

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
MONDAY, September 21, 2015**

Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons, Chris Boutwell, Mike Nelson, Rich Kuklewicz, Town Administrator, Frank Abbondanzio (absent) , Executive Assistant, Wendy Bogusz

Approve minutes of September 8 and 14, 2015 if available.

Kuklewicz makes the motion to approve the minutes of September 8, 2015. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell –Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson – Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to approve the minutes of September 14, 2015. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Ay

Public Comment Period: Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Board of Selectmen will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment:

Roy Rosenblatt asks the Board to appoint a Community Development Advisory Committee to work with Walter and the Housing Authority

Ramsey: There is a committee set up, need to recruit more members as two have moved away. Looking for members from Millers Falls and Lake Pleasant

Aiyana: Been doing a lot of research this week; Northampton and Amherst are looking into training for their police department. Asks what she should be focusing on, budget, number of people,

Rosenblatt: Chief should be sitting down and telling the Board what he would like in the specs, which will assist in providing a provider; information needs to be out there for all bidders.

Kuklewicz feels a scope should be put together first then we will go from there

**Walter Ramsey, Town Planner and Conservation Agent
Shea Theater Lease Transition Updates**

Ramsey: Current lease to the Shea Theater Community Theater ends 12/31/15. The new Board is planning on taking lease over on 1/1/16; the lease is being worked on with the Civic Center Commission (CCC) and the new Board. The CCC and town staff has been working closely with Michael Fleck of Shea Board to assure a smooth transition. Due to the fact they are an outgoing board it has been difficult for them to maintain revenues and we have been told there are outstanding utility bills. Gas has been shut off and the Town needs to assume service going forward so the Town does not lose the hookup/service due to the moratorium. Civic Center requests the Selectmen take action to assume service until January 1 at which time the new group will assume the bills. The CCC in favor of allowing shows to wind down rather than closing the doors. The CCC will step up and play a role insuring the Towns interests and assets are protected during the events rather than closing the doors and having a dark spot on the Avenue. The security codes should be changed so there is control as to who is entering the building. They are not walking away, the CCC will be assisting to the end of the lease.

Kuklewicz: Going forward the Town will be responsible for the bills, not prior bills. There may be a fundraiser at a later date to help the Shea Board pay the outstanding utility bills. It will have to be discussed later if the Shea does not pay the entire utility bills.

Kuklewicz makes the motion to authorize the Town Planner or Executive Assistant to work with Berkshire Gas and Eversource to put the electric and gas accounts in the Towns names effective September 22, 2015. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson- Aye

Civic Center Commission is looking for more members to join for a 3 year term to help during the transition. Send resumes to the Board of Selectmen and they will be forwarded to the Civic Center Commission.

Request from Tennessee Gas Pipeline to Survey Land owned by the inhabitants of Montague (Map 35 Lot 27) received 9/9/2015 (Map 35, Lot 27)

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
MONDAY, September 21, 2015**

Ramsey: Received this letter last week, it does not indicate the specific parcel but it is the only parcel in the project area, parcel is about 74 acres that is land locked, in Millers Falls near Federal Street and South Prospect Street. The board has previously taken action to deny access.

Kuklewicz makes the motion to authorize the request by Tennessee Gas Pipeline to survey land owned by the inhabitants of Montague. Seconded by Boutwell, Boutwell – Nay, Kuklewicz, - Nay, Nelson – Nay

Kuklewicz makes the motion to authorize Walter Ramsey to draft a letter and the Police Chief to be CC'd. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Announce and Execute 2015 Recreational Trails Program Grant Award for Dry Hill Cemetery Access Trail Project for \$6,400

Ramsey: We applied last winter to make public walking trails to access to dry hill cemetery; the grant would allow the Town to construct two kiosks at the trails entrances; one off of East Chestnut Hill, Dry Hill extension and the other being off the end of dry hill road where it turns into gravel. The grant asks for a 20% match that can be done through in kind services and the town will match this by fixing a culvert which prevents 4 wheel drive vehicles to the cemetery and plan to organize a volunteer maintenance day.

Kuklewicz makes the motion to accept the grant in the amount of \$6,400 for the 2015 Recreational Trails Program grant to allow access to the Dry Hill Cemetery and in kind services to be fixing up a culvert as described by Walter Ramsey. Seconded by Boutwell, approve unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson – Aye

Update on Avenue A Project

Ramsey: The Streetscape Project is moving along as scheduled

Update on Millers Falls Project

Ramsey: There was a washout due to the rainstorm, the engineers were on site today to do an evaluation and they said they will give me a formal report tomorrow.

Jeff Singleton, FRTA Route Changes

Singleton: State mandated a study of the FRTA route system to looked at what they could afford. Last Thursday, FRTA Advisory Board met and I have proposed route and fare changes they proposed

ROUTE 21-Greenfield Community Route: Some modification to start times and arrival times for better connections with other routes, arrival times for key stops, and accounting for updated travel time between stops; Two added trips leaving at 7:00pm and 8:00pm for later service and final connections from all other out-of-town routes.

ROUTE 22 -Montague/Greenfield Route:

This route will be modified to compliment service on Routes 23 and 32 to offer hourly service to downtown Turners Falls; Offers service to Park Villa Apartments that cannot be accomplished on the Route 32; One added trip leaving at 7:00pm for later service and final connections from Routes 21, 31, and 41.

ROUTE 23 -Amherst/Greenfield Route.

This route will be modified to leave Montague Center and travel down Route 47 into Sunderland making transfer connections with the UMass Route 31; This route is timed to make year-round connections with UMass Route 31; Increasing from two trips per day to four for added access to Amherst; Same total trips time getting from Greenfield to Amherst as current schedule.

ROUTE 25 -GCC Shuttle.

