

**STOCKBRIDGE SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, January 9, 2020**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**TOWN OFFICES, 50 MAIN STREET**

**Present:**

Terry Flynn, Chuck Cardillo, Roxanne McCaffrey and Mark Webber

**Call to Order:**

Terry called the meeting to order.

**Agenda:**

Terry made a motion to accept the minutes for December 12, 2019. Roxanne seconded; all were in favor.

Terry noted that they had thank you letters to sign for in lieu of tax payments for St. Paul's Episcopal Church and the Berkshire Taconic Foundation.

Next on the agenda was discussion on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for Housing Rehabilitation. Pat Mullin from BRPC described the grant. She invited the Town to be a partner in the grant application for FY20. This grant is a federal program funded by HUD and allows communities to use this for many things including future planning and ADA planning, while most often used for housing rehabilitation. 43.1% of all Stockbridge residents are low to moderate income. The maximum amount for a regional grant with three or more communities involved is 1.3 million dollars. Currently, the lead community is Dalton. It is contingent that BRPC will manage the grant and the lead community takes full fiscal responsibility for the grant. At least two public hearings are planned; one in Dalton and the other in Sheffield. Roxanne asked what communities will be participating and Pat said they will be Dalton, Becket, Sheffield and Stockbridge; which were selected based on the number of low to moderate income residents.

Terry made a motion that the Board sign the agreement to become a participating town. Roxanne seconded; all were in favor.

All inquiries will go through the BRPC office. To be placed on the interested party list, call Laura Door at 413- 442-1521 ext. 23.

The next item discussed were openings for the 8 Town School Consolidation Committee. Chuck said that each Town is creating a three-person committee made up of one school committee member and two Town members. The Board would vote to form the committee and then also vote for it to become a part of the 8 Town School Consolidation Committee. The Town Moderator would appoint these members. Interested parties should contact the Select Board. Chuck made a motion that the Board create a three-person committee, one being a school board member and two Town residents. This committee then becomes part of the consolidation committee. Roxanne seconded; all were in favor.

Next was discussion on the Town Administrator Search Committee time-line. Mark presented a draft time-line and noted that the committee's first meeting will be on January 17<sup>th</sup>. Mark would like to post/ advertise on February 3<sup>rd</sup>; have applications back by February 20<sup>th</sup>; throughout this process the committee will be meeting; by March 19<sup>th</sup> the committee would come back to the Select Board with no more than three finalists for interviews; by March 26<sup>th</sup> the Board would meet and deliberate and vote on a chosen finalist; from the end of March to the first part of April an employment agreement would be negotiated with that finalist; by the second week of April the new Administrator would begin; from mid-April through Town Meeting the Interim and new T.A. would be working together with introduction of the new T.A. at the Town Meeting.

The Board thanked Mark on the time-line.

Next on the agenda, Mark gave an update on Stockbridge Motors. Mark presented the history and an update from Mass DEP as follows:

**Former Stockbridge Motors site, 4 East Street, Stockbridge – RTN: 1-18436**

Significant progress has been made at the former Stockbridge Motors Site.

In 2017, the Town of Stockbridge voluntarily participated in the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's (MassDEP) Small Town Environmental Partnership (STEP) Initiative and identified the Former Stockbridge Motors site as a property of concern. As a follow up from the STEP audit, MassDEP hosted a meeting on August 10, 2017 with Town Selectman and Berkshire Regional Planning Commission to discuss site concerns, liability and funding options if the Town took the site for back taxes. MassDEP worked diligently to obtain funding for this site. In September 2018, MassDEP notified the Town Selectman that the Department had secured funding from the U.S. EPA Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund (EPA LUST Funding) that could be used on the Town's behalf to help with the needed assessment of the abandoned site.

