

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
MINUTES

Date: November 19, 2019
Time: 6:00pm
Place: Town Hall
Egremont

Present at the table were Chairman George McGurn, Vice-Chair Lucinda Fenn-Vermeulen, Board member Mary Brazie.

Others in attendance: Marj Wexler, Mary McGurn, Frank Penglase, Juliette Haas, Bill Hathaway, Dennis Hogan, Eileen Vining, Susan Bachelder.

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

MINUTES:

The minutes of the October 31 and November 5 meeting were accepted with minor edits.

CITIZENS TIMES:

Mary McGurn explained that the recording of the All-Boards meeting was placed on facebook as the file is too large for any other media. She proposed the Town obtain a Youtube account for such videos. Chairman McGurn noted that some other technology changes were in the works so this would be addressed in the near future.

FY21 BUDGET/TOWN MEETING:

Bill Hathaway, Director of the Southern Berkshire Ambulance, made a presentation (copy attached) seeking funding from the Town for ambulance services beginning in FY 2021. The Town is being asked to pay \$14,279 in the first year with a 13% annual growth factor for two more years, then a renegotiation of the charges. The Board expressed its support and will include this request in its upcoming budget discussions.

OLD BUSINESS:

Legal Counsel still advises holding of on continued negotiations for a host community agreement with Sparkboro.

The Board discussed with Susan Bachelder obtaining two signs announcing the National Register Historic Districts that the Pomeroy Foundation is offering for free. It was determined that the best locations would be the North Egremont Store and the South Egremont School. Action was delayed as there is no immediate deadline.

The Board agreed to take no action on the new MRF agreement until Juliette Haas has had a chance to speak with Valley Roll-Off about a possible Plan B.

The Board voted unanimously to re-appoint Matthew Sutton and Jennifer Brown as part-time Police Officers. It was noted that the Water Commission has elected a new Chair. No appointment was made to the Water Commission. There are currently no applicants for the Historical Commission or the Conservation Commission.

FOLLOW UP/UPDATES:

Vice-Chair Vermeulen reported that there has been no action on the agreement with Fiber Connect. The attorney has presented a new draft to Fiber Connect but there has been response. As well there has been no work from MBI. The new draft agreement will be sent to MBI for their review.

The fence is completed at the South Egremont School. The fence was build with the pickets on the inside as the old fence was. This is presumably for the safety of the children. Due to ledge in the front of the school yard, the cost was \$1,000 more than anticipated. The ledge has also put the brakes on the immediate plans for the new playground. The volunteer group is re-grouping to avoid the additional costs of dealing with the ledge.

Seemingly all local and state agencies have agreed to the Mount Washington 911 numbering system and numbers should be being installed.

A spring-time date has been issued for the land court case that is holding up the moving of the two homes for Egremont's Affordable Housing project.

MassDOT has notified the Town that it is reviewing the comments received from town officials and incorporating changes into the 25% design plans. They are proposing an early January meeting to review those plans. Vice-Chair Vermeulen reported that she is discussing with representatives from WalkBoston their involvement in assuring that there are no raised sidewalks in front of the Spirit Shoppe, Mom's, and Old Mill.

SELECTBOARD ITEMS:

It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Board will be December 3, 2019.

Vice-Chair Vermeulen reported that the Land Trust is moving forward with the Karner Brooke Walkway from the Old Mill to the Mom's parking area.

Vice-Chair Vermeulen commented on the beautiful photo of Smiley's Pond that is on the front of this years Annual Report Book. She suggested that Ari Zorn be given a formal thanks. Chairman McGurn noted that there are many great pictures in the book taken by many Egremont residents.

Chairman McGurn asked for, and was given, the boards support in nominating the Greenagers for the Atlantic Magazines \$40,000 grant award for not for profit youth organizations that strive to help the environment.

Meeting adjourned at 7:23pm.

Mary Brazie
Office Administrator

minutes.20/nov19

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.