

MEETING MINUTES

Town of Heath
SELECT BOARD
18 Jacob Road
April 11, 2023

Called to Order at 6:07 p.m. With Robyn Provost Carlson, Susan Lively, Brian De Vriese, and Hilma Sumner, Town Coordinator.

Others in Attendance: See attendance sheet.

Public Comment: Elissa Viarengo reported for the Board of Health that at the last meeting of the Pioneer Valley Mosquito District it was voted to allow Heath to use the \$4,000 overpayment as credit for the membership fee until the credit runs out.

Review of Minutes: *On a motion by Susan Lively and seconded by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of April 4, 2023, as amended.*

On a motion by Susan Lively and seconded by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of April 7, 2023, as presented.

FY24 Budget Discussion: The Board discussed the following Art. 3 accounts:

Winter Temporary Help: possibly \$10,000

Summer Temporary Help: possibly \$3,500

Insurances: check on MIIA letter sent at time of renewal as to whether there will be an increase in FY24 or premiums will be level-funded.

Highway Salary and Highway Winter Wages: to be adjusted for position elimination and return of foreman wage to level fund plus COLA.

MTRSD-Submitted Articles: The Board discussed the three proposed articles that the MTRSD School Committee and Administration had submitted last week for inclusion on the Annual Town Meeting. Expressed was the dismay that these articles were submitted in an untimely manner with no advance notice. There has been no documents of explanation sent out to the district towns.

Northeast IT Contract for Services: The Board reviewed the agreement for IT services for FY24 that reflects an increase to \$1,493 per month. A significant amount of the increase is due to the additional cybersecurity insurance that is now required by MIIA. *On a motion by Susan Lively and seconded by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the Northeast IT Contract for Services for FY24.*

Renaming Jacobs Road Building: During the Select Board meeting the previous Friday, the Board held a discussion of final names and decided on Jacobs Road Municipal Center but the vote would occur during the Tuesday evening meeting. *On a motion by Susan Lively and seconded by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the name of "Jacobs Road Municipal Center" for renaming the former elementary school.*

Mail:

- D. Fierro, Accountant re: spending on winter accounts
- P. Walker re: CPHS public nursing program
- Northeast IT re: agreement for services plan for FY24
- Unemployment Insurance filing information

- B. Ashley re: proposal to help fund roof-mounted solar panels

Joint Meeting with Finance Committee:

Annual Town Meeting Warrant: Following a general discussion about the warrant articles, Finance Committee took votes to recommend the articles that pertained to town finances.

On a motion by Susan Lively and seconded by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to recommend Articles 1,2 and 4-9.

On a motion by Susan Lively and seconded by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to recommend Articles 10-14.

Article 15: It was questioned whether funding for any part of the purchase of a highway department truck should be done through borrowing. The suggestion was made to use Ch. 90 money instead of borrowing, however, others objected to using funds from the one source the town has for road maintenance and improvement.

On a motion by Susan Lively and seconded by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to recommend Articles 15-20.

On a motion by Susan Lively and seconded by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to recommend Articles 21-25.

On a motion by Susan Lively and seconded by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to recommend Articles 26-29.

Next Meeting: April 18—Finance Committee will join the meeting at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will focus solely on FY24 budget planning and preparation for the Annual Town Meeting.

Annual Town Meeting Safety Protocol: It was agreed that Hilma will contact Mary Sumner, Town Clerk, Tim Lively, Building Maintenance Coordinator and Elissa Viarengo, Board of Health member, to determine and coordinate any COVID-related protocol.

8:02 p.m. *On a motion by Susan Lively and seconded by Brian De Vriese, the Select Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.*

Respectfully submitted,

Hilma A. Sumner
Town Coordinator