

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 6, 2019
9:00 AM
TOWN OFFICES, 50 MAIN STREET

Present:

Don Chabon, Chuck Cardillo, Terry Flynn and Danielle Fillio

Call to Order:

Don called the meeting to order.

Announcements:

Don noted the next meeting dates as: March 13th, March 18th, March 27th, April 8th, April 22nd, April 29th and May 8th. The Baby Town meeting is on May 13th, Annual Town Meeting on the May 20th and elections on May 21st.

Don noted that there is an EMS meeting on March 21st that should be posted if more than one of the Selectmen will attend and possibly deliberate.

Status Reports:

Don said that they should have a recommendation on a planner by the end of the week. On the traffic study alternatives, Don said that he is currently forwarding input to Terry. Terry said that there were hopes to have a Plan A: the two intersections as outlined in the study and a Plan B: which would be alternatives to that, hopefully by Town Meeting. Terry did not feel that this could be done by Town Meeting for either plan and was premature. He asked to resend his vote to move ahead with VHB. He suggested moving ahead with the State to complete the road safety audit, which is free. Danielle suggested that this discussion of changing the course of action be moved to the next meeting. Don again asked Terry to continue to collect submitted alternatives.

On the new highway garage status, Danielle explained that they had received only one general bid and did not receive a bid for HVAC and they are currently discussing on going back out to bid. They are waiting to hear back from Berkshire Engineering to see if they would still be able to meet the timelines; with a completion date of October.

Richard Seltzer asked what the bid was and Danielle said that it was just under 2.3 million dollars.

Charles Kenny questioned why they had received only one bid and Danielle explained that they need to use DCAM certified contractors and as this is a small project in their eyes. If they can go back out and separate some items in the bid, they may get a lower bid on the whole project.

Agenda:

Schedule and Procedures Leading to the ATM:

Danielle said that they usually close the Warrant at the end of March so that it can go out in the Town Report. Danielle proposed putting a draft Warrant in the Town Report and close the Warrant on April 19th which would allow everything to be in order and not rushed. Don moved that they approve the change in schedule for closing of the Town Warrant on April 19th. Terry seconded; all were in approval.

Anticipated Warrant Articles:

Danielle reviewed the current 20 Warrant articles.

Don said that other potential articles are: some things on the traffic study, new planner with zoning recommendations, a short term rental by law, possible PILOT program, requests for Stockbridge Bowl articles; including to create a Lake Mahkeenac water shed district, to create an official commission to be overseen by the Board of Selectmen to address and oversee the management of Stockbridge Bowl (not an article), and to ask for sum of money for purchase of a new weed harvester; Danielle said they would need an actual figure and it would be put into the budget.

Danielle asked the Board if they would want to support the watershed district and the potential purchase of the harvester on the warrant. It was agreed that more information in needed on both items.

Sally Underwood-Miller, Conservation Commission, said that the purpose of the watershed district is to define the district and identify it as an area that could cause potential issues to the lake.

Don noted government changes concerning limiting self-supervision suggested as articles. Don and Terry read two draft options which would be further discussed by the Board.

Don continued by stating that the function of the Compactor employees reporting to the Board of Health will be moved over to supervision by the Highway Superintendent; this would be a by-law amendment.

Chuck said that he would like to discuss a five member Select Board. Danielle said that this would require a special act that would then go on to Town vote. Terry also felt that term lengths could also be investigated.

Don as an abutter recused himself from the next discussion on the Stockbridge Bowl Dredging Project.

Michael Nathan, 14 Lake Drive, asked the Selectmen to restart the dredging project for the health of the Stockbridge Bowl. He stated that they have the funding to do the project and need the Town to do their part. He said that the project is a Town project. The Lake brings in tax revenue from properties around the Bowl and the lake needs to be maintained and protected from becoming a bog. He again stated that the dredging of the bowl is critical and the Town needs to act.

Terry read the following motions and following discussion, the motions were voted on.

Terry moved that the Board pursue all reasonable steps to immediately implement the hydraulic dredging project for the rehabilitation of the Stockbridge Bowl with the goal of a projected implementation summer 2020. Chuck seconded; the motion passed.

Terry moved that they reinstate Gregg Wellencamp as project manager for the dredging project. Gregg will have the authority to reach out to multiple engineering companies regarding this project and will report back to the Board with recommendations on how to best proceed with this project. Mr. Wellencamp will have no contracting authority or authority to approve any financial aspects of this project. Any concerns or issues throughout the project will be presented to the Board with suggestions on corrective measures. The project manager will make progress reports to the Board of Selectmen monthly. Chuck seconded; the motion passed.

Chuck brought up two items that he would like discussed at a future meetings; one being allowing Danielle to sign off on weekly warrants and secondly to give Danielle the authority to take care of personnel issues.

Don moved that the Board enter into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to Superior Court Appeal of wetlands permit denial, because the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating process of the public body, to invite Danielle Fillio to participate in the meeting and not to convene in open session thereafter. Terry seconded; all were in favor. Vote: 1 Chuck, 1 Don, 1 Terry.