

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
MINUTES

Date: July 23, 2018
Time: 7:00pm
Place: Town Hall
Egremont

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

Others in attendance: Peter Puciloski, Bruce Forster, Susan Bachelder, John Wells, Juliette Haas, Marj Wexler, Mary McGurn.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

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

MINUTES:

The minutes of the July 9, 10 and 11 meetings were accepted as presented.

SCHEDULED ISSUES:

Peter Puciloski and Bruce Forster, members of the Alford Municipal Light Plant, proposed that Alford supply Broadband to Egremont residents on Whites Hill Road and to the one Egremont resident on the hill on Boice Road whose power lines come in from Alford. The Whites Hill Road residents already have the fiber passing their homes so only need hook up drops which they will be charged for. The fiber on Boice Road has not been extended to the Egremont residence yet and will need to be engineered. The Town will need to negotiate with Alford on the cost of this. The resident will then pay for the hook up if interested. The Board agreed to this very generous offer. Mr. Puciloski will draft an appropriate agreement.

The Board interviewed Susan Bachelder for the vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Board voted unanimously to appoint Susan to fill the vacancy, which is a 2 year term.

Juliette Haas reported on the FY 2018 tonnages at the Transfer Station and Recycling Center. MSW is up about 9% over the prior year. She also reported that the volunteer efforts to redeem returnables is coming to an end August 1 unless the Board can find some way to continue. The Board agreed to let the collections end. Juliette also reported that the Town was awarded a Green Communities grant in the amount of \$7,635 to replace the refrigerator at Town Hall, and to install tankless, on-demand water heaters at both Town Hall and the Library.

OLD BUSINESS:

Historical Commission Chair Susan Bachelder presented the Board with the rough draft of the program for the Town's 243rd Birthday celebration to take place on August 25. The event will take place at the South Egremont School House from 1pm to 3pm. Speakers invited are Senator Hinds, Representative Pignatelli, Mass Historic Commission representative Paul Holtz, and School Superintendent Beth Regulbuto. As Chairman Turner won't be available Vice-Chairman McGurn will do the welcome and the recognition presentations. Susan Bachelder will give a little history on the school house. The new school teacher, Sarah Cooke, John Salvini of Salco Construction, the foundation repair contractor, and Lyn Smith the Town's architect on the project, have also been invited, as well as

the children of Egremont. Ted Cobden will be asked to bless the school house.

The Board appointed the following to serve on a Housing Committee to work with Construct on the proposed affordable housing units: Don Pulfer, Mike Harrigan, Bruce Bernstein, Georgette Kinney, Marcia Arland, Jeff Cohen. A first meeting will be set.

Vice-Chairman McGurn reported that he has held a preliminary meeting with the Bylaw Review Committee chairs to discuss appointees to the respective committees. He will have a list of proposed appointees for the next Board meeting.

Unfortunately Charter/Spectrum was unable to meet the deadline for the return of the Cable TV franchise license. The Board expressed its frustration.

FOLLOW UPS/UPDATES:

School house construction is moving along. The Board voted to switch to a propane heating system at the School House. Robert Gennari gave a good price and is able to do the job before school opens. He also suggested retrofitting the current furnace to a propane system. The Board would like to follow this route if possible. It was suggested that a tankless, on-demand water heating unit be installed at the school.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

The French Park Fund has successful worked out a deal with Sumit Rajpal to replace the tennis courts with a concrete court.

The French Park Committee will attend the next meeting of the Board to talk about several things at the park, one of which is a donation from a resident to upgrade the trail system.

The Board will meet on August 6 and 27.

The Board will find a way to deduct the employees 25% share of health insurance from the minimal pay for the Animal Control Officer.

Vice-Chairman McGurn reported that the School Assessment Committee is working diligently towards an agreement, though it is a very complex issue and is somewhat limited by mandated formulas. The Round Table meeting have been postponed until after the next assessment meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm.

Mary Brazie,
Office Administrator

minutes.19/jul23

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.