



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Date: Monday, April 22, 2013
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA
Present: Chairman Pepe, Vice Chair Woodbury, Clerk Stevens, Members Berthiaume & Fritze and Administrator Gaudette

At 6:02 p.m. Chairman Pepe called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the April 8th Business Meeting minutes (Berthiaume / Woodbury) passed 5/0.

Citizen Input

Donald Nussey, Pond St., reported a large pot hole on Main St. near Whitco. The Board asked Steve Tyler to look into.

Communications

The Town of Leicester is holding a 300th Founder's Day Parade and invited the Board to participate in the festivities. Mr. Berthiaume offered to contact the parade organizers.

New Business

Action Item: Vote on Change in Manager ABCC Petition for Drake Petroleum d/b/a Xtra Mart

Brenda Modugno, new manager for Xtra Mart, was present with her supervisor Paula Burns to request approval for a Change in Manager for their alcohol license. All paperwork is in order and if approved will be submitted to the ABCC.

A motion to approve the change in manager to Brenda Modugno for Drake Petroleum d/b/a Xtra Mart (Berthiaume / Fritze) passed 5/0

Action Item: Review/Vote on Junk Dealers License for Fantastic Finds – 136 Main St.

Rise Levesque was present to request a new Junk Dealers license for Fantastic Finds. All paperwork is in order.

A motion to approve a Junk Dealers License for Fantastic Finds located 136 Main St. (Berthiaume / Fritze) passed 5/0

Action Item: Review/Vote on Junk Dealers License for Laptop & PC Repair – 128 Main St.

Louise Young was present to request a new Junk Dealers license for Laptop and PC Repair. The license is required to sell used parts. All paperwork is in order.

A motion to approve a Junk Dealers License for Laptop & PC Repair, located at 128 Main St. (Berthiaume / Woodbury) passed 5/0.

Action Item: Amend Conservation Restriction (CR) at Burncoat Pond Sanctuary/Green Properties – Charlie Wyman, Mass Audubon

Action Item Revised: Amend Sibley Farms Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) Charlie Wyman, Mass Audubon

Mr. Gaudette clarified that at this time it is the Sibley Farms APR being amended. The Burncoat Pond CR will be amended at a future agenda item.

Charlie Wyman said the State is asking for an amendment on the 82 acre property that would change the following:

1. Create a new survey for the APR to allow it to appear alone on a single plan.
2. Clarify the existing easement for the farmer

There will be no other changes and the APR remains intact.

Mr. Fritze noted that Ahearn owns the abutting property.

A motion to amend the Agricultural Preservation Restrictions for Sibley Farms as written (Berthiaume / Stevens) passed 5/0

Action Item: Vote to Approve 30-Town Intermunicipal Agreement for 2013 CIC Grant

Mr. Gaudette asked the Board to vote to approve the Intermunicipal Agreement for the 2013 CIC Grant. He reported that 13 Towns took part in the 2012 CIC Stormwater grant project and an additional 17 Towns have been added for 2013. After 2013 funding was cut, the group met and agreed to request that each Town pay a portion to make up the difference rather than reduce the scope of the project. Each Town is being asked to pay \$2,833 to fully fund the project. There is a waiting list, so if a Town opts out, another will step in.

A motion to approve the Intermunicipal Agreement for the 2013 CIC Grant (Berthiaume / Stevens) passed 5/0

Discussion: Town Administrator Evaluation Process

Mr. Gaudette advised the Board that according to the Town Charter, the Administrator's performance evaluation is to be completed prior to the Annual Town Election. He provided a memo to the Board outlining discussion points, including accomplishments and on-going goals. Chairman Pepe asked members to submit completed forms to him within the week. The public evaluation will take place at the May 13th meeting.

Old Business

Discussion: Pavement Management – Steve Tyler, U&F Superintendent

Mr. Gaudette noted that Bill Scarpati from FST Engineering provided a Pavement Management Summary report in 2009 and has just completed an updated report on how to bring road conditions up to an acceptable level.

Mr. Scarpati reported that the overall Pavement Condition Index (PCI) has decreased from 52.5 to 49.7 since the last report in 2009 and the cost to repair has increased from \$14 million to \$22 million. Limited Chapter 90 funds have contributed to the lack of regular maintenance and repair over time, resulting in a \$22 million backlog.

