

MEETING MINUTES

Town of Heath
SELECT BOARD
Virtual Meeting
September 7, 2021

Called to Order at 6:00 p.m. with Susan Lively, Brian De Vriese and Hilma Sumner, Town Coordinator, in attendance.

Other Attendees: See attendance sheet.

Review Agenda: Added: Future meetings.

Review of Minutes: *On a motion by Susan Lively and a second by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of August 23, 2021 with amendments.*

On a motion by Susan Lively and a second by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of August 31, 2021 with amendments.

Renewal of Broadband Borrowing Note: *On a motion by Susan Lively and a second by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve signing the renewal borrowing note for broadband construction in the amount of \$1,422,222.00.*

Broadband Meeting Recap: The Board reviewed an email from David Gordon which provided an explanation of some information that was given at the August 31st joint meeting.

Green Communities Update: Brian reported that he had a meeting with Roger Harris to discuss some of the details of the Community Hall HVAC renovation proposal.

Salt Shed: Robyn stated that she sent a message to one of the vendors that is to provide price information on new construction and does not have the information yet.

Appointment of Board of Health Members: Postponed until the Board of Health has had opportunity at their next meeting to review the resume of the third interested person.

Board of Health Mask-Wearing Policy: The Board of Health had requested the opinion of the Select Board regarding the *COVID-19 Mandatory Policies and Procedures for Wearing of Masks or Other Face Coverings in Public Indoor Spaces in the Town of Heath* that they will be discussing and voting on at their September 8th meeting. Upon review of the document, the Select Board unanimously voiced their support of such a policy.

Hawlemont Regionalization Study Team: Members Budge Litchfield, Bob Gruen, Barbara Rode and Ken Rocke joined the meeting for a presentation of their findings to date. Sarah Carleton, educational consultant, also joined the meeting.

The Team shared a series of slides (see attached) and provided explanation outlining the information and data collection that they had completed to date. The necessary steps for withdrawing from MTRSD and forming a district with Hawlemont were also explained. Background statistics about tuition costs and student enrollment numbers were presented. The data from the indicators of wealth of the different district towns show that Heath needs to be careful entering into a regionalization with

Hawley and Charlemont because Heath has comparatively little money to spare. At the conclusion of the presentation, the Team members each presented their individual positions to date and also what research they will be doing in the future.

The Team will be writing a summarization to be shared publicly with the town's residents with an invitation to give feedback. When it is prepared Hilma will send it out in a town-wide email and post on the town website.

Town Coordinator's Report:

- Treasurer: Contacted Kris Nartowicz with job offer for position of Treasurer. Discussed details of beginning work and compensation. Melanie turned over the records and office keys to Kris who is now in the process of changing various bank accounts to her name.
- Northeast IT: Spoke with technicians Shawn and Doug who reviewed the quote for purchase and installation of a central server. This expense would be paid for by the IT grant. ***On a motion by Susan Lively and a second by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the Northeast IT quotes for the purchase and installation of a central server.***
- Northeast IT: Technician Shawn was onsite today and is installing the correct components to finalize the broadband hookup at each of the four municipal sites. He is still working but will hopefully have his work completed today and town internet can be switched over to fiber.
- MassDOT: Participated in an orientation of the new online state system, GeoDOT, which is the state's new mapping system for transportation infrastructure. It is a tool that will need to be used when application is made for various grants, Ch90 requests are made, and also local road upgrades are done.
- Hilltown Youth Theatre: Met with Robyn and Jonathan Diamond to discuss a long-term lease agreement. He would like to rent 3 classrooms exclusively, mostly exclusive use of the stage, gym and sports storage and access to cafeteria periodically and is offering to pay \$15,000 for the 12 months. This was a discussion only to hear his proposal.
- MVP Kickoff Meeting: The initial meeting to begin the process of developing the MVP Program document and the updated HMP was held last Wednesday, September 1. There were about eight people in attendance. Allison Gage and Kimberly Noake MacPhee of FRCOG led the meeting, explaining the purpose of the planning process and the workshops that the town will hold in the near future. These workshops will focus on one of three areas of concerns and strengths: infrastructure, society and environment. After these workshops there will be a meeting for the action plan development with a public listening session at the end before the final document(s) are prepared. There were several people who were unable to be in attendance but will be participating in the future. Other interested people are encouraged to become involved as they are able.
- Hilma's Schedule: Thursday, September 9th, the office will be closed due to an all-day STAM conference in Northfield. I would like to work longer days on September 13, 16 and 17 and possibly the 18th as I need to be out of the office for September 14 & 15.

Mail:

- NEIT re: Quote to purchase and install central server
- G. Garland (BoH) re: request to review mask policy
- M. Thurber re: roundtable discussion

- D. Gordon re: BB funds explanation
- S. Litchfield re: dropline billing procedure
- E. Lively re: Foot Clinic grant renewal
- C. Rabbitt re: August Nurse report
- P. Porter re: BUC report
- BUC re: Short-term use & rental requirements policy— *On a motion by Susan Lively and a second by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the Short-term Use and Rental Requirements Policy.*
- BUC re: Building Use Policy— *On a motion by Susan Lively and a second by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the Building Use Policy.*
- BUC re: Building Use Division of Responsibilities— *On a motion by Susan Lively and a second by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the Building Use Division of Responsibilities with minor revisions.*
- R. Smith (DEP) re: Western District Municipal Assistance Coordinator appt.
- MVP Program re: Summer 2021 Newsletter
- Age-Friendly Communities Newsletter

Future Meetings: Brian will not be available September 14th, and most likely not on September 21st. It was decided to hold the next meeting in two weeks.

September 21st: COVID-19 Municipal Concerns, Office relocation
 Fire House
 Future Meeting Dates

On a motion by Susan Lively and a second by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hilma A. Sumner
 Town Coordinator