

Board of Selectmen Meeting
Minutes

Date: February 26, 2014

Members Present: Janet Flinkstrom, Mike McCallum and Steve Ingerson

Time: 7:09 p.m.

SI questioned if Executive minutes were approved? MM thought they don't get approved until everything is finished on the session however they will check with Bob Hanson.

2) Motion to approve minutes of February 12, 2014 as recorded.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Steve Ingerson Vote: Unan

3) Warrant #W33P approve and sign Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$57,336.10 subject to further review.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Steve Ingerson Vote: Unan
MM Abstains from
Line with Jean Lindquist

4) Warrant #W34B approve and sign Vendor Warrant in the amount of \$111,078.95 subject to further review.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Steve Ingerson Vote: Unan

5) Motion to appoint Marshall Drummond as Parks Commissioner until the next Annual Town Election.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Steve Ingerson Vote: Unan

Presentation of Ashby's Green Community Designation (Energy Efficiency Committee):

Presentation of plaque to Chairman of the Board acknowledging Ashby as a Green Community along with a large scale check showing the Town has received \$133,350.00 - presented by Jim Hubert and Bill Stanwood. Also given were 4 Green Community signs to be distributed around town. Bill Davis will determine where the signs should go. BOS thanked the committee for all their time and effort bringing this project to the Town.

North Middlesex Regional School District FY15 Budget discussion (Superintendent Landers):

Dennis Moore also present. FY15 Budget represents a 2.07% increase, enrollment has decreased. Superintendent Landers gave an update of staff changes as far as hiring, unfilled positions and retirement. Status and what replacements were made and not made. Reported that Atlantic Transportation (school bus transportation) filed for bankruptcy in December 2013 and a new busing company was put in place with no disruption to student transportation or increase in price for the year.

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She is working with the finance committees to see about lowering the school budget for 2015. She will update the BOS and Bob Hanson after next Monday, after the meetings are done, with any changes.

MM asked about operational increases \$94,000 (page 18). Supt. stated that was without transportation and debt payment. MM asked about septic system upgrade at Hawthorne Brook. It should be finished in the spring after the ground unthaws - will not see that until FY16.

JL said they had to have the well at AES inspected and will need repairs does not have report back yet. JL discussed solutions to the well problem in town as will be affecting the Elementary School. She states they are holding meetings on this to see what can be done to help out the town.

Dennis Moore (School Committee Member for Ashby) reminded BOS that he "Will Not" be coming back to the position after this spring and that the town needs to look for a new candidate for the position.

Gas Pipeline Proposal Discussion (Conservation Commission Member Cathy Kristofferson):

Jay Duffy who is an attorney and a resident of Ashby spoke on concerns residents have with the proposed pipeline for the Town. He has offered his services for information as he has dealt with this in PA. There will be large distribution plants needed in town. Tennessee Gas pipeline will have to go through many processes before anything can be done. Public hearings will have to be held before anything can move forward. JF asked about the letters that went out to some residents and if this was a big deal to let the representatives of the company do a walk through of their land. It is necessary and he continued to give some examples of what it would involve. She also asked if any towns have turned them down and sent them away.

He stated yes this has happened.

Residents should be looking at approximately \$30.00 per foot for the pipeline to go across their land. This will be a one time payment.

The homeowner needs to have a very detailed contract with the company if they decide to let them come across their land.

MM asked about the impact of value to your land. Answer is yes, there is an impact & value of land can decrease due to the concerns of a potential buyer over having a gas pipeline on property. Pipeline is buried 20 ft in the ground. Talking about a potential 50 ft swath in the woods. Wants to make sure residents advocate for their rights. Mr. Duffy looks forward to working with everyone to help them through the process.

Request for Selectmen to sign and approve on 5 One Day Liquor Licenses for the Fitchburg Rod and Gun Club:

6) Motion to approve and sign on a One Day Liquor License for the Fitchburg Rod and Gun Club for:

March 9, 2014 - Membership Meeting License #405

Motion: Mike McCallum

Seconded: Steve Ingerson

Vote: Unan

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- 7) Motion to approve and sign on a One Day Liquor License for the Fitchburg Rod and Gun Club for:

March 15, 2014 – St. Patrick’s Day Dinner License #406

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Steve Ingerson Vote: Unan

- 8) Motion to approve and sign on a One Day Liquor License for the Fitchburg Rod and Gun Club for:

April 13, 2014 – Membership Meeting License #407

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Steve Ingerson Vote: Unan

- 9) Motion to approve and sign on a One Day Liquor License for the Fitchburg Rod and Gun Club for:

April 26, 2014 – Spring Fishing Derby License #408

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Steve Ingerson Vote: Unan

- 10) Motion to approve and sign on a One Day Liquor License for the Fitchburg Rod and Gun Club for:

May 17, 2014–Family Fishing Derby License #409

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Steve Ingerson Vote: Unan

- 11) Motion to approve and sign March 15, 2014 Special Town Meeting Warrant Masters (5).

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Steve Ingerson Vote: Unan

Selectmen announce that the Special and Annual Town Meeting Warrants are opened and will close on March 12, 2014.

Any Other Business Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chairman: None

Assistant to the Board of Selectmen’s Report: Read by MM - Also Available on Ashby’s Website.

Town has received a grant for \$12,822.00 for 911 dispatch support. A thank you was extended to Kathy Bezanson for applying for this grant.

- 12) Motion to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Steve Ingerson Vote: Unan

Signed by: _____

Dates Minutes Approved by Board of Selectmen: _____