

MEETING MINUTES
Town of Heath
SELECT BOARD
Jacobs Road Municipal Center
July 25, 2023

Called to Order at 6:00 p.m. With Robyn Provost Carlson, Susan Lively, Elissa Viarengo and Hilma Sumner, Town Coordinator.

Others in Attendance: See attendance sheet.

The meeting was recorded by a resident.

Review of Agenda: Salt Shed feasibility study added.

Review of Minutes: *On a motion by Susan Lively and seconded by Elissa Viarengo, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of July 11, 2023, as amended.*

Public Comment: None.

Special Town Meeting Preparation: The Board discussed the two handouts that were made available to voters: the summarization of the condition of highway department fleet and the Finance Committee's opinion and recommendation. There was also a letter from an outside professional mechanic and other published information about the design and lack of reliability of the 2012 Maxxforce engines.

Heath Historical Society: Discussion concerning the proposed license for use of a second-floor room in Sawyer Hall centered around reluctance to issue the license for a 10-year term as opposed to a one-year renewable agreement. If it is written as a 10-year term, there needed to be verbiage that allowed for either party to terminate the arrangement. The Board was concerned about possible circumstances beyond their control such as the voters not funding the building maintenance, transfer of ownership or a change in the need of the municipal government.

Community Hall: No new information.

11 Bellow LLC and True Cannabis: A letter of thanks for removing the storage containers and outlining options to bring the fence into compliance was sent from Robyn to True Cannabis. Hilma sent a letter to their attorney outlining the original and the new legal charges incurred by the town as they related to 11 Bellow LLC and True Cannabis with a request for immediate reimbursement.

Telephone System: Hilma reported that the new telephone system had been ported and all extensions of the (413) 337-4934 line were activated with Granite Communications. A complete list of the phone extensions will be posted on the town website.

7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Special Town Meeting held. There was no separate Select Board business that was transacted during this time.

End-of-Year Transfers: Both the Finance Committee and the Select Board need to receive a final report of recommended transfers and each group vote on the report. It was agreed that there could be a joint meeting on Monday, July 31st, at 4:00 p.m. to review and vote on the report. It was also

decided that, if the Highway Superintendent was available, time would be taken in the meeting to discuss future possible options for improving the truck fleet.

Salt Shed Feasibility Study: Robyn asked that the contract with the landscape architect and the initial report be sent to the entire Board. Earlier that day Brian DeVriese had forwarded a report comparing the present site to the Bray Road site with a drawing showing potential arrangement of buildings on the Bray Road property. The drawing did not indicate where a drainage system would be built. Robyn will reach out to the architects to obtain further information.

Unfinished Business List: New items were added to the list. Tom Scanlon, auditor of the FY2021 records, will be emailed with a list of potential dates to meet with the Finance Committee and the Select Board at the end of September or October to finish the last step in the audit report.

Town-Wide Email Use: The Board discussed what types of groups should be allowed to request a message be conveyed through the town-wide email group. It was agreed that, besides any municipal government related entity, only the town's non-profit groups of the Historical Society, Agricultural Society, Heath Church and the Friends of the Library would have use of the email group. The messaging will not be used for either private individuals or private businesses.

Mail:

- Highway Dept. re: quote to replace dump body on 2012 International
- Highway Dept. re: information on Maxxforce Engines (2012 International)
- HAS re: letter to 11 Bellor, LLC about legal fees owed
- EMD/Highway re: spreadsheet of July 10 storm expense
- Highway Dept. re: email to USDA for emergency storm damage attention

Next Meeting: Monday, July 31st, 4:00 p.m.

10:00 p.m. *On a motion by Susan Lively and seconded by Elissa Viarengo, the Select Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.*

Respectfully submitted,

Hilma A. Sumner
Town Coordinator