Funding scenarios over a 5-year period include \$10.5 million to maintain the backlog; \$12.5 million for a progressive scenario; or \$14.5 million for a more aggressive scenario and is the recommended approach. That approach, with drainage and sidewalks factored in will be \$20 million.

Mr. Tyler stated the focus is on main arterials and roads where high complaints have been received. Additional feedback will be gathered for priorities for future years.

Chairman Pepe noted that road improvements were the highest priority from residents responding to the Financial Management Planning Commission's survey.

Mr. Gaudette asked what happens after the 5-year plan. Mr. Scarpati said if roads are routinely maintained, they will last for a very long time.

Mr. Berthiaume would like to establish a Road Advisory committee to take the lead.

TIP Project Update

Mr. Tyler reviewed a list for potential TIP projects. New ones added to the list include:

- Meadow Rd from W. Main St. to N. Spencer Rd.
- W. Main St. / S. Spencer Rd. / Meadow Rd. intersection improvements
- Other potential Town-owned bridge replacement or rehabilitation projects

Mr. Gaudette stated that projects are selected by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) based on readiness, technical recommendations from CMRPC and other various factors.

A motion to approve the TIP Projects list as presented and to authorize Mr. Tyler to move forward with sending a letter to CMRPC (Berthiaume/Woodbury) passed 5/0.

Discussion: May Proclamation / DPW Week - Steve Tyler, U&F Superintendent

Mr. Tyler asked the Board to consider adopting May 19-25, 2013 as National Public Works Week to acknowledge the efforts of the Town's public works personnel.

The Board agreed it was a good idea. Mr. Pepe suggested holding an open house.

A motion to approve a Proclamation designating the week of May 19-25, 2013, as National Public Works Week (Berthiaume/Woodbury) passed 5/0.

Discussion: Transfer Station Update – Steve Tyler, U&F Superintendent

Mr. Tyler attended a follow-up meeting with the Town of Blackstone. He learned that they will supply 4 containers to be used for sorting at a cost of \$250 per month and will allow 1.8 hauls per week. There is potential to receive up to \$16,000, however taking into account the cost for containers, the need to sort material, and change in operation requiring additional supervision, any cost savings are unclear.

Casella offers a zero sort program and provides a compactor that everything goes into without sorting. There is a potential to get a 30% rebate and there are no charges with this program.

Mr. Tyler will ask for clarification on the number of hauls allowed with the Blackstone proposal.

Mr. Gaudette recommended that he and Mr. Tyler negotiate further with Casella.

A motion to allow the Administrator and the U & F Superintendent to negotiate further with Casella (Berthiaume/Woodbury) passed 5/0.

Discussion: Meritorious Service Awards

Mr. Gaudette reported that there have been no submittals.

Town Administrator's Report

Town Meeting Update

Administrator Gaudette reminded the public that the Annual Town Meeting will be held on May 2nd at 7 pm at the Town Hall. The warrant and other detailed information are available on the webpage, or in the Administrator's Office.

Board Liaison Reports:

Mr. Fritze noted all outside work for the Fire Station Annex has been completed. The cement floor will be poured tomorrow.

Mr. Berthiaume will attend the Planning Board public hearing for Medical Marijuana on April 23rd.

Mr. Pepe mentioned that an employment offer was made for a Business Manager with the Spencer-E. Brookfield Regional School District

Citizen Input

Bob Cirba, 23 Summit St., said he was concerned about misinformation being provided relative to ambulance service. He asked why Vital Ambulance was not invited to present their proposal on the Talk of the Town program as Spencer Rescue Squad (SRS) was there.

Mr. Gaudette explained if the ballot question for \$150,000 for ambulance service passes, the Board will make a decision on an ambulance service provider, not necessarily SRS. Mr. Woodbury stated the Town is being asked to fund ambulance service, not the SRS. Any approved funds will go into the Fire Department budget.

Al Atchue, Meadow Rd., questioned where funding for road improvements will come from noting that requests from the SEBRSD and the ambulance service have enough of an impact.

Board Member and Staff Comments

None

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m. All were in favor.

A special meeting will be held at 6 pm on May 2nd, just before the Annual Town Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Savoie
Administrative Assistant

Referenced Materials:

Amended Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) Sibley Farms
Transfer Station Update
Pavement Management Plan Presentation
Proclamation for DPW Week
TIPS Project List
Administrator Performance Evaluation Memo