

MINUTES
Tues, October 3, 2023
Select Board Meeting – 5:00PM
Town Hall Community Room 1st Floor & Virtual
27 Sturbridge Rd.
Holland, MA 01521

Select Board Members in attendance: James Whalen, Ernie Fancy, Kate Landers

Others in attendance: Stacy Stout (Town Administrator), Brian Johnson (Highway Surveyor), Rob Green (National Grid Representative), Cari Robertson (Lake Oversight Committee), Val Lundin (Town Clerk), John Ganley, Nicole Minkley, James Delisle

Meeting called to order at 5:02pm

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Pole Hearing – Old County Road. Hearing opened at 5:05. Rob Green began explaining that they need to move poles # 17 and # 19 from the center of the widened road. These poles are being moved to the eastern side of the road. The question was raised about pole #15 as it needs to be moved but is not on the diagram. Rob Green stated that the pole is only going to be moved a little bit so it does not need to be discussed at this pole hearing. Brian Johnson stated that pole # 15 needs to be moved at least ten feet. There are stakes where the poles are moving to. James Delisle, a resident on that road, wanted Highway to know that with the road grade changes, he can no longer get into his property. Rob Green then stated that his records say that Pole # 15 needs to be moved thirteen feet west. He will talk with the engineer about the poles in question and get back to us. Selectboard will continue the Hearing to get the questions answered.

Motion to continue the pole hearing on October 17, 2023 by J Whalen, 2nd by E Fancy: All in favor, Yes

3. Excessive Rain on Over the Top road. There was a significant rain event on Saturday morning the 29th of September. A resident's driveway was being put in and the rainfall was so heavy that a portion was washed out. They cleaned up as much as possible. They will also clean the catch basins. The Town had installed a trench between 46 & 48 Over the Top road. All the mud ran into the catch basin, down the trench and into the lake. There have been continuing problems since the trench went in. Five yards of sand deposited into the lake just this summer. A catch basin was supposed to be installed but they went with the open trench to save money but it is not working. We need revisit and finish the project. Dave Bauchiero at 46 Over the Top Rd has plans to put in a tight tank and new leach field which will allow us to fix/finish the project correctly. Stacy will reach out to Town council to find out who is responsible for private run off into the lake.

Motion to approve Stacy to get up to three quotes for the impact of mud slide on the lake and have them look at the whole scope of the plans for Over the Top Road by E Fancy, 2nd by K Landers: All in Favor, Yes

4. Approval of Available Minutes – from 8/8/2023 and 9/19/2023.

Motion to approve the minutes from 9/19/2023 by E Fancy, 2nd by k Landers; All in Favor, Ernie – Yes, Kate- Yes, James – Abstained.

The minutes from 8/8/2023 need to have the power point presentation attached before posting.

Motion to approve the 8/8/2023 minutes with the attachment added by E Fancy, 2nd by K Landers; All in favor, Yes

5. Appointments –Erik Hawk for Library Board Trustee, Rick Lundin for Conservation representative to Lake Oversight Committee and Deb Colt to Lake Oversight Committee.

Motion to appoint Eric Kawk as a Library Board of Trustees by E Fancy, 2nd by K Landers; All in Favor, Yes

Motion to appoint Rick Lundin to be the Conservation representative to Lake Oversight Committee by E Fancy, 2nd by K Landers; All in Favor, Yes

Motion to appoint Deb Colt to the Lake Oversight Committee by E Fancy, 2nd by K Landers; All in Favor, Yes

6. Special Town Meeting – One Article from Highway to pay prior year bills. Accountant and Town Administrator have Prior year bill warrants to present. Are the bylaws up through 2019 or 2023? General code contract states we are bringing things up to date to 2019. Ernie will ask if we can bring bylaws up to date to 2023. We need to finalize what we want for the Annual Town Meeting date change to be. The Annual Town Meeting will be on the Forst Tuesday in June except when that is the Tuesday after Memorial Day then it will be held on the second Tuesday in June. An Emergency meeting will be posted for Thursday, October 5, 2023 to discuss the Warrants for the meeting.

7. ARPA- Ernie Fancy met with the Nicholas Johnson from, WF Johnson and Son Electric Co, to get a quote on the generator. They have requested an electric bill from July to see our Energy usage. They will be sending a quote in two – three weeks. They will quote for both diesel and propane, although propane will be about \$15,000 cheaper.

8. Board/Committee/Department liaison updates.

- a. IT – The servers we have were not able to be brought back remotely. Why couldn't IT come in and restart the servers. The servers are part of the potential upgrade that is being worked on. Stacy would like one of the Select Board members to review the bills and the contract. We pay a #375.00 monthly fee in addition to every individual service we call in for. Ernie will take point on this. We will discuss further after the review is done.
- b. Finance Board – They are waiting for more quotes.
- c. Lake Oversight Committee –No update. Meeting is tonight at 7:00pm

- d. School Committee – No Update
- e. ByLaw Committee –Covered under Special Town Meeting
- f. Planning Board update – Ernie Fancy says the planning board has assigned different things to each board member. They are looking to update the Cannabis bylaws at the Annual Town Meeting. There has been public request put forth to the Building Commissioner for previous building permits. Stacy is working with the State on these. The Building Commissioner did not respond because the request was not clear on what was wanted. She cannot just turn over the records. They would have to schedule a meeting with building Inspector to see the files in her office. The Town Administrator recommends that the Planning Board puts in place to accept State statues so they do not have to update every time they make changes. They are reviewing all the Warrant articles since 1975 to find when the parameter requirements were changed. There concerns are about grandfathered clause. It depends on what the deed says.
- g. PVPC – Pioneer Valley Planning Commission meeting will be on October 12.

9. Select Board Communications

- a. Veterans Memorial is being handled by the Cemetery Commission.
- b. There was a meeting with Mass DOT on Thursday. There is a presentation that they gave. Brian railroaded them with complaints. They had TIP procedures. The Select Board members should look at it.
- c. James and Kate were on call that was a multi-town overview presentation given by National Grid with some questions and answers at the end of it. It was a review of what National Grid has been doing to upgrade the grid.
- d. Audit report will be forwarded to the Select Board. There will be a Joint meeting with Finance for the Accountant to present.
- e. Fall Fest was very successful. There were a lot of kids and food trucks.
- f. Kate wants to discuss the posting on the Website. It needs to be put on an Agenda after an initial meeting.

10. Bi-weekly Warrants for approval

- a. FY24 – 07 AP \$459,745.08
- b. FY24 – 07 Payroll \$152,627.48

Motion to approve Warrants as read by E Fancy, 2nd by K Landers; All in favor, Yes

11. Upcoming Meetings

- a. Emergency Meeting October 5, 2023
- b. October 17, 2023

12. Public Comments – No Public Comments.

Chair Closed Meeting - Meeting Adjourned at 6:37 pm

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Gumlaw