

## MEETING MINUTES

Town of Heath  
SELECT BOARD  
Sawyer Hall  
January 15, 2019

**Call to Order at p.m.** by Brian DeVriese with Robyn Provost-Carlson, Gloria Cronin Fisher, and Kara Leistyna present. See attendance sheet for others present.

**Review Agenda:** South Road resident to discuss road conditions/highway dept.

**Reviewed Minutes:** *On a motion by Gloria Cronin-Fisher and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted to approve the minutes of 1/8/19 as amended.*

**Derek Ross/ Nova Farms Chief Executive Officer:** Mr. Ross is here tonight to share that he is interested in purchasing some property in Heath. His company is planning to cultivate approximately 2 acres of cannabis outdoors, something they have strived to perfect over the years. They will need a host community agreement (HCA) in order to proceed on state level for licensing. They intend to hire local contractors and tradespeople; buy local equipment and materials and give the maximum 3% of sales allowed by state. They will require eight full time and 15 part-time employees and practice organic farming. Nova Farms has secured financial backing and hopes to be able to have a good relationship with the Town of Heath and neighbors. A sample HCA was provided. The Selectboard asked a variety of questions and agreed to review the HCA and deliberate on Feb. 5, 2019. Mr. Ross says Heath is attractive because he has read the bylaws which are favorable to traditional agricultural practices and right to farming, and that has value to Nova Farms. Farming can stimulate the economy in this small town as the market matures. Thank you, Mr. Ross.

**South Road Resident:** Shared concern about the road care in her area down South Road. Concerned with early travelers and the difficulty it is to make it to Rt. 2. The mud can be very deep in areas. Robyn Provost-Carlson, Highway Dept. Liaison, discussed winter road care in particular this area of town. One task for highway supervisors is to assess that area and create a proactive plan whether during icy conditions or mud. Awareness of the issue and response is very important when a resident calls. It was encouraged to call the cell phone number, even after hours. Pre-treatment was discussed and it was noted that different materials have been used lately with perhaps less effect. Kara Leistyna explained the Community Compact program through the state and the opportunity afforded to Heath to conduct a road/bridge/culvert survey to target areas in need as priorities for planning and improvement. Funds are difficult to amass for road repair. Heath was denied the Massworks application to improve South/Burrington Roads. It is a very competitive program but Heath will resubmit the application for the next round. Again, more funds are needed for road care. The Town is working with legislators but it is always important for voters to voice concerns. Thank you for your feedback.

**Resident left at 7:20 p.m.**

Robyn offered an update on highway matters. She met with crew for two hours to discuss work related matters. Robyn will create an activity log for crew and offer a template for review by supervisors for feedback. This log will offer a tool in time management and to see where resources are used/ needed.

**Heath School RFP:** Discussed revisions. An eventual P&S will provide some security on following through with intent for the property and if cannabis related, a Host Community Agreement will also offer further security. *On a motion by Gloria Cronin-Fisher, and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the RFP as written and authorize Andrea Woods, Chief Procurement Officer, FRCOG, to post.*

## **9:01 p.m. Finance Committee members left meeting.**

### **Other Business:**

- Scheduling: Discussed upcoming meeting dates and agenda items. Board will meet on 1/22, 2/5, 2/12 (Special Town Meeting) and 2/19. Annual Town Meeting will be held May 11, 2019.
- Special Town Meeting: Discussed matters that need inclusion on warrant. Capital Debt for Heath School, \$39,999. Kara will ask the District Business Manager for a confirmation of that amount on letterhead, in writing.
- Town Coordinator Report
- Transfer Station Sticker Sales: Discussed need to offer Charlene some assistance during busy times at the post office.
- Appointments: *On a motion by Gloria Cronin Fisher and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Lee Lively to serve on the police department retroactive to Jan. 11, 2019.*
- Detail Rate: *On a motion by Gloria Cronin Fisher, and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to approve Chief McDonough's request to increase the detail rate for officers from \$40/hour to \$50/hour with a 10% administrative fee payable to the Town.*

### **Mail/ Email:**

- Andrea Woods re: Ledges Rd. RFP
- Betsy Kovacs re: schedule/ BOH coverage
- Alyssa Larose re: Green Communities
- Jeff Blake, KP Law re: permitting on private ways
- Andrea Woods re: Draft RFP Heath School
- Mark Reich re: RFP Heath School
- John McDonough re: Detail Rate and appointment of officer
- John McDonough re: resident inquiry dated 1/4/19
- Kayla Miller re: culvert
- Grace Bird re: Introduction (new reporter at Recorder)

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

- 1/8/19 minutes for review
- Town Coordinator report
- Payroll and Treasury Warrants
- Draft RFP for Heath School
- RFP for 5 Ledges Road (finalized)
- RFP for backhoe (draft)
- Agenda Booklet MMA Annual Business Meeting
- Accountant's Cash Reconciliation, December 2018
- Host Community Agreement template from KP Law and Guidance
- Price estimate from Schmidt Equipment re: backhoe (hard copy)
- WG&E 1/22 meeting agenda
- Heath Debt as of 1/21/19 (updated from Treasurer)

### **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 9:10 p.m.***

**Respectfully presented,**

**Kara M. Leistyna  
Town Coordinator**