

MEETING MINUTES

Town of Heath
SELECT BOARD
Sawyer Hall
March 19, 2019

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

Review Agenda: NGrid Pole Hearing #27795461, 6:15 p.m., Discuss South Road Closure

Minutes: *On a motion by Gloria Cronin Fisher, and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of 3/12/19 as amended.*

Emergency Declaration: *Brian DeVriese, Chairman, declared that emergency purchasing was necessary on March 16, 2019 to repair South Road and other muddy roadways in order to allow emergency vehicles to have access. (MGL Chap. 30B).*

6:15 p.m. NGrid Pole Hearing: Mike Tatro, Distribution Design from National Grid, attended tonight for pole hearing #27795461. Mike explained that NGrid would like to set a new pole on Wigwam Drive. He presented documents for review. A resident requested service. Mike explained the plan for additional pole and that will extend help to other lots nearby. *On a motion by Gloria Cronin Fisher, and seconded by Robyn Provost-Carlson, the Board voted unanimously to accept the proposed new pole plan as presented for additional pole on Wigwam Drive in Heath.*

Hearing closed at 6:17 p.m.

John McDonough, Police Chief: Select Board conducted 90-day performance review. Afterwards, they discussed police FY20 Budget Request. John has increased expense line \$1,500 to enable purchase of computer system, IMC, which is a call dispatch tracking program. Also, additional funds for uniforms to outfit new officers. \$1,000 overall increase from last year. So far FY19 budget looks good. John described a mobile unit coming to Heath to recalibrate radar system and to get an undercoat for cruiser is planned. Otherwise, budget is fine for rest of year. Thank you, John.

6:53 p.m. John McDonough left meeting.

Finance Committee: Proposed Sale of Heath School Building: Sue Lively and Pam Porter submitted their proposal and list of members for their work towards researching options for the former Heath School. Bob Dane submitted his proposal and list of working members as well. Select Board read each and acknowledged members. The Board endorsed each group's efforts and asked that although not officially appointed groups, that they post notices of meetings as a courtesy. Thank you for doing this work.

Highway Budget Hearing: Reviewed line by line and discussed each budget line. Will discuss salary at later date. Machinery/Maintenance line was reduced because as newer vehicles are acquired, less maintenance is needed. Vehicle Gas & Oil is not usually expended fully so that line has been reduced. Winter Salt & Sand has been level funded. Next year it may be overspent as allowed by law. Purchase of stone for Saturday's emergency work was covered by Chap. 90.

South Road: Discussed need to tend to South Road urgently over the week-end. The road is water-logged and could be as a result of a spring underneath the road. Situation will be remedied and the work could prevent further saturation. Large trucks will be detoured by noon time. Total cost is roughly \$8,000 but

could be \$12,000 according to Mike Shattuck. Need to hire a local, civil engineer to assess the road and it's unusual extreme muddy status.

Transfer Station: Discussed the two months in 2018 when 2 hauls resulted in greater tonnage of trash than usual. Jeff has been studying the records and does not see anything out of the ordinary in tipping/hauling. Ken will be asked to keep a journal from now on to track pick ups.

Maint/Utilities: The increase is due to OSHA costs. Just the hearing test is roughly \$1,650. Robyn will assist in reviewing what is needed for OSHA requirements. Jeff will research other options for hearing test.

Roadside Mowing: Highway Crew will complete this task.

ATM Warrant: Two articles will be added to warrant for purchases.

STM: Discussed \$25,000 approved by voters for the purchase of a multi-task vehicle. Jeff looking at options. Most falling just under \$25,000 are ½ ton models. There is a possibility to purchase ¾ ton, 2019 Chevy Silverado, extended cab without plow for \$28,900 from a dealer. Trade ins could bring price down below the authorized \$25,000.

Tractor: New, fully equipped runs about \$43,000.

Debt Exclusion: Discussed recommendation to put this before voters this year. Finance Committee will plan to provide some explanation to voters at the upcoming two informational meetings. Select Board will vote on wording and will get that to Town Clerk within timeframe. This will be a ballot question at the May 10 election.

Accountant: Discussed audit stabilization. \$2,000 has been added annually. \$14,000 is the rough cost for an audit. Will schedule budget hearing for accountant to discuss this and anticipated work regarding broadband. Accountant is asking to start a software replacement stabilization as she anticipates new software in 9 years.

Heath School Building: Discussed expenses/ repairs. If sale is not authorized, will spend the remaining amount from District for maintenance (\$100,000). After that, will need to budget. Roof and parking lot are in need of repair but will wait until after ATM when more is known.

Mail/ Email:

- Andrea Woods re: Heath RFP
- Clark Rowell re: meeting
- Proposal from Bob Dane re: Heath RFP
- Proposal from Sue Lively re: Heath RFP
- Jeff Blake, Esq. re: Zoning Enforcement Matter
- Jenny Hamilton re: Zoning Enforcement Matter
- Notices from Western MA Historical Comm. Coalition, Hawlemont Elementary School, Franklin Land Trust

Other Separate Documents for review and/or signatures:

- 3/12/19 minutes
- TC Report
- Fy20 Draft Budget Spreadsheet
- Letter to DCAMM re: South Road (and others)

- Performance Review documents for John McDonough
- Budget Requests – police, highway dept.

Other Business:

- Informational Meetings: Discussed preliminary planning for meetings to be held on Sat., April 6 and 13, 10 am to 1 pm. Important to get these meetings announced. Discussed preliminary planning and the need to get the announcement out to public.
- Shared Services Summit: Kara will attend tomorrow at FRCOG offices.
- Kennel: Kara will ask Sheila if she is still interested in the kennel for Hawlemont
- CodeRed: Placed call on 3/16/19 – less numbers were attempted than in past. Kara has added several numbers for residents. Many are not receiving the calls and there are many numbers that are no longer in service. Kara working with Onsolve to correct these issues. BoH looking at different options for calling system.
- Regionalization: Kara will inquire with Budge and Bob Gruen on possible warrant articles this year for ATM.
- A resident visited meeting tonight but it was the Board of Health he needed to contact. Kara will be sure the BoH reaches out to him.

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 9:15 p.m.*

Respectfully presented,

**Kara M. Leistyna
Town Coordinator**