

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
MINUTES

Date: February 20, 2019

Time: 7:00pm

Place: Town Hall
Egremont

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

Others in attendance: Juliette Haas, Charlie Proctor, Barbara Kalish, Abigail McKee, Rebecca Turner, Eileen Vining, Lucinda Vermeulen, Marj Wexler, Adam Chait and Mary McGurn.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

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

MINUTES:

The minutes of the February 6 meetings were accepted as presented.

SCHEDULED ISSUES:

Sustainability Coordinator Juliette Haas gave her annual Green Communities update showing the energy savings the Town has experienced due to the initiatives of the program. (Chart attached) She noted that she would like the Police Department to try to purchase more energy efficient vehicles. The reporting program reports solar as usage and not as a savings.

Juliette also updated the Board on Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grant program which would involve Town Boards such as the Conservation Commission, Emergency Management, Board of Health, Green Committee, Planning Board, and Council on Aging working with Berkshire Regional Planning Commission to identify and assess area of vulnerability to climate change. Funds can then be applied for to address and mitigate the areas of concern. Areas of concern are flooding, drought, and extreme weather changes. Vice-Chairman McGurn reported that the So. Berk. Regional Emergency Planning Commission is working on this as well so Juliette should contact them.

CITIZENS TIME:

Charles Proctor presented the Board with an amended article for the voters to accept the gift of the Congregational Church of South Egremont that adds the requirement that the building be used as the town's community center. The Church will pay for the title search.

NEW BUSINESS:

Juliette Haas reported that the Wireless Telecommunications Proposal Review Committee scored the Bay Communications proposal the highest though noted that the Committee did not see their price proposal as it was sealed but that the others included theirs in a proposed lease form. The Committee felt that areas that were not clear in the proposal could be negotiated by the Board. The Board will take this under advisement for one week.

The Board accepted with regrets and thanks the resignation of Tyler Race as a part-time Police Officer.

The Board accepted with regrets and thanks the resignation of Bruce Bernstein from the Housing Committee.

The Board voted unanimously to appoint Frederick Gordon to the Housing Committee and will ask him to come in to the next regular meeting to meet the Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Board again took under advisement the request for an easement from Fiber Connect as both Special Counsel and Town Counsel agreed that more detailed plans where needed and a hearing held. Vice-Chairman McGurn will follow up further with Town Counsel.

FOLLOW UPS/UPDATES:

Architect/Engineer Lyn Smith is reviewing code issues in regards to the bathroom facilities at the South Egremont School House. There is some question as to the requirement for child or adult and the ratio of the building population to the number of facilities needed. Mass Historic Commission has approved moving the ramp to the other side of the building. The Architectural Access board requires a request for an amendment in order to take any action.

The Invitation to Bids has been released for the driveway to the Affordable Housing Units at Town Hall.

The Technology Committee met earlier in the evening to review the Broadband Network proposal received from Fiber Connect. The Town of Alford has sent the Board the information and price for the engineering to drop Broadband to about 11 Egremont homes that border Alford. The price for the engineering is \$2,900. The Board unanimously approved this.

Chairman Turner reported that MassDOT is planning to do test borings on Main Street in South Egremont.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

The Board will meet on February 27 to review budgets, March 6 in a regular meeting and March 13 to review budgets.

At 7:55pm the Board voted to go into closed session for purposes of strategy with respect to union negotiations as allowed by MGL Chapter 30A, section 21, Paragraph 3. The board will return to open session.

The Board returned to open session at 8:16pm.

BUDGET REVIEW/TOWN MEETING PLANNING:

The Board approved the following budgets:

Housatonic Valley Asso.	\$250
Hydrant Expenses	\$2,000

The Fire Chief will be asked if he can give an estimate on repairs that are needed for hydrants.

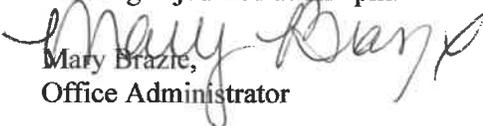
Agricultural Commission	\$400
French Park Trails	\$1,250
Berk So Reg Comm Ctr	\$2,000
Literacy Network	\$400
Construct, Inc.	\$1,000

Garden Club

\$200

The Board will ask the Librarian verify the budget she presented.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24pm.


Mary Brazie,
Office Administrator

minutes.19/feb20

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.