

**Selectboard
May 30, 2017
Town Offices
6:00 pm**

The regular meeting of the Selectboard of the Town of Whately was called to order on May 30, 2017 at 6:00 pm by the Chair, Paul Newlin. Present were Selectboard members Frederick Orloski and Jonathan Edwards, Town Administrator Brian Domina and Administrative Assistant, Maryellen Cranston. Minutes from the April 25 and May 8 (open and executive) meeting were approved. Vendor and Payroll Warrants were signed.

Scheduled Appointments

Lynn Sibley – Vote to adopt MGL c. 32B s. 21-23 – Hampshire Group Trust needs to vote to accept these sections. Lynn explained the procedures for implementing changes to the Hampshire Group Trust Health Insurance Plan. The Board needs to accept the process in order to get the process started. Not having the process in place, means that negotiations could go on forever. Lynn will get an answer for the question as to what happens if the Board does not vote to accept the process. The Board will take a vote at their next meeting.

Keith Bardwell – Chapter 90 requests/Eversource Boom Mower Agreement – Whately will be the lead town for the shared Boom Mower. Eversource will provide a 5 year lease payment. At the end of the agreement the Town could purchase it. We may need to contribute an additional \$6 - \$8 thousand. Is this something the Town wants to do? Keith may have more definite information by the next meeting. The Board signed Chapter 90 project requests for chip sealing Masterson Road, Long Plain Rd, intersection to Christian Ln to Straits Rd, by old dump to Hatfield line. Masterson Road is for \$16,500. Long Plain Road is for \$33,000.

Todd Fryatt – ECA solar- Lynn Benander from Co-Op power – Extensive discussion occurred regarding options for the Town to utilize solar power generated by an industrial roof top solar array on the Callaway Golf building in Chicopee. Regardless if the Town buys net metering credits from this array or a local array, it was recommended that we register with DPU. The Board voted unanimously to authorize Brian Domina, Town Administrator to submit an application to the Department of Public Utilities for Net Metering pursuant to 220 C.M.R. § 18.00 et seq.

Old Business

District Local Technical Assistance – Economic Development The Town received a DLTA grant for Economic Development. Extensive discussion occurred regarding the best use of this grant. The Board decided to ask for assistance in marketing the corridor between the Whately Inn and Quonquot Farm with the Town Hall and Center School in between. Brian will invite Jessica Atwood from the FRCOG to come to the next meeting..

Town Hall Project Update – The Town did not receive the Cultural Facilities Grant. One municipality received. Discussion occurred regarding the proposed parking plan at town hall. Discussion has occurred with an abuttor regarding implementation of the plan. The goal is to finalize the plans for advertising in August with the contractor starting in September and completion by April.

New Business

Municipal Energy Technical Assistance Grant Program – Brian reported there is a \$12,500 grant available for Energy Technical Assistance After extensive discussion, the Board agreed to apply for an electric heat pump with photo voltaic in conjunction with battery storage for here and the school.

Community Compact Grants

Mass IT Grant Contract – Brian reported we have received \$4000 to implement suggestions from the consultant's plan.

Manage Water System Assets (merger)- Brian reported we have received a \$15K grant to assist with the water merger. After discussion, the Board decided on how to merge the assets of the district.

Chapter 61A-Waiver of Right of First Refusal – 148 North Street- There is a sale pending on this property. There is no evidence this property was in 61A, but it is showing on the title. The Board signing the waiver will clear the title.

Transfer of Used Car Dealers License – Class II – 265 State Road – Whately, MA – The Board unanimously signed the transfer of this license to Zononi Auto Repair. The fee will be prorated.

Appointment of Megan Wentzel to Recreation Commission – The Board unanimously appointed Megan Wentzel to the Recreation Commission.

Sign Annual Election Warrant – The Board unanimously signed the annual local election warrant.

June Meeting Schedule – The next meetings of the Board will be on June 14 and June 28 at 6 pm.

Town Administrator Updates – Brian explained to the Board the unauthorized charges on the Home Depot credit card.

The Town Office floors will be stripped and waxed on June 16th. The building will be closed.

The agenda lists topics reasonably anticipated within 48 hours of the meeting. The chair of the committee reserves the right to add items to the agenda that may not be listed here; additionally, members of the committee may have unanticipated concerns not listed here that they may bring to the committee. Fred asked about records retention. Lynn explained about the records retention schedule. Keith reported the Egypt Road project should be done this year. There should be some money left to put the second bridge on Williamsburg Road.

Paul moved to go into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a), subsection 6 to consider the lease of real estate, if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body (Paul so declared) and subsection 2 to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for contract negotiations with non-union personnel. The Board will not be returning to open session. Roll call vote: Paul – yes; Fred – yes; Jonathan – yes.

Next Meeting dates

June 12 @ 6 pm

Meeting adjourned 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Domina, Town Administrator

Document List

Vendor and Payroll Warrants #17-25

5/3/17 email from Lynn Sibley regarding changing insurance plan designation

MGL Chapter 32B, Section 21-23

4/1/17 sample agreement from Eversource

Agreement for sharing a roadside mowing machine

4/26/17 email from Joyce Palmer Fortune regarding town electricity

Host Customer Agreement for electricity

5/22/17 email from Jessica Atwood regarding Whatley DLTA

Proposed parking plan for Town Hall

5/12/17 Municipal Energy Technical Assistance Grant Program

Waiver of First Refusal for Dubois North Street property