This new route will travel from the JWO Transit Center to GCC making quick connections to Routes 31 and 32 and from Routes 23, 31, and 32 at peak demand times.

ROUTE 31-Greenfield/Northampton Route

Trip times will be modified to leave on the hour for more consistent scheduling and making better connections with the PVT A B43 and B48; New schedule will also include two stops in Hatfield.

ROUTE 32 - Orange/Greenfield Route

Trip times will be modified to leave on the hour for more consistent scheduling; Updated travel time between stop

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
MONDAY, September 21, 2015**

will ensure better connections with MART G-Link; Industrial Parks

ROUTE 41-Charlemont/Greenfield Route

This route will be modified to eliminate Cherry Rum Plaza and Salmon Falls; Streamlined route and updated travel time between stops for more accurate schedule; Trip times modified to allow for arrival and departure of key stops {Mohawk High School, Charlemont Academy, and GCC} and for connections with the Route 21 (including Cherry Rum Plaza)

ROUTE 62 -Corporate Center Shuttle

This route will remain unchanged traveling between the JWO Transit Center, the Greenfield Park and Ride lot, and the Corporate Center

Jeff wants to have a forum here to discuss what is happening

Noise Ordinance, Discussion regarding how to handle current noise ordinance, is there a need to modify current regulation?

Kukelewicz: I think we should look at the bylaws so we can have something comprehensive. We had previously set temporary levels and people are still upset and feel it's too high. People have complained it's a quality of life issue and is a public health issue. It appears in other communities the Boards of Healths have crafted the regulations. State web site is pretty vague, some towns echo that and others have numbers based on situations in that town. Wanted to see if Gina thinks we should have meetings together

McNeeley: Back in 2005 I came up with a Board of Health Regulation and it was more comprehensive than what was passed as an ordinance in the Town. A lot of the information that I had in the document didn't get passed. Anything over 85 for more than an hour is a lot to be subjected to. I have a good grasp with noise from previous work experiences

Nelson: We are not looking to change anything right away, this is the start to look at a 10 year regulation to see if it needs to be upgraded or is it okay.

Kuklewicz: We should review acceptable levels, look at Industrial Park so adjacent neighbors are protected and we create a level playing field. What we agreed to earlier this year was a trial basis, lets try to figure something out during this time period. I think we should get better data and factual information to see if this is okay.

Nelson: Whatever we do we need to make sure it is appropriate to the downtown area, both residents and business owners.

Kuklewicz: We need to strike a balance. It is difficult to stay within the limits we set. I want to create a level playing field where hearings will be held and we will get into to specifics. We need to start with what we think might be appropriate.

Ramsey suggests looking into other towns who have outdoor entertainment and give out special permits for this and hearings would be required. A process would be set up

McNeely: It's really about striking a balance for all.

Kuklewicz: I feel the first step would be to ask Gina to do some review maybe have a discussion with the Board of Health, provide information to the Selectboard then work cooperatively over the next several months to try and craft a proposal with a target of maybe having some public discussion at some point in mid to late October early November. In the mean time we have our current regulations and we need to be diligent in enforcing those. Wants to have a balance and something that is fair to all.

McNeely: Currently the Selectboard is enforcing the regulations from 2005? (changes that were made to the current regulation will be given to Ms. McNeely)

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
MONDAY, September 21, 2015**

Discussion about including Jake breaks, loud music, motorcycles and car noise added to the regulation

Town Administrators Report

Recommendations on Special Articles at October 1, 2015 Special Town Meeting

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 1: \$7,000 to increase IT Discretionary article for FY16 as written. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 2 as written: \$63,000 for Triennial Revaluation.. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 3 as written: \$22,000 to increase Sheffield Boiler replace/repair article. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 4 as written: \$100,000 of Sewer Retained Earnings to keep sewer rates to a 10% increase. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 5 as written: \$100,000 of Sewer Retained Earnings to increase the WPCF Capital Stabilization Fund. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 6 as written: \$4,856 of Airport Retained Earnings to increase town share of AIP17. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 7 as written: \$1,500 to increase FY16 Shared Budget (#159) for additional town e-mail licenses. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 8 as written: \$18,000 to increase FY16 Veterans Benefits budget based on current caseload. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 9 as written: \$5,000 for Cable TV contract Legal. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 10 as written: \$15,000 for library access repairs. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 11 as written: \$6,000 to repair Montague Center Library brickwork. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 12 as written: \$15,000 for developing a preliminary design/engineering for DPW. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 13 as written: \$20,000 for legal representation and technical assistance related to pipeline application at the federal level. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 14 as written: \$10,000 for legal representation related to pipeline application at the state level. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
MONDAY, September 21, 2015**

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 15 as written: Amend zoning map for Millers Falls parcel. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 16 as written: \$250,000 from Free Cash to establish an Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) trust fund. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 17 as written: Rescind remaining \$26,647.63 of borrowing authority for Article #14 of the 9/12/13 STM (related to Industrial Park emergency). Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 18 as written: Rescind the unused balance, currently \$12,894, of #21 5/2/15 (Montague Center School maintenance). Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 19 as written: Amend town bylaws so Finance Committee can have minimum of 3 members. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 20 as written: Lease for regional dog shelter. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse article 21 as written: Establish a municipal lighting plant. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Topics not anticipated in the 48 hour posting requirements.

Executive Session as authorized pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A §21 (a)(2) to conduct Negotiations for Police Chief Charles Dodge, votes may be taken

Nelson declares having this in open session will be detrimental to the Towns bargaining position

Kuklewicz makes the motion to go into Executive Session at 8:12 PM as authorized pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A §21 (a)(2) to conduct Negotiations with Police Chief Charles Dodge. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to go out of executive session at 9:14 PM and adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson - Aye