

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MONDAY, September 28, 2009
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM**

#27-09

#27

Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons Patricia Pruitt; Patricia Allen, Mark Fairbrother, Town Administrator, Frank Abbondanzio; Administrative Secretary Wendy Bogusz (absent), Jeff Tirrell, WHAI, Arn Albertini, Recorder, Bill Drake, Montague Reporter

Approve minutes of September 21, 2009

Allen makes the motion to approve the minutes of September 21, 2009. Seconded by Fairbrother approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Pruitt - Aye

Pole Location Hearing, Relocate the existing house service at 45 Old Sunderland Road

Pole is being moved to relocate wires away from swimming pool

Allen makes the motion to approve the request for joint or identical pole location as marked on plan #1345885 for 45 Old Sunderland Road for a new pole 129/B46M as indicated on the plan. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Pruitt – Aye

Town Administrators Report

Upcoming Meetings

The Selectmen will not be meeting on October 13th.

IOD Request

Allen makes the motion to place Sergeant Suchanek on IOD for September 13, 14, 17 and 18 2009 from an injury he received while he was on duty. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Pruitt - Aye

Sign in the public way

Allen makes the motion to approve the placement of an informational sign in the public right of way for the Harmony Lodge of Masons from October 5 to October 17, 2009, the sign is 4' x 8', vinyl to be placed at the corner of Masonic Ave and Montague City Road. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Pruitt – Aye

License to place sign or object in the right of way

Request by Arnold Houle of A.B. Auction Plus for tables and other stuff right out in front of his store on both sides of the stairs. It was reviewed by David Jensen and he has conditions attached to the request. This issue to be taken under advisement at this time

Response to FY09 Management Letter

Abbondanzio: In response to the FY09 Management letter, the auditors identify issues where they feel there are weaknesses or conditions that should change to improve the controls of the Towns finances. This year there were six issues, 2 of which were prior years issues that still remain to be addressed and the auditors want the Selectmen to make feedback. The Selectmen agreed the responses should be: #1: The Selectmen want an accountability plan and collect receipts quarterly from employees to substantiate the allowance for cell phone use. #2 For deposit only stamps are now being used. #3 Receipt policy to be changed to clarify that receipts must be turned over to the Town's Treasurer and may not be used for any purpose. #4 Not under control of the Town of Montague or the Montague Contributory Retirement System. #5 The Town is considering this. #6 The Town plans to establish the Red Flag documentation by the November 1, 2009 deadline.

Allen makes the motion to adopt the receipts policy with the amendment originally voted by the Board of Selectmen on January 14, 2002. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Pruitt - Aye

Approve Policy Relating to the Distribution of Keys to the Town Office Building and Securing of the Building Following Meetings

Allen makes the motion to adopt the policy relating to the distribution of keys to the Town Office Building and Securing of the Building following meetings. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Pruitt – Aye

Reserve Fund Transfer Request

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*Abbondanzio: This is for \$11,760.00 for emergency repairs to the Montague Center Town Hall/Library
Allen makes the motion to request a transfer from the reserve fund from the Finance Committee for an amount of \$11,760.00 to account #001-5-420-5242-192 which is the DPW Building Maintenance and Repair, present balance is \$5,440.00. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Pruitt - Aye*

Sign EOEI Grant Contract

Allen makes the motion to sign the EOEI grant for the Council on Aging's formula grant contract as requested by Roberta Potter in the amount of \$11,900. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye, Pruitt - Aye

Sign Letter to Jordan Quinn regarding installation of underground utilities

Abbondanzio: Jordan Quinn has asked for a letter of support in conjunction with the St. Anne's project, Montague Performing Arts Center. The letter states "it encourages the elimination of overhead wires wherever possible, particularly within the boundaries of the Turners Falls Historic district. Our only requirements would be that the Town not incur any costs to implement the work including the cost of opening and closing the paved road. We also understand there are costs sometimes associated with the abutters in getting the connections to the abutting properties", those costs would also have to be bourn by the developer. Pruitt recues herself from signing the letter for conflict of interest reasons. Allen makes the motion that the letter to Jordan Quinn will be from Pat Allen, Mark Fairborther or both Selectmen, in regards to them being supportive of the efforts to underground the utilities. Seconded by Fairbrother. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Pruitt – Abstained

Abbondanzio: I went to Boston last week to testify on the legislation that the Town has initiated to get the extra liquor license for that project. It took all of 3 minutes and there were no questions, but they said it was very important that we went.

Request for a member of the Selectboard to speak with 6th Grade Students at Gill Elementary regarding Montague's local government

Pat Allen will send an e-mail to Joanne Flagg about speaking to the 6th Grade Students at Gill Elementary

Changes to Conflict of Interest Law

Abbondanzio: We now have to make sure people in Town get educated as to the ethics laws and make sure every municipal employee within 30 days of hire gets copies of the ethics conflicts of interest laws. You have to appoint a liaison and there is a program to take on-line on or before December 28, 2009 and has to be done every two years. Allen makes the motion to designate Deb Bourbeau, Town Clerk as Municipal Liaison for the purposes of this State Ethics Commission guideline, conflict of interest program. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Pruitt – Aye

Connecticut River Source to Sea Clean Up

This event will be held on Friday and Saturday October 2 and 3, 2009

State Championship Sign Presentation on Booster Day

Allen: State Championship sign is going to be presented this Saturday on Booster Day at the football game during half time from the Elks. St. Kazmierze Society provided money to install the sign. This is recognition of the 1942 Baseball team, 2003 Men's golf team, and the girls' softball team who have won 4 out of the last 5 years, and there will be room for more teams. This sign will be located at the school and concreted in the ground.

Other

- Allen congratulates Our Lady of Czestchowa for the 100th Anniversary and the Banquet. It was a wonderful event.
- Reminder that Wednesday is the District Meeting with the G/M School District at 6:30 PM at the Turners Falls High School for all registered votes of Montague and Gill residents.

Allen makes the motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Pruitt - Aye