Soil and groundwater at the site were sampled and the results indicated that site conditions posed a risk due to the potential access to the contaminated soil at the site. The EPA LUST funding and additional State funding was used to reduce the risk at the site by excavating the gasoline contaminated soil and groundwater. Risk reduction activities supported/allowed by the Federal and State funding included the pumping out of the remaining product in the three existing gasoline tanks, removal of the former pump islands, product lines, the overhead canopy, and removal/disposal of gasoline contaminated soil and groundwater. It should be noted that assessment work was not able to show that the tanks were leaking; only the product lines showed leaks. EPA LUST funding could only be utilized to remove the tanks if the tanks were determined to be leaking. However, the product was removed from the tanks and the tanks were filled with foam to eliminate a potential release in the future.

Site work took place during the last weeks of December 2019 and first week of January 2020.

The following tasks have been completed (or will be completed) by 1/10/2020:

- Conducted project kickoff and safety briefing onsite with MassDEP contractor TRC and their subcontractor, NRC, on 12/18/19
- Installed erosion control measures (haybales and silt fencing) and temporary chain-link fencing on 12/18/19 prior to commencing remediation activities with additional precautionary controls installed bordering the stockpiled soil
- Broke-up concrete and asphalt and removed offsite
- Demolished and removed fuel dispenser pumps, overhead canopy, and associated underground fuel lines.
- Excavated and stockpiled gasoline-contaminated soil

- Dewatered approximately 12,000 gallons of gasoline-contaminated groundwater from the excavation and hauled offsite to an appropriate disposal facility
- Collected post-excavation soil samples and submitted for laboratory analysis
- Backfilled excavation area with imported crushed stone
- Pumped, cleaned and foam-filled three existing underground storage tanks (USTs);
- Transported stockpiled gasoline-contaminated soil to an offsite location
- Completed UST surfacing due to degraded tank top manway, and;
- Site restoration and demobilization including site cleanup.

Approximately 1,600 tons of gasoline-contaminated soil and 12,000 gallons of gasoline contaminated groundwater was excavated, dewatered and removed from the former Stockbridge Motors site.

This was all done at no cost to the Town.

Next was discussion on the formation of a Stockbridge Bowl Task Force. Roxanne mentioned that they had conducted testing of the Stockbridge Bowl this summer and will continue periodic testing from ice out through the fall. For the best information it was felt that a Task Force of a member from the various entities; the Zebra Mussel Committee, the CPWG and the SBA, Conservation Commission, Water and Sewer, Tri-Town Health, Board of Health, and a member of the Select Board working together to continue to keep the Lake and its watershed safe. Terry said he was in support of the idea but to consider waiting to hear on the DEP's upcoming findings. Terry said that in history, the Town had always been the primary agent working in conjunction with the Stockbridge Bowl Association. Terry continued that with the recent actions of the SBA by challenging the Conservation Commissions rulings, the Town is now being replaced as agents by the SBA and his point of view would be not to spend money on the lake. Roxanne said that she understood Terry's point of view however stated that the lake is a valuable asset to the Town and everyone needs to work together instead of going in different directions. Patrick White for the Conservation Commission added that the Town should continue to remain involved. Cris Raymond from the SBA also felt that the Town and the SBA have the same destination; management of the lake. Laura Dubester also felt that the formation of a task force should not be delayed and to begin the process of working together. Roxanne repeated that the purpose of the task force is to protect the ecosystem of the lake and that everyone has the same general goal. Chuck said that he supported the task force as it brings all the committees to one and when time comes to spend money everyone is involved. Roxanne said that funds are available for the upcoming year for lake testing. Roxanne suggested that they all think about the list of core members before specifying in a motion. Terry made a motion that the Board form a Stockbridge Bowl task force and work with Mark and by next week identify who would be on it and appoint them. Chuck seconded; all were in favor.

Next on the agenda was the discussion of hiring a Municipal HR Consultant. Mark stated that it is a topic that has come up and would help the next Administrator. Currently, the Treasurer is essentially the HR person but it is not really a treasurer's role. The thought is that there are good consultants who could perform a review of what is in place and give recommendations and suggestions for a more codified plan of what the structure should be; to identify any

weaknesses in our HR and how it could be better managed. The Board agreed that Mark should continue to explore options.

**Adjournment:**

With no further business, Terry adjourned the meeting.