

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
MONDAY, February 3, 2014**

Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons, Mark Fairbrother, Chris Boutwell, Mike Nelson; Town Administrator, Frank Abbondanzio, Executive Assistant, Wendy Bogusz;

Meeting being Taped

Approve minutes January 13 and 27, 2014 if available.

Minutes of January 13 and 27, 2014 Not available at this time

Michael Nelson and Kelsey Cadran, Spring Parade Permit Addendum: Request for addition of 5k Road Race, Registration for assembly, public demonstration or use of public property on 4/12/14 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM Nelson recuses himself from the meeting

Cadran: Event will start at the High School since there is more space; thought it would be good to incorporate some type of health and wellness aspect right before the parade and to get people out and moving.

Nelson: Event would take place prior to the parade and would be the same route, all profits will be donated to the Skate Park Fundraising Campaign. Insurance will be provided when it is available

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the request from Kelsey Cadran and Michael Nelson for the Spring Parade Road Race, beginning at the Turners Falls High School on April 14 between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM estimated participants 50; route to be taken Turners Falls High School to Millers Falls Road to High Street to Crocker Avenue to Montague Street to Turnpike Road back to the High School; 2 – 3 vehicles to participate, Volunteers will be in place for road crossing, waive fee and permit is contingent upon insurance being received by April 1, 2014. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Tom Juravich, Teresa Healy, and Shawna Bebo, Request to purchase unused “paper” streets Honto and Winona Streets in Lake Pleasant

Juravich: We live on 9 Broadway in Lake Pleasant and have lived there for 4-1/2 years. Lake Pleasant was set up as a camp community with a wide variety of walking paths, as known at the time. Many of these streets are now paper streets which means the Town doesn't maintain them and they sit. My property on Broadway (Winona Avenue sits behind us and Honto Avenue sits to the left of us, and there is a little triangular shape which is plot 182 (162 sq. ft.). Shawna Bebo lives at house 16 Broadway and you can see how part of her porch is constructed on Honto Avenue, so she is requesting to purchase that space. We are looking into the possibility of purchasing the rest of Honto Avenue and Winona Avenue. These boundaries are not defined, we've been mowing the grass and taking care of that land and the question is what interest does the Town have in maintaining ownership of these paper streets? The question we are asking is what is the process to go about purchasing that land? Roads are 10' x 180' and 18' x 45'.

Nelson: If I never saw the map, would never have known there were streets there. Has no problem with this.

Abbondanzio: There are a lot of paper streets in Lake Pleasant and this will be precedent setting. The Planning Board would like to have the opportunity to run this through a process where they would end up coming back to the Selectmen. There are issues like can you just discontinue the road that goes equally to the abutters on either side. The Town wants to make sure they do not incur any expenses on this (survey, legal fees). I recommend sending to Planning Board for their review. And should be taken on a case by case basis.

Discussion

Nelson makes the motion to send Mr. Juravichs request to purchase unused paper streets Honto and Winona Streets in Lake Pleasant to the Planning Board for a public hearing and for that decision to be returned back to the Board of Selectmen for further deliberation. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Nelson - Aye

MJ Adams, Director of Community Development, FCRHRA, votes may be taken

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Sign Authorization to Disburse No. 8, Invoice #1.2012.107-9, Unity Park Phase 2.2 Improvement Project, \$1,600

Nelson makes the motion to authorize Disbursement No. 8, Invoice #1.2012.107-9, Unity Park Phase 2.2 Improvement Project, to the Berkshire Design Group in the amount of \$1,600. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Nelson – Aye,

Sign Budget Amendment which Transfers \$60,981 from the HR Revolving Loan Fund to supplement FY12 Funding for final housing rehab project under the FY12 grant

Nelson makes the motion to authorize and sign Budget Amendment B2 under CDBG Fiscal Year 2012 CDF Grant which Transfers \$60,981 from the HR Revolving Loan Fund to supplement FY12 Funding for final housing rehab project under the FY12 grant. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Nelson – Aye,

CDBG FY2014 Grant Application: Revisions to Streetscape portion of application

Adams: This is a follow up to the public hearing we had last week relative to the Community Development Block Grant Application that is going into DHCD. There were some concerns expressed about the relative balance of funds that were going to be expended for street lighting verses the streetscape improvements. We also heard there was a need for trash receptacles. We spoke with Walter, the Engineers and we are suggesting that in response to your concerns that we continue forward with the construction project as suggested but we also add a second element that would be the planning and design work so that next year at this time we are in the position to be able to submit for the additional street lighting you would like to see all the way down to the food plaza on Seventh Street. We added in trash receptacles which modifies the budget a little. The final numbers for both the streetscape improvements would be \$425,668, we would also add in another \$9,800 for the planning and design and that would bring that element cost to \$435,468. We wanted to be responsive to your concerns but also wanted to see some forward movement from the good work that was done by the community with the livability plan last year.

General Discussion

Nelson makes the motion to approve the revisions to the Streetscape portion of the application for CDBG FY2014 Grant Application: which adds a price tag of \$9,800 for additional design work and an additional 9,450 for construction bidding and new management for a grand total of \$435,468. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Approve correction to Attachment B FCHCC Meals on Wheels Contract

Nelson makes the motion to approve the correction to Attachment B FCHCC Meals on Wheels contract in the amount of \$1.58 per meal. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Nelson – Aye.

