

MEETING MINUTES
Town of Heath
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Sawyer Hall
December 4, 2018

Call to Order at 6:04 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: No changes.

6:10 p.m. John McDonough, New Police Chief: Board members welcomed new Chief, John McDonough. Brian suggested a meet & greet effort to introduce himself to the public. Perhaps a Community Café or the upcoming Holiday Craft Fair. Stressed the need for monthly reports to keep Select Board aware. Officers have been appointed to assist – John will reach out to offer preferred hours for their presence. Looked at budget for salary – John will review to determine if any needs. \$14,700 remains in salary line. Reviewed other accounts. Discussed transition and offered assistance if necessary. Need to determine where to park cruiser. Currently parked at highway dept. Robyn will follow up on relocating brush truck and using sheltered area for cruiser. A permanent solution will be decided upon and John will be informed. Kara will update website police dept. page. John will maintain office hours, Tuesday, 6-8 p.m. Discussed response to calls. Vacations will be covered by other officers on duty. Brian summarized radio upgrades through FRCOG and the Shared Police meeting was mentioned and John will attend on Dec. 18. Kara will send details regarding the cruiser to Robyn so she is able to add to the fleet log.

6:45 p.m. Mike Shattuck and Jeff Johnston, Jan Carr, entered meeting.

Discussed need for Animal Control Officer, mostly a need for enforcement of licenses rather than nuisance calls or loose dogs. Thank you, John.

7:00 p.m. John McDonough left meeting.

Highway Discussion: Robyn revisited the highway fleet log. Everyone has had a chance to review the draft given out last week. Questions were posed to both Jeff and Mike. Discussed priorities. Again, Jeff shared that it would be wise to retain truck #1 while replacing it. It could be used for hauling gravel and/or sand and reduce wear and tear on new vehicle. Over \$16,000 is needed to bring smaller truck to passable condition and \$102,000 to replace. Pondered options. It's easier to alternate drivers for smaller vehicle rather than hiring drivers for a larger truck. Discussed need for plow. Discussed need to replace road boss vehicle – department has always had a vehicle in order to check and work on roadways. Discussed other options including having the supervisor use his personal vehicle and charging Town for mileage. A suggestion was made to use the larger truck for road checks, etc. but the wear and tear on the vehicle and tires is costly when considering the amount of roads (54 miles) that are checked weekly and that the vehicle is used to travel to meetings/trainings/etc. Fuel is more expensive as well. Discussed backhoe. Current machine will not pass inspection and it needs roughly \$80,000 in repairs. A new model would cost roughly \$140,000. A 2014 backhoe is for sale with roughly 2,000 hours on it. It has a multi-season body and could be partially paid for with Chap. 90 funds. Need to look at budget fully before considering a purchase. Kara will find out what the procurement process is for purchasing backhoe. Discussed current outstanding debt. Robyn will add a column to the fleet log for replacement projection and asked the group to contact her if there is any further information to incorporate into the log. Police and Fire vehicles will also be added. Thank you, Mike and Jeff.

7:45 p.m. Mike Shattuck and Jeff Johnston left meeting.

Discussed Regional Agreement. If no capital debt owed to MTRSD, Heath can vote to leave the District without input from other towns. Gloria confirmed debt balance to be \$39,999 owed to Mohawk Regional District. Heath may pay from the negotiated funds paid by MTRSD; or free cash or stabilization. Vote could be on table for ATM for part or complete change.

Discussed costs of maintaining Heath School Building over time. Kara will forward a report to Finance Committee. Once Finance Committee has reviewed the costs, Kara can provide this information to Andrea Woods for RFI.

Ned will prepare budget memo for next meeting. Requests will be sent out shortly after. Recap and Classification are scheduled for 12/18. Late this year due to utility assessment work. Thank you to Finance Committee.

8:05 p.m. Finance Committee left meeting.

Mail/ Email:

- Second invite to Franklin County State of Preparedness Training
- Legislative Coffee on Dec. 8, 10 am, Trinity Church, SF
- Town Accountant confirming performance review, Gloria, Dec. 10 at 2 pm
- Martha Thurber re FY20 Draft Budget for MTRSD (notice of meeting)
- Senator Hinds Open House, Dec. 13, 4-7 Pittsfield Office
- STM 11.28.18 minutes from Town Clerk

Other Separate Documents for review and/or signatures:

- Travel Reimbursement Request
- Treasury Warrants
- Highway Fleet Inventory/Log
- Vacation Leave Request

Other Business:

- Zoning Matter Rt. 8A: Discussed possible need for building inspector to contact town counsel. Select Board would like building inspector to begin effort to resolve by having a conversation.
- Interest in Heath School: Kara will ask Town Counsel to do a rough review of MOU draft and let Heath know if any additions or concerns.

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 8:30 p.m.*

Respectfully presented,

**Kara M. Leistyna
Town Coordinator**