enforcement. It is a small community and difficult for the Association to enforce non-compliance. According to Jenny, property owners pay their fee yet may remain non-compliant and property falls into disarray. They are looking for ways to manage these cases. ME has rules but works in tandem with Heath yet regulations need clarification. The bylaw was enacted because density was becoming a problem in areas. A joint meeting with ME Board members, BOS, Planning Board, and Board of Health was suggested to review the efficacy of the Temp. Occupancy system.

**7:33 p.m. Calvin Carr, Bill Gran, Jenny Hamilton left meeting and Finance Committee members Ned Wolf, Kathy Inman, and Ken Gilbert entered meeting. Bob Kragen left at 7:34 p.m.**

**Special Town Meeting Warrant:** Gloria Fisher acknowledged that Finance Committee members were present un-posted with quorum present and therefore only one person may speak. Discussed STM Warrant. Ned Wolf was especially concerned with Article 1 asking voters to approve a transfer to pay for a utility assessment consultant. He questioned whether this could lead to litigation and further costs. Robyn explained that back in July, the Assessors sent a 38F request to the utility company asking for assessment information for Heath. They are given 60 days to respond – an expected response by mid-Sept. Proposals were sought for the services of utility appraiser. Only Muddy River Advisors provided a final proposal and a lower price was negotiated because both Colrain and Heath are interested in securing the services of Muddy River Advisors. They can complete their work by mid-November, in time for tax bills to go out prior to December 31. The cost for Heath to contract with Muddy River is \$7,500. They will provide an analysis of utility valuation. The most recent valuation resulted in a substantial decrease in value equating to an increase in tax rate. This has occurred in several Western MA towns. Robyn explained that if a consultant is not hired to provide an alternative value, the current number will be applied. However, Robyn concurred that if the Town challenges the Utility's numbers, additional costs may be incurred. Gloria explained to Finance Comm. members that Articles 2 and 3 (prior year invoices) were not due to overspending. The invoices were both received after the FY end. Balances remained in highway dept. accounts at the end of the FY but translated to Free Cash eventually for the new FY. That free cash has now been certified and may be used for transfers, etc. Ned mentioned the vacancy on the Finance Comm. Some residents were suggested whom may be interested in serving. To be discussed further.

**7:57 p.m. Finance Committee members left meeting.**

BOS deliberated on Robert Kragen request. The Town has exercised patience on the matter and allowed Mr. Kragen ample time to remove his excess trailers. The Town may not expend public funds for private purposes. Kara will reach out to Town Counsel and ask for an opinion on the request for reimbursement as well as if petitioned articles may serve only the interest of an individual rather than the Town as a whole.

**Other Business:**

- RFP Process/Heath School: Kara will seek estimates for appraisals. Brian will arrange for photos of the building/grounds.
- Tax Collector Software: Robyn will reach out to Rebecca Krause-Hardie to find out status of implementation and report back to BOS.
- Highway vehicle – supervisor vehicle needs replacement. Kara will send Mike Shattuck the fuel efficient vehicle policy and mileage efficiency requirements.

**There being no further business to come before the Board: *On a motion by Gloria Fisher, and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:00 p.m.***

**Respectfully presented,**

**Kara M. Leistyna  
Town Coordinator**