

MINUTES
Tues, October 5, 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), Val Lundin (Town Clerk)

Meeting called to order at 5:00pm

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Special Town Meeting Articles
 - a. Annual Town Meeting date will be the First Tuesday in June except when that is the day following Memorial Day, then it will be held on the First Thursday in June.
 - b. The minutes from the 2022 Annual Town meeting is missing from the website and does not seem to have been received or approved by the Attorney General for those Warrant articles that were approved at the Annual town meeting.
 - c. Did the minutes from 2022 and 2023 get sent to General Code? Others that affected bylaws were not included either.
 - d. 2022 bylaws
 - i. Zoning – Passed over
 - ii. #23 and #24 – Passed
 - e. 2023 bylaws
 - i. FEMA is in codification
 - f. General Code document says both Articles and Art. This should be consistent so Ernie will contact them.
 - g. Bylaw committee 7.21 Duties – Says Executive Secretary and should say Town Administrator on the final copy.
 - h. On the footnotes is a says Amendment – Pending. Ernie will find out what this means.
 - i. Capital Improvement threshold - Ernie is recommending to increase the amount up to \$500,000. \$60,000 for Old County Road paving to be transferred from road stabilization fund. James thought this was being paid from Grant money. We need more information from highway.
 - j. Tax Collector Clerk – The Tax collector would like to hire a clerk. This way there would be someone to cover the office if the tax collector is out or we have an issue. This needs further

discussion. On a future Agenda we need to discuss compensation, moving from fee based to salary for the Tax collector position. We need to look into what is required for Tax collector certification to be an article. We can compare the Treasurer and Tax collector certifications.

- k. Planning Board chair can appoint an associate member for the purpose of a quorum, as they need 2/3 votes on special permits. The wording should be consistent across all the boards, with either alternate or associate.
- l. Ernie wants to put the change the elected to appointed position to be put on the ballot with the presidential election as more people will vote at that election. People need to be fully informed before it goes to ballot.
- m. We need to change the Special Town meeting date to allow more time to prepare. The articles need to be posted fourteen days in advance and we still need to get feedback from town Council. We will propose November 16th with the back up day of November 13th. We need to get the date approved by Town council, Accountant, Town Clerk and Moderator. We will verify if it is calendar or business days for sending meeting postcards. We will close the Warrants on October 17, 2023 to make it the fourteen business days. Stacy will reach out to Town Council and Moderator to verify the dates.

Motion to move the Special Town meeting to November 16th with a second date of November 13th by E Fancy, 2nd by K Landers; All in Favor, Yes

- n. Can Select Board vote to not put an item on the Warrant? Who communicates that to the person who requested the item?

3. Select Board Communications

- a. Stacy and Kate had calls from Mrs. Merle of 101 Sturbridge Rd, she had a new driveway installed and when they repaved the road, it has now caused everything to funnel into her driveway. She cannot get in touch with anyone from highway. Stacy had forwarded, on 9/5/2023, an email to Brian and Select Board about a call from her after not hearing back since talking to him last month. It was noted as another example of need to track road/drainage issues, and again the need for Stacy to talk to Brian, to work together on a plan for communications, between Select Board and Brian's office.
- b. CBDG grant was signed by James. It took a while because they needed information that we did not have regarding Union Road. This grant is for Union road improvements. There was a previous grant which paid for the design of Union road.

4. Upcoming meetings

- a. October 12, 2023 at 1:00 PM if needed.

Chair Closed Meeting - Meeting Adjourned at 6:22 PM.
Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Gumlaw