Liquor License Hearing, Annual On Premises, \$12 All Alcohol, Liquor License, Black Cow Burger, Pamela Tierney as Manager, 125 Avenue A, Turners Falls

Boutwell recuses himself from this portion of the meeting.
Fairbrother reads Public Hearing Notice into the record

Nelson makes the motion to approve the Annual On Premises, \$12 All Alcohol, Liquor License, Black Cow Burger, Pamela Tierney as Manager, 125 Avenue A, Turners Falls. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Jeff Singleton, Proposal regarding the upcoming regional transportation planning process

Singleton: I would like to get a request from this board to bring to the next FRTA meeting in March. They are going to redo the route changes they tried to push through last December and those didn't seem to be flying so they extended the process to the end of this year. I was trying to think of a way we could encourage a request that it would be more of an open process involving Town Planners and maybe the Council on Governments and to get a number of different options on the table with some real costs associated with them both in terms of what the different routes would

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actually be and what the impact of these would be on assessment. I was hoping rather than they come up with a plan and a take it or leave it basis and then us struggle to make this more of an open process and figures on what it costs and what fees would be on assessments. Rather than them come up with a plan I was hoping we had a better sense of what the options would be and have others involved in this. I think it would be good to have a request ready for their next meeting in March and would be good to have an idea for that meeting. I'd like to sit down with Walter Ramsey to come up with something for the Board to vote on. Never got explanation of why route 23 has twice the fair as route going to Northampton which is the same distance. We need figures. The planner should be involved in this. Final proposal expanded routes to Orange from 7 to 13. Walter, Jeff and Frank will come up with something to present to the Selectboard. Thinks these issues should be separated, who exercises oversight on administration over there. Doesn't feel they should be unaccountable and feels it should be raised at next FRTA meeting.

Tom Bergeron, DPW Superintendent, Cell Phone Stipend Authorization Request: Jim Whiteman and Mark Stevens

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the cell phone stipend request for Jim Whiteman in the DPW in the amount of 5.77/week, seconded by Nelson, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the cell phone stipend request for Mark Stevens in the DPW in the amount of 5.77/week, seconded by Nelson, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Town Administrators Report, Topics not anticipated covered in the 48 hour posting requirement

David Jensen and Jim Whiteman spent most of the day at the Strathmore mill draining the sprinkler system due to a couple of breaks that occurred. One happened a couple of weeks ago in building 11 due to a breakdown of the compressor and the part is on back order. A break occurred last night and one this morning in the other two sections. The break was confined to building 6, fourth floor and they were able to drain the system and it is under control. Second pipe that broke early this morning was in building 4 on the fourth floor with a small leak in building 2 on the fourth floor; they drained that system today and a sprinkler contractor is going to have to come in and fix that pipe as it is beyond the staffs ability. The overall impact is not that significant, but it is throughout the complex and having to deal with the problems one by one. They would like to make the sprinkler system a wet system in the summer and only dry it out in the winter (3 months) as long as the Fire Department has no problems with them doing that. A dry system tends to corrode very easily and the pipes end up breaking. They will also be coming forward with some estimates for roof work that needs to be done. Sewer, water and electrical will also have to be looked at as we cannot allow anyone to go in there without potable water.

David Jensen is the person to report back to the Board on this building

F.C. Regional Dog Kennel, Update and Discussion

Fairbrother: Update is they are leaving. The sheriff informed me he was fed up with his interactions with Town hall and the Town of Montague and was going to go elsewhere when they could find somewhere to go. I'm wondering how this could happen when we gave them a 2 year extension of the lease at the end of November. None of the conditions were worked out. I'm not happy about this. Wonder why there was no cooperation from town hall before and after that meeting.

Bergeron: I think they were looking for an agreement. Both parties thought the other party was going to take care of this. They wanted second bay which we store equipment in and we had to find room for, which eventually we did. My concern was our fuse box is there for our transfer station and I could not get any answers as to whether I was going to have access to those, because they wanted to the second bay for a surgical bay. That would mean we couldn't just walk in there. We don't have access to the other part of the building which we asked for bathrooms; unless they are there we can't go into that side of the bathroom. That is when they gave us the outhouse, which we now have but no one cleans. I have no problems with them being there. The other issue was where the electrical panel was and I couldn't get an answer as to whether I would have access to that part of the building. They will not give us access to the bathrooms in the building, they gave us an outhouse. I have no answers which made me reluctant to give over the entire building; Cooperation goes both ways. I thought there would be a future meeting to discuss the second bay area.

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Abbondanzio; No one will argue that they did a great job with the facility. Yes the town did agree to give them a 2 year extension and that is a minimum amount of time before we have to start dealing with the Industrial Park. We were not trying to stand in the way of the extension. I think it is an unfair portrayal to say the Town staff did not cooperate with them, a lot of that goes back to the initial relationship we had on this project when the facility was built and the appropriate permits were not taken out. I was surprised to hear this as we were not trying to stand in the way of the implementation of the two year extension. This is not a fair portrayal of what happened.

Discussion

Fairbrother: This Board took the vote and this board assumed things would get worked out, there is a colossal lack of communication going on, and it wasn't all on our side. Had I realized nobody was going to talk to anybody I would have scheduled another meeting and we would have sat down and worked all this out. This board erred when we didn't issue explicit instructions, and I'm not sure we should have had to.

Dodge offers to reach out to Sheriff to see if he will reconsider. Fairbrother feels if Dodge wants to try, to go ahead

Fairbrother will contact the sheriff and tell him what was said. And as far as what was put in he can take out. Have his person contact Tom to work out what will be left when they leave and what condition building will be left in.

*Nelson makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously.
Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Nelson - Aye*