

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
MINUTES

Date: January 22, 2018
Time: 7:00pm
Place: Town Hall
Egremont

Present at the table were Chairman Turner, Vice-Chairman McGurn, Selectman Brazie.

Others in attendance: For parts of the meeting Steve Agar and Corey Wiley(Berkshire Record).

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

It was announced that the meeting is video and audio recorded.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the January 9 and the January 17 meetings were accepted as presented.

SCHEDULED ISSUES:

Water Commissioner Steve Agar informed the Board that the proposal from New England Services Company to operate the water department won't be considered as the price was more than double the current costs to operate. The Water Operator's position has been advertised. An appropriate wage scale needs to be determined. The posting will be sent to local schools and to Berkshire Community College.

Steve Agar presented the Board with three quotes ranging from about \$8,000 to about \$12,000 for the engineering needed for the cracked retaining wall at the Water Plant. He was advised to analyze the proposals as they didn't seem to be the same and to add an appropriate amount to the Water Department's FY 2019 budget to cover this cost.

Steve announced that the town did not get awarded the USDA grant but its application can be considered for the next funding round. It turns out there has been no official notification either way.

The Board agreed to have the NESC Service Sentinal funds go into the General Fund. 25 Water User took out policies. The Town's first quarter payment was about \$345.

Steve reported that the corrosion control evaluation was completed. A design is now being drawn up to submit to DEP.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board voted unanimously to return the proposed zoning bylaw amendments to the Common Driveways and the LSGM Solar Overlay District to the Planning Board for public hearing. A Special Town Meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 27. The Open Space and Recreation Zoning Bylaw is likely to also be presented at that meeting.

The Board accepted with regrets the resignation of Mary McGurn from the Technology Committee.

FiberConnect has filed an application for its Phase 2 Grant of Location permit. The Board scheduled this for February 13 at 7:15pm. The application fee is waived. FiberConnect will be invoiced for the publication and mailing costs. The Board will get more details on FiberConnect's request to talk about easements at 4 locations. Then this will be sent onto legal counsel.

OLD BUSINESS:

Four residents along the Mount Washington border have agreed to receive internet service from the Town of Mount Washington. A letter is needed from the Town agreeing to arrangement. Legal Counsel will be asked to draft this.

Action on the bids received for the South Egremont School House have been postponed for another couple of weeks. The town is seeking private funding in order to be able to meet the bid prices. The Town was not awarded an ADA grant. This work can be postponed or a waiver can be sought from the requirement to do the work. Selectmen McGurn is very optimistic that the funding will come through. He reported that he is working with the school and an outside expert on a curriculum program for the school house. 33 families have been identified that have an interest in sending a student to the school house, 21 of them are committed. The school house capacity is 19.

The Board signed a letter to the Southern Berkshire Regional School district reminding them that Egremont fully supports the community schools, and reminding them that the school agreement is clear on the process for closing a community school.

FOLLOW UPS:

Charter/Spectrum has responded further to questions presented to it. The Town's legal counsel has recommended moving forward with the Issuing Authority Report and drafting a Franchise License to present to Charter/Spectrum.

A Special Town Meeting has been tentatively scheduled for March 27, 2018.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

The Board will meet on February 13 to hold two hearings and work on budgets. The Board tentatively scheduled a regular meeting for Wednesday, February 7.

Vice-Chairman McGurn asked that the South Egremont Church/Meeting House be put on the agenda for the next regular meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13pm.

Mary Brazie,
Office Administrator

minutes.18/jul10

The recording of the minutes is on record at the Town Hall for 90 days. Anyone who wishes to may obtain a copy or listen to the recording at Town Hall. Attachments are on file at Town Hall.