



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Date: Wednesday, October 10, 2012
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA
Present: Vice Chair Woodbury, Clerk Stevens, Members Berthiaume & Fritze, and Town Administrator Gaudette

At 6:05 pm Vice Chair Woodbury called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance. He announced that Chairman Pepe would participate remotely in accordance with Regulation 940, CMR 29.10 of the Open Meeting Law; all votes will be taken under roll call.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of September 17, 2012 (/Berthiaume / Stevens) passed with a roll call vote: Berthiaume-yes, Woodbury-yes, Fritze-yes, Stevens-yes, Pepe-yes.

Citizen Input:

Aaron Keys, of Spencer Cable Access, informed the Board that a food drive to benefit the Spencer Food Panty is being held from 10 am to 2 pm at David Prouty High School on October 13, 2012.

Communications:

- a) Action Item: Certificate of appreciation for Ronald Aucoin, Charitable Needs Committee

Mr. Gaudette asked the Board to recognize Mr. Ronald Aucoin for his many years of service as a member of the Charitable Needs Committee. Unfortunately, Mr. Aucoin was unable to attend. The Board signed a Certificate of Appreciation which will be provided to him at a later date.

- b) Mr. Woodbury announced the State Election will be held on November 6th, and the last day to make changes to voting status is October 17th.
- c) The Historical Commission sent invitations to the Board for a reading of Civil War Letters to be held on October 14th. Mr. Stevens has read the letters and said they are significant.
- d) The Sibley Celebration will take place on October 14th at 2 pm. Mr. Berthiaume will attend and say a few words on behalf of the Board.

New Business:

- a) Action Item: Vote to Approve Gaudette-Kirk, American Legion Request for Veteran's Day Parade Permit

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Mr. Gaudette reported that the American Legion would like to hold the 2012 Veterans Day Parade on Sunday, November 11th.

A motion to approve parade permit (Berthiaume/Stevens) passed with a roll call vote: Berthiaume-yes, Woodbury-yes, Fritze-yes, Stevens-yes, Pepe-yes.

- b) Action Item: Vote on Right of First Refusal for forty foot strip of land at 66 N. Brookfield Road

Mr. Gaudette advised the Board that they have the first right to purchase this forty foot strip of land which is being removed from Chapter 61A. Based on the nature of the property, he recommends the Board not exercise their first right.

A motion not to exercise the Right of First Refusal for the property on 66 N. Brookfield Road (Berthiaume/Fritze) passed with a roll call vote: Berthiaume-yes, Woodbury-yes, Fritze-yes, Stevens-yes, Pepe-yes.

Old Business:

- a) Action Item: Vote to Set and Close Warrant for November 1, 2012 Special Fall Town Meeting
- b) Mr. Gaudette reviewed the latest draft Warrant dated October 10, 2012 with the Board (attached as part of this record).

Article 6 –Chief Parsons and Chief Darrin informed the Board that the funds for the Radio Communications project upgrade is being requested as a transfer from an earlier project with left over funds. This project will allow them to get the site up and running and will satisfy FCC regulations.

Article 8 - Highway Foreman Eben Butler advised the Board that while performing maintenance on the main dump truck, they discovered that the rails are completely worn. Mr. Fritze agreed and was surprised by the excessive wear. Mr. Butler will meet with the Capital Improvement Planning Committee on October 22nd to discuss details for a replacement.

Article 13- After a discussion with the Attorney General’s Office, Mr. Gaudette advised the Board to include a reference map as part of the Sex Offender bylaw.

Article 20- Mr. Gaudette is working with Principal Assessor Mary Williams on an agreement for payment in lieu of taxes for a solar project. Mr. Woodbury noted that this is a creative way to ensure revenue for the Town. Mr. Stevens questioned how this differs from other businesses in Town. Mr. Gaudette explained there is a lot of competition for this type of agreement as it generates revenue that otherwise may not be possible.

A motion to approve the articles for the Special Town Meeting Warrant, as amended to include the addition of language referencing a map in the Sex Offender Residency Bylaw was approved. (Berthiaume/Fritze) passed with a roll call vote: Berthiaume-yes, Woodbury-yes, Fritze-yes, Stevens-yes, Pepe-yes.

A motion to close the Warrant (Berthiaume/Woodbury) passed with a roll call vote: Berthiaume-yes, Woodbury-yes, Fritze-yes, Stevens-yes, Pepe-yes.

Request for Additional COA Director Hours:

Vice Chair Woodbury recused himself for this portion of the discussion, citing a possible conflict of interest. Mr. Stevens took over as acting Chair for purposes of the discussion on the hours for the COA Director.

Mr. Gaudette reported that he received a request from the Council on Aging (COA), to increase the Director's hours and asked the Board if they wanted this placed on the warrant. The additional hours would result in the position becoming benefit eligible, with an estimated increase of up to \$25,000.

Mr. Berthiaume asked where the additional funding would come from and questioned why town meeting would be involved with setting hours for any position.

Mr. Pepe questioned why a request of the nature is being done at this time and said it should be done during the annual budget process. Mr. Stevens agreed and stated that the Town has a process for setting budgets and this is not the time. Mr. Gaudette noted the request was discussed in spring; however there have been no changes since that time. The Board agreed not to take action. Mr. Gaudette will inform COA that they may put in a request during the annual spring budget process which is the appropriate time if they wish to pursue.

Mr. Woodbury returned to the meeting and assumed the role of Vice Chair.

Town Administrator's Report:

- a) Bid Update: Mr. Gaudette reported that the fire station annex is on schedule to be constructed this fall with site and utility work occurring first.

Board Liaison Reports:

- a) Mr. Pepe noted that the Financial Management Planning Committee is in the process of scheduling public hearings to foster communication with residents.
- b) Action Item: ***A motion to appoint Mr. Stevens as Economic Development Committee representative (Berthiaume/Fritze) passed with a roll call vote: Berthiaume-yes, Woodbury-yes, Fritze-yes, Stevens-yes, Pepe-yes.***

Citizen Input:

- a) Al Shedyak, 133Northwest Road presented a picture of Wendy Berthiaume as Little Bo Peep at a Halloween Party to Selectman Berthiaume.
- b) Eben Butler, Highway Foreman reported that Thompson Pond Rd is scheduled for final paving next week, weather permitting.

Board Member and Staff Comments:

The Transfer Station public hearing is scheduled for October 22nd at 6:15 p.m. The Board agreed to cancel the October 15th Workshop and move the items to the October 22nd agenda.

Mr. Pepe said he looked at the memorial bench for Seth Fancher and thanked Mr. Berthiaume and Mr. Durant for their work on the project. Mr. Berthiaume thanked Pepin Lumber for all their help.

At 7:55 pm a motion to adjourn (Berthiaume / Fritze) passed with a roll call vote: Berthiaume-yes, Woodbury-yes, Fritze-yes, Stevens-yes, Pepe-yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Savoie
Administrative Assistant

_____	Chairman
_____	Vice Chairman
_____	Clerk
_____	Member
_____	Member
_____	Date

Referenced Documents:

Right of First Refusal 66 N. Brookfield Road
Nov. 1, 2012 Special Town Meeting Warrant
Council on Aging memo
Fire & Emergency Services memo