

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
MINUTES

Date: December 3, 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: Mary McGurn, Evan Triantafilidis(Berkshire Record), Robin Goldberg, and for parts of the meeting Christine Pipe, Jeff Reynolds, Mike Thiemann, Francine Groencer, Juliette Haas, Adrian Arnold, and Ben Barrett.

It was announced that the meeting is video and audio recorded by the town as well as by the Berkshire Record.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the November 19 meeting were accepted as presented.

SCHEDULED ISSUES:

Christine Piper introduced herself as the new manager at the Fall Line Lounge at Catamount. The Board voted unanimously to approve the change of manager pending final approval from the ABCC.

At 6:02pm the hearing for Tax Classification was called to order. After a presentation by Jeff Reynolds (copy attached) and questions, the Board voted unanimously in accordance with M.G.L., Ch. 40, Sec. 56, as amended, the percentage of local tax levy which will be borne by each class of real and personal property, relative to setting the Fiscal Year 2020 tax rates and set the Residential Factor at 1.0, with a corresponding CIP shift of 1.0, pending approval of the town's annual tax recap by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. The hearing closed at 6:21pm.

CITIZEN'S TIME:

Mary McGurn asked for details on the visit of a representative from the Governor's Office on Thursday, December 5 at 11. No details were given by the person scheduling the visit, but typically it is just routine reaching out to listen to constituents issues.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board accepted, with regrets, the resignation of Danile Jordan from the Bylaw Review Committee.

The Board has received a request to release its right of first refusal under MGL Chapter 61, Section 8 on land owned by Adrian VanZon. The parcel is currently in forestry, but is being sold for residential purposes. The Board delayed action until the December 17 meeting as the other Town Board's involved have not acted on it.

After discussion with Sustainability Coordinator Juliette Haas, the Board agreed to postpone action on a grant to monitor fuel usage for a year.

OLD BUSINESS:

Legal Counsel is still recommending the Board hold off on the host community agreement with Sparkboro for a marijuana cultivation facility. Ben Barrett asked if there was any way to move this forward. At this time as there are no details as to why area town's have received Federal Subpeona's the Board said no.

Vice-Chairman Vermeulen has spoken with Frank Pastierie at the North Egremont Store about the historic district sign. He seemed receptive but needs more information.

The Board agrees that it will likely not find a better option then the MRF agreement to move forward with for the Town's recyclables. Plan B will be that our current hauler will continue to pick it and haul to where ever he can. That will likely cost the town more money. The Board will sign the agreement before the deadline.

No action was taken on any appointments.

FOLLOW UPS/UPDATES:

After discussion the Board voted unanimously to create a special unpaid 3 member committee to be known as a regional school district planning committee as allowed by MGL Chapter 71, Section 14. The Board also voted unanimously to appoint George McGurn and Thomas Berkel as two of the 3 members and to ask the Moderator to appoint one of Egremont School Committee members as the last member. The Board also voted unanimously to apply for a planning grant through the School District Regionalization grant program.

Vice-Chairman Vermeulen reported that a final draft of the agreement has been sent to Fiber Connect and to MBI. There has been no word from MBI.

In order to make the fence at the South Egremont School a little more attractive, it has been suggested to place pickets on the road side of the fence as well. This can be planned for in the upcoming budget. The Town will ask the school district to move the bins in the front yard of the school house to a less obtrusive place.

There is no new information on the status of the new 911 numbers in the town of Mount Washington.

Vice-Chairman Vermeulen reported that WalkBoston is going to interface with the MassDOT, Jacobs Engineering and Berkshire Regional Planning Commission regard the Route 23/41 reconstruction project, specifically to talk about the gateways to the Village.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

Mary Brazie
Office Administrator

minutes.20/Dec3

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.