

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 27, 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 announced the upcoming meeting schedule: April 8th at 7p.m., (the Warrant closes on April 19th) April 22nd at 7p.m., (the Warrant will be posted on April 23rd) April 29th at 7p.m., May 8th at 9a.m., Baby Town Meeting on May 13th at 6:30p.m., Annual Town Meeting on May 20th at 6:30p.m. and Town Elections on May 21st, 8a.m.-6:30p.m.

Status Reports:

Don noted openings on the ZBA, Cable Advisory Committee and an alternate on the Conservation Commission.

Agenda:

Berkshire Hills School District Plans - Superintendent Peter Dillion stated that the regular school year budget in Stockbridge is based on the number of kids enrolled and the overall budget went down.

He said that they are just now applying to the State to get back on the list for funding a new high school or the renovation and addition to the existing building. It will be a few years out. The last project was 50 million dollars, reimbursed by 50%.

Don would like to see more young families in Stockbridge, increasing the student population. Peter said that over the years the number of high school students decreased from 800 to around 550. Don questioned consolidation systems with South County. Peter said that the likely thing would be shared services first, developing strong relationships, before consolidation.

Conservation Commission Appointment –

Don moved to make Patrick White a member of the Conservation Commission. Terry seconded; all were in favor.

In Lieu of Tax Thank You Letter –

Don thanked Riverbrook Residence for their in lieu of taxes payment of \$2,000.00.

Warrant - Review and Approve

Danielle noted that there was a request for \$186,000 to fund a new harvester, however there were many unknowns. Dr. Kenny spoke on the proposal and agreed that there were many unknowns and the Cyanobacteria Prevention Working Group is working to figure out what is the best approach for lake management. He would like to have the request on the Warrant and

resend it at Town Meeting if need be. Patrick White stated that even if the use of herbicides goes through it will only take care of the milfoil and a harvester would still be needed. He also stated that it was prudent to see the operation of the devices they want to look at and this would be over the summer. Terry said that there is linkage between the harvester and herbicides. He is 100% behind purchasing a top quality harvester if there are no herbicides put in the lake against their Town Boards. He said that if the SBA wins in court, it would take town funding of the harvester out of the picture; he would speak at Town meeting to urge people to reject spending any money if the State imposes the herbicides on the Town. Terry said that he just wanted the people on the lake and the SBA to drop the lawsuits. Danielle warned that because they are still in litigation they all need to be extremely careful about what they say about chemicals. Chuck asked to possibly table the harvester for now, as they would not have it by summer, and bring it to the meeting in the fall. The Board recommended tabling it. Ron Brouker felt that putting the money in the budget was still a good idea for lake management equipment, like a second conveyer. He was assured that the current harvester was ready to go for the summer. Patrick said that the cost range for a new harvester is from \$100,000 to 200,000. Chuck recommended having Len come in and discuss the issues, with Ron and Patrick, on April 8th. This was again tabled.

The next item discussed was the next steps for the traffic study; whether it be a 25% design, \$250,000 for a more detailed engineering study or the 10% design threshold of \$132,000. Terry felt that the next logical step is to have a road safety audit by the state while Don felt the 10 percent design costing \$132,000 was a reasonable path.

Don moved to change item on line 15 of the warrant articles to \$132,000 for engineering fees for traffic improvements. Chuck seconded; Terry opposed. The motion passed.

Monuments-

Terry suggested that they move forward to put money aside to repair the soldier's monument. He also suggested to have updates from the Historical Commission on all of the historical properties in Town and come up with a procedure to update the Board on conditions and needed improvements. Chuck suggested a committee to oversee the monuments and upkeep. It was decided to table while costs are determined.

Fire Chief Search Status

Don moved that they give the Fire Chief's Screening Committee the following charge: Authority: the screening committee is an ad-hoc committee appointed by the Select Board. Purpose: to assist the Select Board in hiring a Fire Chief for the Town of Stockbridge. The Charge is to review and discuss the Fire Chief application documents in order to select two or three finalists to be interviewed by the Select Board. The committee will review resumes, check references, and conduct interviews as needed. The committee will present their recommendation of candidates to the Board by April 18th. Terry seconded; the motion passed.

Adjournment:

With no further business, Don made a motion to adjourn. Chuck seconded; all were in favor.