

MEETING MINUTES
Town of Heath
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Community Hall
November 28, 2018

Call to Order at 6:00 p.m. by Brian DeVriese with Robyn Provost-Carlson, Gloria Cronin Fisher, and Kara Leistyna present. See sign in sheet for other attendees.

Review Agenda: Review State of Emergency protocol.

6:15 p.m. Mike Shattuck entered meeting, and Jeff Johnston and Finance Committee members entered at 6:20 p.m.

Recent Snow Event and Fleet Log Review: Discussed State of Emergency with Mike. Mike feels this recent storm was a bit unpredictable. Charlemont roads posed difficulty for Heath drivers but that is not Heath's purview. All other roads were accessible. Trucks are all functional. Crew commenced clearing at 4 am. Roads were blocked by trees/wires due to heavy and thick snow. Discussed complaint that was received by Select Board. This person has been contacted. The concern was regarding road care for late drivers and emergency response vehicles. For emergencies, highway dept. works closely with dispatch and is contacted when a call is received. The crew will plow for that specific need to ensure that vehicles have safe access to the best of their ability.

Fleet Log: Robyn provided copies of the newest version of the fleet log prepared by Jeff and Mike, and Robyn. It is a work in progress and more information will be added as it becomes available. Discussed this full list of inventory including costs for repairs, replacement, and priority. Repair costs will fluctuate from year to year. All of this information is necessary to gain an understanding of each vehicle and its importance, as well as for budget planning. Robyn asked everyone to review the list and prepare questions/comments for full discussion on Dec. 4.

Replacements: Discussed backhoe and 'road boss' vehicle. Road boss vehicle is used by supervisor to monitor roadways, attend meetings, etc. By using a smaller vehicle it reduces the wear and tear on the larger vehicles. The current vehicle has been disabled and Mike is using his personal vehicle.

Backhoe will not pass inspection without extensive (expensive) repairs. Both supervisors feel it's more efficient to replace with a used model. They've located one for sale price of \$85,000. Discussed timing.

Truck #1: Discussed keeping Truck #1 for sand/rock hauling which will spare a new vehicle the wear and tear.

Tractor: Current tractor is 1987 David Brown model and used for roadside mowing. Doesn't meet OSHA standards. It is not weighted properly for mower. A new clutch and hydraulic pump will cost roughly \$12,000. Thank you, Mike, Jeff and Robyn.

Pause for Special Town Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Special Town Meeting called to order by Moderator at 7:08 p.m. and adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Resumed Select Board meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Budge Litchfield and Bob Gruen/Regionalization: Budge and Bob have met with Michael Buoniconti and new Business Manager, Melissa Dunnet. They would like to discuss two issues tonight. Status of

negotiations on revising Hawlemont Regional District Agreement and the withdrawal from Mohawk Regional School District, PK-6 level.

Hawlemont Regional Agreement: For the most part, everyone is in agreement with changes. One challenge is regarding the election of representatives and voting value of each. The current arrangement is not in compliance with state law. To keep agreement as is would require special legislation and a State Constitution amendment, according to Budge. Hawley would like it to remain two equal representatives per town with equal votes. Select Board would need to be on board and support the legislative process for keeping the current composition of representatives and voting value the same. On a motion by Gloria Cronin Fisher and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to support special legislation for the Hawlemont School Committee composition to remain six people (two from each town)/six votes (non-weighted-equal). Other local regional districts in the Commonwealth are confronted with similar issues and looking to make changes and will look at our process/solution for guidance.

Withdrawal from Mohawk District: Need to move forward. Preferable to have payoff of capital debt (for Heath School) prior to next ATM. Gloria will confirm amount owed and ask for it in writing on letterhead certifying amount owed from Mohawk Business Administrator, Melissa Dunnet. No one is clear on OPEB cost for Regional District – need town counsel input. The Board authorizes Budge and/or Bob to consult with town counsel on this matter. A future meeting will be planned with Select Boards from each town. This change offers financial and educational sustainability. It's positive but the discussion is critical. Thank you, Bob and Budge.

8:30 p.m. Bob Gruen and Budge Litchfield left meeting.

Review Minutes: *On a motion by Gloria Cronin Fisher, and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 11/13/18 as amended with one abstention.*

Mail/ Email:

- Jeff Blake, Town Counsel re: Zoning Enforcement Issue
- Andrea Woods re: RFI DRAFT. Kara will ask Andrea if she will serve as point of contact and how we handle inquiries; can MLS be linked to FRCOG RFI?
- Mark Reich re: Heath School Proposal
- James Mullaney re: Heath School Proposal
- Tim Lively re: Heath School Kitchen
- Heath Fire Roster. Kara will inquire with Chief Anzuoni on who would assume leadership in Heath during an emergency (regional) situation. Discussion on shared fire services are ongoing.
- Various Broadband related emails
- Heath Hub Location Options – need decision.
- Emails re: 5 Ledges Road
- Animal Control Officer related emails. ***On a motion by Gloria Cronin Fisher, and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to participate in the shared ACO services proposal being created by FRCOG.***
- Formal letter re: MassWorks grant application
- Email from Kara Leistyna to MassWorks asking for feedback on rejection of grant application
- Heath Town Accountant re: Veterans Benefits
- Letter from Heath Resident re: Roads
- Robyn Provost-Carlson re: State of Emergency (procedure)
- Cybersecurity Preparedness Conference
- The Emergency Preparedness State of the County Workshop
- FRCOG re: Rural Policy Advisory Commission Session

Other Separate Documents for review and/or signatures:

- Town Coordinator Report
- 11/13 minutes
- Travel Reimbursement Request
- Shared Animal Control related documents
- Highway Fleet Inventory/Log

Other Business:

- State of Emergency Protocol: Expectation is that highway supervisor(s) contact a Select Board member and Emergency Management Director or Alternate. Discussed access to radios for Select Board similar to one at Town Hall.
- Hub Location/ Broadband: *On a motion by Robyn Provost-Carlson and seconded by Gloria Cronin Fisher, the Board voted unanimously to proceed with Hub Option 4 at a cost estimate of \$13, 263.83.*
- 5 Ledges Road: need to know what you want to do with foundation. Crack up cement and leave in place; fill. Kara will notify ATC.
- Performance Reviews: Gloria will conduct Tracey Baronas' review on 12/10 at 2 pm.
- Post Office Matter: Discussed situation. Kara will ask town counsel what ramifications, if any, there are if someone is unable to use post office services.

Signed documents.

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 9:30 p.m.*

Respectfully presented,

**Kara M. Leistyna
Town Coordinator**