



MINUTES
Tues., Dec 7th, 2021 5:00PM
Select Board Meeting
Town Hall
27 Sturbridge Rd.
Community Room – 1st Floor

Meeting called to Order at 5:00 PM, by Bettina Schmidt

Select Board members in attendance: Bettina Schmidt, Clelland Johnson, James Whalen

Others in attendance: Stacy Stout (Town Admin), Ron Seaburg

Others remote: Richard Haller, Andy Harhay, Ernie Fancy

1. Approval of Minutes – 11/07/21 and 11/29/21

Motion 120701 to approve minutes as written made by J Whalen, 2nd by C Johnson, All in favor Yes

2. Old County and Mountain Roads project/319 Grant – Highway – DEFER, B Johnson not available

3. Union Rd project – Notice of Award - Documents related to the Union Road Improvement Project provided by PVPC, reviewed

Motion 120702 to sign Notice of Award for Union Road project with PVPC made by B Schmidt, 2nd by C Johnson, All in favor Yes

4. Update on Sichol land purchase/Steven's Brook project

- a. 8th amendment for P&S to extend closing date from 11/30/2021 to 03/31/2022 executed
- b. Title examiner assigned, no closing date yet
- c. Sen Fattman's office is looking onto if/how they may be able to help move things forward
- d. State and Federal grants had already been extended into 2022

5. Bylaw project with General Code

- a. Started in 2019 but delayed due to multiple reasons; Town Clerk working with Attorney General office to continue work
- b. Scope is adoptions through 2017; they have asked for info from through May 2020 (additional fee may apply)
- c. Organizational Analysis document reviewed; was originally due 4/17/2020 but extended; Decisions needed:
 - i. Include any adoptions from 2019 and 2020 Town Meetings
 - ii. Table of Contents as submitted
 - iii. Style conventions as noted
 - iv. Method of Adoption options
 - 1. Accept renumbering only - typically selected if reorganizing bylaws
 - 2. Readopt bylaws in their entirety – typically selected if substantive changes; results in new set of Bylaws that replaces all previous; requires complete review by Attorney General

- 3. Separate warrant articles for specific changes – typically selected if few and/or non-substantive changes
- 4. Adoption with reference to red-line version – highlights all changes including typo corrections; cumbersome to present at Town Meeting due to hundreds of pages and combination of minor and major changes
- v. Code Adoption Cost estimate for regulations and General Law acceptances/Special Acts
- vi. Bylaw numbering – must be approved by Planning Board

Motion120703 to include 2019 and 2020 in analysis, accept table of contents as submitted, accept style conventions as noted, Option 4 Red-lined method of adoption and request an estimate to include mentioned decisions in the codification project made by B Schmidt, 2nd by C Johnson, All in favor Yes

6. Select Board and Finance Board joint meetings

- a. Joint meetings intended to build budget collaboratively, discuss things as they come up and keep everyone on same page
- b. Finance Board requests some direction from Select Board on areas of focus and items of most and least importance to town as a whole to be considered as budget is developed
 - i. Roads and infrastructure – including water runoff, culverts
 - ii. Capital expenditures; i.e., fire truck
 - iii. Lake preservation

7. ARPA funds (American Recovery Protection Act)

- a. J Whalen sent email out to boards and departments requesting input on possible qualifying projects/expenses; compiled results in spreadsheet (reviewed)
- b. Holland has been allocated approx.. \$241,000
- c. Towns that do not provide public sewer and/or water have very limited eligibility

ACTION: J Whalen and S Stout to meet with Town Accountant to discuss eligibility criteria

8. Hamilton Reservoir Special Use permit requests

- a. Slay Nation requested a Special Use Permit for Hamilton Reservoir on 04-30-2022; 6:00am-2:30pm; 8 vehicles/boats

Motion120704 to approve special use permits as listed made by J Whalen, 2nd by C Johnson, All in favor Yes

- b. Blackstone Valley Bassmasters requested a Special Use Permit for Hamilton Reservoir on 07-16-2022; 6:00am-2:00pm; 5 vehicles/boats

Motion120704 to approve special use permits as listed made by J Whalen, 2nd by C Johnson, All in favor Yes

- c. Quinebaug Valley Bass Anglers requested a Special Use Permit for Hamilton Reservoir on 07-23-2022; 6:00am-1:00pm; 5 vehicles/boats

Motion120704 to approve special use permits as listed made by J Whalen, 2nd by C Johnson, All in favor Yes

- d. Slay Nation requested a Special Use Permit for Hamilton Reservoir on 08-20-2022; 6:00am-2:30pm; 5 vehicles/boats

Motion120704 to approve special use permits as listed made by J Whalen, 2nd by C Johnson, All in favor Yes

9. Appointments - none

10. Approval of Warrants

- a. FY22-20 AP, \$66,779.87
- b. FY22-21 AP, \$63,171.77
- c. FY22-21 Payroll, \$136,632.22
- d. FY22-24 AP, \$204,768.38

Motion120705 to approve Warrants as read made by J Whalen, 2nd by C Johnson, All in favor Yes

Walk-in: Ron Seaburg of 110 E Brimfield Rd. - came to meeting expecting sign-off of business licenses; Chair explained Select Board only signs liquor licenses, timing is the last meeting in November; many years back business licenses were also granted through Select Board; that is not required by MGL and hasn't been done by SB in 6 years or longer; Mr. Seaburg expressed concern over expansion of operations occurring at Howlett property; trucks entering and various disruptive activity occurring at all hours, including overnight; it is recommended that Mr. Seaburg (member of Zoning Board of Appeals) consult Zoning bylaws to identify any potential infractions, including noise violations; questions on intent of rural business classification and on operation application requirements; Chair indicated we will look into this

Chair Adjourned meeting at 5:41

Respectfully submitted, Stacy Stout, Town Administrator