

MEETING MINUTES

Town of Heath
SELECT BOARD
Virtual Meeting
November 9, 2021

Called to Order at 6:01 p.m. with Robyn Provost Carlson, Susan Lively, Brian De Vriese and Hilma Sumner, Town Coordinator, in attendance.

Other Attendees: See attendance sheet.

Review Agenda: Removed: Review of 11/2/21 minutes; Executive Session II.

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 October 26, 2021, as amended.*

Public Comment: None.

Axon Properties/Crucial: Town counsel is reviewing both the Development Agreement and the Host Community Agreement forms. Dialogue continues between town counsel and counsel for Axon Properties about the wording and technical aspects. The company would like to have agreements in place before November 24th which is the end of their 30-day due-diligence period with the property owner.

COVID-19 Protocol:

Office relocation: Robyn is seeking quotes for room dividers to be installed in Room 119 where the financial offices will be located.

Protocol: Will remain as is for now and everyone is asked to exercise caution.

Burrington Road Culvert: The Board reviewed a proposed agreement with VHB Engineering for the work that will be covered under the grant. There is an overage that the town will pay from Ch. 90 funds. *On a motion by Susan Lively and a second by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the VHB contract agreement with \$100,000 of the funding derived from the grant and \$18,080 paid for with Ch. 90 funding.*

Route 8A Branch Brook Bridge: Hilma reported about the condition of the bridge and that she was composing a letter along with pictures and the video taken recently by a workman showing the deterioration. The latest bridge inspection report will be located as well and set with the package of documents requesting assistance for the bridge condition and repair. Robyn, the Highway Superintendent and Hilma will work on compiling the package.

MTRSD Capital Bonding Plan: The recommendation was to have a seven-year plan for repayment. If that is done, Heath will have an annual cost of \$9,000--\$10,000 per year for repayment. The Board agreed that they were accepting of the plan. Hilma will notify Martha Thurber, MTRS School Committee chairman.

Jacobs Road Generator: The Board reviewed a proposal for a seven-year agreement with a local propane company for supply of propane and for doing the installation of tanks and lines for the new generator. Questions were raised about the legitimacy of a contract longer than three years and some of the terms of the contract such as #12 in the contract about liquidated damages at the termination of

the contract. *On a motion by Susan Lively and a second by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the provided contract contingent upon legal review and approval.*

Board of Health Member: After acknowledgement that Casey Clark declined the appointment, *On a motion by Susan Lively and a second by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to appoint Lorraine Berger to a two-year term as member of the Board of Health.*

Fire House: No new information. Robyn and Hilma will draft a letter from the Select Board to be sent to Senator Hinds and Representative Mark asking for the state to release the \$1 Million bond that has been allocated to the town a couple of years ago.

Green Communities Update: The Energy Advisory Committee will meet on November 18th. Brian will contact Alyssa Larose to request that she help write the quarterly report.

Mail:

- B. Gordon, BoH re: letter for State Arbovirus Program—Hilma will copy to town letterhead and send to Comerford, Hinds, and Mark.
- M. Thurber, MTRS re: capital debt figures & plan
- Th. Lively re: request for SB position on capital bond plan
- Tim Lively/Arctic Refrig re: estimate to replace compressor— *On a motion by Susan Lively and a second by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the refrigerator repair at 18 Jacobs Road for \$850 to be done by Artic Refrigeration.*
- S. Litchfield re: reopening of Sawyer Hall bathrooms—The Board agreed that this was premature and would precipitate the reopening of all building bathrooms to the public.
- S. Litchfield re: post office/library hours
- N. Wolf re: Historical Society site markers—He will be referred to the Highway Superintendent for sign placement.
- C. Rabbitt re: October Town Nurse report
- VHB, Inc. re: Agreement for services for Burrington Rd culvert replacement
- Confidential—COVID
- D. Wagner, DLS re: certification of Free Cash
- J. Johnston re: draft letter to BoH—After review, Robyn stated that she will speak with Jeff about a few changes.
- Osterman re: Jacobs Rd. propane tanks estimate

Next Meeting, November 16:

COA appointment
Axon Properties
COVID concerns
Fire House

7:50 p.m. On a motion by Susan Lively and a second by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to adjourn the open session at 7:50 p.m. and move to executive session for Executive Session pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, sec. 21(a)(6), To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body;

For deliberation and strategy for entering a long-term lease of space at the 18 Jacobs Road municipal building with Hilltown Youth Recovery Theatre.

Susan Lively Aye Brian De Vriese Aye Robyn Provost Carlson Aye

Respectfully submitted,

Hilma A. Sumner
Town Coordinator