



## Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Date: September 26, 2016 – Business Meeting  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA  
Present: Chairman Stevens, Vice Chair C. Woodbury, Clerk Hicks, Members G. Woodbury and Pepe, and Administrator Gaudette.

At 6:05 p.m. Chairman Stevens called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Minutes:

#### **Vote to Approve the Business Meeting Minutes**

*A motion to approve the Business Meeting of September 12, 2016 (C. Woodbury/Hicks) passed 5/0.*

#### **Vote to Release Executive Session Minutes**

*A motion to release the Executive Session Minutes of May 12, 2014; October 26, 2015; May 11, 2016; & February 22, 2016 (Hicks/G. Woodbury) passed 5/0.*

### Citizen Input

None

### Communications:

#### **Funding for Route 31 South/Charlton Road**

Mr. Stevens announced that Spencer has been awarded \$5 million in TIP money by the State to rehabilitate Route 31 South.

### New Business:

#### **Action Item: Vote to Approve the Petition of the Gaudette-Kirk Post 138 American Legion for New Officers/Directors for their Alcohol License**

Carol Perron, Manager of the American Legion submitted an application to update the Legion's Officers and Directors after the changes made during their election in June. If approved by the Board and the ABCC, the new roster will include George Parkin Jr., James Letrendre, John Canty, Dean Stevens, Carol Perron, and Gerald Perron.

*A motion to approve the Petition of the Gaudette-Kirk Post 138 American Legion for New Officers/Directors for their Alcohol License as indicated (Hicks/Pepe) passed 5/0.*

#### **Joint Meeting with the SEBRSD Committee (Spencer Members Only) to make an appointment to fill a vacancy until the May 2017 Election**

Mr. Stevens announced that this item will be postponed until the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

SEBRSD Committee Chair Martha Berthiaume explained that she misunderstood the District

Agreement and has arranged for the Committee to hold another meeting and take a revote with Spencer Members only.

Mr. C. Woodbury noted that the Agreement should be updated since it was created 30 years ago.

### **Joint Meeting with the Bay Path School Committee (Spencer Members Only) to make an Appointment to fill a vacancy until the May 2017 Election**

Bob Zukowski, member of the Bay Path School Committee, recommends Jesslyn Gaucher as the new member.

*A motion to motion to appoint Jesslyn Gaucher for the remaining term on the Bay Path School Committee (Hicks/G. Woodbury) passed 5/0.*

### **Senior Center Behavior Policy**

Mr. Gaudette noted that a draft policy is being introduced tonight and after review by the Board, a vote will take place at the next Business Meeting.

Senior Center Director Pam Woodbury said there have been incidences at the Center that are cause for concern and believes a policy is needed. She worked with Town Counsel and has spoken with the Boston Office of Elder Affairs and drafted this policy which the Council on Aging voted unanimously to approve.

The Board will vote on the final policy at the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Winter Season Private Snow Plow Contractor Rates**

Steve Tyler and Eben Buter were present and presented a chart with the following rate per hour recommendations based on a review of the rates of Spencer's Comparison Communities:  $\frac{3}{4}$  ton with 8ft plow-\$65; 1 ton with 9ft plow-\$70; 6 wheel dump with 10ft plow-\$80; Loader-\$95

Mr. G. Woodbury recommends keeping the loader at \$90 per hour and change all others as recommended.

*A motion to approve the FY17 Private Plow Rates per the chart numbers, with the exception of the Loader at \$90 per hour (Hicks/Pepe) passed 5/0.*

### **Old Business:**

#### **Action Item: Vote to Set the Fall Special Town Meeting Date and Open Warrant**

*A Motion to set the Fall Special Town Meeting date for November 17, 2016 (G.Woodbury/Hicks) passed 5/0.*

*A Motion to open the Fall Special Town Meeting Warrant (Pepe/G.Woodbury) passed 5/0.*

Mr. Gaudette will meet with the Finance Committee on September 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **Town Administrator's Report:**

Mr. Gaudette announced that Paul Dell'Aquila officially began working as the Town Planner and Cheryl Donahue, the new Library Director will report to work on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Both will meet the Board at an upcoming meeting.

## **Municipal Modernization Bill**

Mr. Gaudette reported that a Municipal Modernization Bill was recently approved by the Baker Administration over summer. He reviewed some of the key areas including:

- Procurement threshold amount has been increased to \$50,000
- Stabilization fund deposits now allowed by a majority vote at Town Meeting
- Certificate of Local Property Assessments for DOR Certification from 3 years to 5 years
- A reserve account can now be created for an Injury on Duty fund
- Bond Premiums may be applied to debt or utilized for capital items
- Snow & Ice deficit spending approval may be made by the Chief Administrative Officer, which in this case is the Town Administrator
- Grant funding priority will be given to communities that regionalize

## **Board Liaison Reports**

Mr. Pepe noted:

- The Economic Development Committee applied for Grant Watch and will pay a \$200 fee to obtain a listing of all available grants. The fee will be paid from the Selectmen's expense budget.
- He would like to improve communication among committees. Discussion will take place at a future Workshop.

## **Citizen Input**

Bob Cirba, 23 Summit Street said he was troubled by the way the SEBRSDC handled the vote on nominees for the Committee. Since it was for a Spencer representative, East Brookfield should not have been involved.

## **Board Member and Staff Comments**

Mr. Hicks was part of the Knox Trail and Wire Village tour and will visit David Prouty High School next week. The current repair estimate for the District is \$19 million, with \$10 million for David Prouty.

Mr. Pepe wants to officially open the District Agreement for review and revision. Mr. Gaudette suggested having Regional School District Agreement Committee.

Mr. Stevens noted that the first annual Town-wide Yard Sale was a success and that the PTA were great partners.

## **Request for Executive Session under Mass General Laws, Chapter 30A, §21(a), ¶3, to discuss litigation**

*At 7:34 p.m. a motion to meet in Executive Session in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, § 21 (a), ¶3, to discuss litigation (Hicks/Pepe) passed with a roll call vote: G. Woodbury-yes, C. Woodbury - yes, Stevens-yes, Hicks-yes, Pepe yes.*

Mr. Stevens announced the meeting will reconvene in open session only to adjourn. .

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Savoie  
Administrative Assistant

Referenced Materials

Winter Season Private Snow Plow Contractor Rates  
Senior Center Behavior Policy  
Municipal Modernization Bill