



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Date: Monday, September 14, 2015 – Business Meeting
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA
Present: Chairman G. Woodbury, Vice Chair Stevens, Clerk C. Woodbury, Selectmen Fritze & Administrator Gaudette; Selectmen Pepe participated remotely.

At 6:12 p.m. Chairman Woodbury called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Action Item: Vote to authorize Chairman Pepe to participate remotely in accordance with Regulation 940, CMR 29.10 of the Open Meeting Law.

Chairman Woodbury announced that Selectmen Pepe will participate remotely in accordance with Regulation 940, CMR 29.10 of the Open Meeting Law

Minutes

A motion to approve the Business Meeting and Executive Sessions of August 10, 2015 and Workshop Meeting of August 17, 2015 (C.Woodbury/Stevens) passed 5/0.

Citizen Input

None

Communications:

None

New Business

New Employee Introduction: Linda LeBlanc, Principal Assessor

Administrator Gaudette introduced the new Principal Assessor, Linda LeBlanc, who was previously the Assessor for the Town of Palmer. He is happy to have her onboard and noted that she is a great fit for the Town. Chairman Woodbury and the Board welcomed her. Ms. LeBlanc said she was grateful for the opportunity.

Discussion: Joint with FMPC members re: Comprehensive Roads Project

Member of the FMPC Paul McLaughlin, Rich Hebson and Tom Parker were present. Mr. Gaudette said the FMPC is willing to undertake the Roads Project endeavor. The will begin to prepare an introductory presentation to the voters at the November Special Town Meeting. As the project moves forward, public hearings will be held to keep the public informed in preparation for a Debt Exclusion Question at the May 2016 Annual Town Meeting.

In other news, Mr. Gaudette reported that Steve Tyler's was granted the "Transportation Planner of the Year" award, thanks to his contributions with various roads projects and his involvement on the CMMPO.

Mr. Stevens asked if all roads require drainage. Mr. Tyler said that all roads need some form of drainage to allow the water to runoff.

Chairman Woodbury suggests the Board take a tour of private roads to determine the best course for future action.

Policy Introduction: Complete Streets

At a prior meeting, CMRPC explained the concept of the Complete Streets Policy and it was noted that additional State funding is available to communities with this type of policy. With that in mind, Administrator Gaudette and Steve Tyler formally introduced a draft policy for Complete Streets. Chairman Woodbury and Selectmen Pepe said they had no issues with the policy; the Board agreed. It will be added to the September 28th agenda for a vote to adopt.

Mr. Gaudette pointed out that the Town's CIC Collaborative Stormwater Project is being used as a model for stormwater management in several Communities throughout the State and has been awarded the "Best Stormwater Idea". The award was received due to the efforts of Superintendent Steve Tyler, Administrator Gaudette, and Charlton Administrator Robin Craver.

Mr. Tyler was also granted the Master Road Scholar award from Bay State Roads. Mr. Gaudette he is pleased with the ongoing contributions by Mr. Tyler and the Highway Department.

Vote to approve the Conservation Restriction (CR) from Bixby Road 19, LLC to the Conservation Commission of the Town of Spencer & to the Common Ground Land Trust, Inc.

Mr. Gaudette reported that representatives from Bixby Road 19, LLC (SMOC), are here tonight to obtain final approval on the Conservation Restriction for the Bixby Road project, which was approved by the Planning Board in 2006. As part of the approval, an agreement to preserve a portion of the land for open space was required; therefore a CR was drafted and approved by the State. The Common Ground Land Trust will be the stewards of the 7 acre portion of land. Approval by the Selectmen is the last step in this process. Attorney Mary Feeney asked the Board to approve in accordance with State Statute.

A motion to approve the Conservation Restriction from Bixby Road 19, LLC to the Conservation Commission of the Town of Spencer & to the Common Ground Land Trust, pursuant to Section 32 of Chapter 184 of the General Laws of Massachusetts and its acceptance pursuant to Section 8C of Chapter 40 (C. Woodbury/Fritze) passed 5/0.

Old Business

Policy Adoption: Property Reuse Committee

The Board reviewed the final policy.

A motion to adopt the Property Reuse Committee Policy (Stevens//Fritze) passed 5/0.

Policy Adoption: Landfill Solar Development/Lease Committee

The Board reviewed the final policy.

A motion to adopt the Landfill Solar Development/Lease Committee Policy (C. Woodbury/Fritze) passed 5/0.

Action Item: Vote to Sign Deed Transfer of Real Estate (16 Stiles Ave)

At the May 7, 2015 Annual Town Meeting, a unanimous vote of approval to authorize the Board to sell Town owned land on Stiles Ave was recorded.

A motion to sign Deed Transfer of Real Estate (16 Stiles Ave) (C. Woodbury/Pepe) passed 4/0, Mr. Fritze abstained.

Town Administrator's Report

Fall Special Town Meeting Preparation

The meeting calendar was reviewed.

Set Fall Special Town Meeting Date

A motion to set the Fall Special Town Meeting Date for November 19, 2015 (Pepe/Fritze) passed 5/0.

Open Fall Special Town Meeting Warrant

A motion to open the November 19, 2015 Fall Special Town Meeting Warrant (C. Woodbury/Fritze) passed 5/0.

Board Liaison Reports

Mr. Stevens and Mr. Pepe had a productive meeting with members of the business community and went on a tour of Sugden Building. Mr. Gaudette advised them to be cautious with any involvement of a potential buyer for the property, participating on a Property Reuse Committee due to potential conflict of interest.

Mr. Stevens held a yard sale group meeting and noted there is a lot of enthusiasm. The plan is to proceed as a group, independent of the Town. The first yard sale may be held in late September, 2016.

Citizen Input

None

Board Member & Staff Comments

Mr. Pepe offered his congratulations to the Agricultural Association for another successful Spencer Fair.

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Savoie
Administrative Assistant

Referenced Materials

Complete Streets Policy
CR-Bixby Rd 19, LLC
Property Reuse Committee Policy
Landfill Solar Development/Lease Committee Policy
Deed-16 Stiles Ave