

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
MINUTES

Date: March 6, 2019
Time: 7:00pm
Place: Town Hall
Egremont

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

Others in attendance: Fred Gordon, Carla Turner, Marj Wexler, and for part of the meeting Erik Josephson and Matthew O'Sullivan.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

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

MINUTES:

The minutes of the February 19, February 20, February 25 and February 27 meetings were adopted as presented.

SCHEDULED ISSUES:

The Board interviewed Matthew O'Sullivan for the position of Full-time Police Officer. The Board took action later in the meeting and decided to have Personnel Director Bill Tighe propose that if Mr. O'Sullivan can move closer to Egremont, within about 25 miles, he will be hired effective July 1, 2019. The Board discussed issues surrounding recent hires in the Police Department that left shortly after being hired.

The Board chatted with newly appointed Housing Committee member Fred Gordon as he had been unable to attend the evening he was appointed. He has proposed that the Committee establish goals and then conduct an internal and external inventory of needs.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board voted unanimously to accept the proposal received from Construct, Inc for the affordable housing project at the Town Hall. A land lease agreement will be negotiated.

The Board voted unanimously to redraft the Mount Washington Broadband agreement to match Alford's more detailed agreement.

The Board voted unanimously to sign the edited Alford Broadband agreement.

OLD BUSINESS:

Vice-Chairman McGurn's discussion with Legal Counsel Pollard regarding Fiber Connects request for an easement netted the same outcome, namely that the locations of the easement are needed and a public hearing must be held.

Representatives from Bay Communications will be attending the Board's meeting on March 20 to discuss the Wireless Telecommunication's Facility lease agreement.

Mark Holmes has notified the Town that he will be unable to do the Town Hall bathroom renovations before June 30, 2019. He will be able to do the project in September of 2019. The Board agreed to allow the project to move to the next fiscal year and will draft a contract spelling this out and the contract cost.

FOLLOW UPS/UPDATES:

Mass Historic Commission has approved moving the ramp from the East side of the South Egremont School House to the West side but Mass Architectural Access Board has not and feels that it may not be a "feasible change". It would take at least a month to get a final determination. The Board felt that it could not delay the project bidding to wait for this decision as the upgrades have to be done per order of the MAAB by August 31, 2019 so the Board voted unanimously to bid the project as originally planned with a concrete ramp on the East side of the building instead of a prefab ramp on the West side of the building.

The exterior lead paint remediation at the South Egremont School has not begun yet.

The Technology Committee interviewed Fiber Connect at a meeting earlier in the day. Vice-Chairman McGurn noted that he has heard that MBI is being more flexible with its funding.

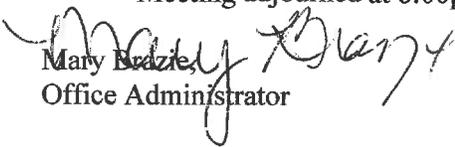
Boring's have taken place along Route 23/41 in the South Village.

The committee formed to evaluate the school assessment formula meets next week. The goal is to have a warrant article for the May Town Meetings. The formula change won't take effect until FY 21. The proposed Southern Berkshire Regional School District budget is up 3.8% with Egremont's share increasing by \$191,890. The Board is uncomfortable with this large of an increase.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

The Board will meet on Wednesday evenings, March 13, March 20, March 27, April 3 and April 10. The board will meet in Union Negotiations on March 12 at 8:15am.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.


Mary Brazier
Office Administrator

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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.