



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Date: October 17, 2016 – Workshop
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA
Present: Chairman Stevens, Vice Chair C. Woodbury, Clerk Hicks, Members Pepe and G. Woodbury, and Administrator Gaudette

At 6:08 p.m. Chairman Stevens called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Joint Meeting with the Sewer Commissioners regarding NPDES update

Sewer Commissioners Frank White and Larry Dufault and Sewer Superintendent James LaPlante were present.

Mr. LaPlante reported that a new NPDES permit was applied for with USEPA in 2012 and they are awaiting approval. It may be late winter before a new permit is issued and this delay is not uncommon. In the meantime, the current permit remains in effect; therefore the Spencer Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) is in full compliance with the WWT plan. This is contrary to an article in the Telegram & Gazette saying it was noncompliant.

Mr. White noted that multiple upgrades to the Plant have occurred from 1986 through the present.

Mr. Dufault said new permit requirements will be stricter than the existing ones due to new regulations which will ultimately result in an increase to rate payers.

A concern was raised with multiple septic systems emptying into lakes and ponds.

The Commissioners will meet with DEP on October 18th and will discuss the growth factor for additional users in the future.

Follow-up Discussion on SEBRSD Building Tours

Mr. Gaudette noted that a report has been issued by the SEBRSD Maintenance Department relative to ongoing maintenance needs that were discussed during school building tours with Mr. Hicks and Mr. C. Woodbury.

Mr. Hicks said he views this report as the best possible outcome for the District and does not anticipate all will need to be done. DPHS amounts to almost \$12 million of the \$20 million total for all buildings and suggests holding off on spending for that building with the possibility that a new school may be built.

The cost to bring Knox Trail up to date is over \$3 million and includes upgrades to HVAC, technology and grounds maintenance.

Wire Village is also over \$3 million and according to the report needs a boilers replaced, a new roof, technology upgrades and grounds maintenance.

Mr. C. Woodbury feels the estimates are high and does not agree that it's an accurate maintenance list pointing out that every school needs a new boiler. Mr. Gaudette will discuss the report with the Superintendent and Comptroller within the next two weeks. Mr. C. Woodbury would like an independent contractor go through Wire Village to determine what is needed and firm up the numbers. Mr. Gaudette said that the cost for a detailed analysis of Lake Street School was \$10,000. If the Board wishes to go this route, he will place an Article on the Warrant.

Mr. Gaudette advised the Board to move the Special Town Meeting date from November 17th to December 1st to allow time to have all the necessary information in place.

A motion to change the date of the STM to December 1, 2016 (Hicks/ C. Woodbury) passed 5/0.

Review Draft Warrant for Fall Special Town Meeting

Mr. Gaudette reviewed the Warrant. He noted that with solar farms coming on line, new growth is higher than expected and will help offset increases.

Proposed Articles include:

- Adjustment to Vocational School Transportation
- Amend the FY17 revised budget
- Transfer to the Sick Leave Buy Back Fund
- Sewer Department capital expenditures
- Water Department capital expenditures
- General Government capital expenditures (this will include the school building study)
- Main Street TIP Repairs
- Changes to Zoning Bylaws relative to solar, combined permitting, and zoning determination.
- Drainage easements

The meeting was adjourned at 8 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Savoie
Administrative Assistant

Referenced Materials

SEBRSD Maintenance Dept. Report