

MINUTES  
**Tues, October 17, 2023**  
**Select Board Meeting – 5:00PM**  
**Town Hall Community Room 1<sup>st</sup> 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), Steven Hayword (National Grid Representative), Val Lundin (Town Clerk), Karen Peret (Finance Board)

Meeting called to order at 5:02pm

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Minutes - None
3. Pole Hearing – Old County Road. Hearing opened at 5:05. The pole in question didn't need to be on the plan BOS approved because it was not being moved across the street, #15. There will be a total of six total poles moved/replaced.

Motion to Approve/Authorize and sign the pole Hearing plan by E Fancy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by K Landers: All in favor, Yes

Pole Hearing closed at 5:10 PM

4. Appointments – Tim Sweney to Conservation Commission

Motion to appoint Tim Sweney to Conservation Commission by E Fancy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by K Landers: All in favor, Yes

5. Hamilton Reservoir Special Use Permit requests
  - a. 08/24/2024 – Bass Fishing, Blackstone Valley Bass Anglers, 7:00am – 3:00pm, 5 veh/boats
  - b. 09/24/2024 – Bass Fishing, Blackstone Valley Bass Anglers, 7:00am – 3:00pm, 8 veh/boats

Motion to approve Blackstone Valley Bass Anglers requests for both Special Permits by E Fancy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by K Landers: All in favor, Yes

6. Over the Top Road updates – No updates from Brian. We should get an outside consultant to get their opinions. We have two names to get quotes for what needs to be done. There are two issues:
  - a. Drainage challenges for the entire road

- b. A specific incident that involved another resident's property.

Stacy will get quotes for addressing the issues. We will wait for the quotes to decide where the money is coming from. Stacy is also checking with Town Council about the incident.

7. Road's Communications – There are citizens who would be interested in being on a liaison or subcommittee. We do not currently have a committee but we can look into what we need to establish the committee. We need to reach out to the residents who were interested and look to start an ADHOC for this. We should start with the general information with details of each situation. The committee would be sworn in by the Town Clerk, meet on their own and serve the Sleect Board. Kate would like to have a section on the Agenda to address different road issues as they come in. We need to track issues that are being forwarded to Brian. There is a Highway position open that could be a project manager. Stacy will talk with Brian about the possibilities.
8. Special Town Meeting –We are waiting on feedback from Town Council on the specific wording on the Articles, especially zoning/planning. Article 5 less than \$6,000 for unpaid previous year bills. Article 6 transfer of \$60,000 from the road stabilization to complete Old County #15 pole through Cherokee for the paving to continue. More details are needed of what it will be used for. Town council has been asked to review the writing of the articles specifically the language needed. A hard copy will be posted to the webpage. Article 1 was added to hear the reports of any Board/Committee/Commission. We will do the bylaw codification first, Articles 1,2 for General and Articles 3, 4 for zoning. Planning Board previously voted on changes, only doing codification changes. The capital planning changes were made in the past except it is a seven-member committee but only six members are listed. The accountant was taken off the member list. We need to add the Accountant back or make it a six-member committee. The Capital planning will be taken off the Special Town meeting and put on the Annual Town meeting.
9. ARPA- The Generator Company is waiting on the requested electric bill from July to see our Energy usage. There is an article that the Town Clerk and Tax Collector are jointly working on to replace the outside drop box.
10. Board/Committee/Department liaison updates.
  - a. IT – Upgrades.
  - b. Finance Board – No update.
  - c. Lake Oversight Committee –Meeting on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The touch up weed treatment in August was successful. For next years weed treatment we need to have specific posting areas for the signs. The LOC should develop a policy and make a recommendation to the Select Board. They should put together an annual calendar of events. The Inspection brush has been cleared out. We are waiting to receive the report. The invoice will come with the report. DB Trees was paid the remaining amount out of the current budget.

- d. School Committee – No Update
- e. ByLaw Committee –Warrants
- f. Planning Board – No Update
- g. PVPC – They met on October 12, 2023. James attended. The meeting mostly consisted of two presentations. One on the Bruhn Grant which fosters economic development in rural communities through the rehabilitation of Historic properties. Does Holland have any historical buildings for this economic development grant? The second presentation was an overview on the Transportation Initiative program. The update required a review that gets submitted to the Federal Government about transportation. The next meeting is on December 4, 2023.
- h. Cable Commission – We need to put it out to the Town and see if anyone is interested in getting the committee going again. We have all the necessary equipment stored in the Town hall. A survey should be done of other Towns about their Cable Commissions. Ernie wants to know what the PEG finds can be used for.

11. Select Board Communications

- a. Holland Rod and Gun Club submitted an application for change of bar manager and change of board with all other required documentation. The Select Board needs to sign the Local Licensing Authority form to approve the changes.

Motion to approve the Holland Rod and Gun Club application to change bar manager and change of board by E Fancy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by K Landers: All in favor, Yes

- b. Emails were sent to Select Board about
  - i. Abutters notice for Planning Board Hearing about Canna Mountain
  - ii. Abutters notice for Conservation on 9 White Road Extension
  - iii. House number assigned for 136 Vinton Road
- c. Hazard Mitigation Plan/Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Plan updates were sent from Bryan. For the HMP, FEMA needs to approve but the MVP gets approved at the Town and State levels.
- d. James received the job description for the Tax collector clerk that he asked for. He will forward it to Kate. They will think about it and see if they want to reconsider.

12. 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> by K Landers; All in favor, Yes

Ernie will look over the history of Civic Plus renewal. The charge for one year was \$4,177.24. This is an increase but of how much.

13. Upcoming Meetings

- a. Warrant meeting to vote will be set once we get Town Council's approval
- b. November 7, 2023

14. Public Comments – No Public Comments.

Chair Closed Meeting - Meeting Adjourned at 6:44 pm

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Gumlaw