

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
MINUTES

Date: January 23, 2017
Time: 7:02pm
Place: Town Hall
Egremont

Present at the table were Chairman Flynn, Vice-Chairman Turner, Selectman Brazie,
Also present were Tom Sierau, Juliette Haas, and Marj Wexler.

This meeting is audio and visually recorded.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the January 5, January 9, and January 12 meetings were accepted with minor corrections.

SCHEDULED ISSUES:

Due to bad weather the presentation by the Berkshire County Education Task Force was postponed to February 6.

TOWN OFFICIALS:

Tom Sierau reported that the Draft Hydrant Committee wants to remove the silt from the Jug End Reservation pond. Plans had been put in motion during the summer when the water level was very low. The Town does not have an easement from the Commonwealth to maintain the pond. A request to Mass Fisheries & Wildlife regarding this has gone unanswered. As the site is jointly owned by the Department of Conservation and Recreation Bruce Turner offered to contact them to see if the work can be coordinated.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board voted to approve installing an 11.5kW solar array on the Police Facility at an estimated cost of \$42,000. \$25,000 will be paid from the balance in the Green Communities Act grant, \$17,000 will be paid from the balance in the Police Station account. The estimated savings each year is projected to be \$2,700. It was noted that the Water Solar has been successful and the SRECs were higher then expected as has the electric savings been.

The Board held on the appointment of substitute Librarian for a review of the application and COR check by the Personnel Director.

The Board voted 2-1 (Turner opposed) to approve expenses in excess of the snow and ice budget for FY 2017.

The Board adopted the Public Records Access policy as drafted.

The Board approved a 6-month leave of absence for Wiring Inspector Richard Cappadona.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Board accepted the resignation of Josh Labshere from the Highway Department.

The Board voted 2-1 (Turner opposed) to appoint Shawn Sullivan as a part-time plow truck driver for the Town at \$20 per hour.

Chairman Flynn has not yet drafted the request for documents from SBRSD.

The Housing Study Committee will be discussed at the February 6 meeting.

FOLLOW UPS:

The has met with the Mount Washington Road bridge contractor. A new schedule will be submitted and corrected requests for payments and change orders will be received for discussion with the engineer on Wednesday.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

The Board will not attend a joint meeting of the five towns to discuss the School budget. That has been attempted in the past and always fails as the five towns have different philosophies about the school and the budget.

The Board will meet on Monday, January 30th at 7pm for the sole purpose of making a decision on broadband. (This meeting was later changed to Tuesday, January 31 at 9am.)

Vice-Chairman Turner reported on the MMA conference that he attended over the weekend. Chapter 70 school aid will increase about \$20 per student, MIIA's health premium increases average 7% for the coming year though Egremont's hasn't been specifically reported yet, a 3.9% revenue growth is projected so local aid may increase a bit. Bruce recommended that we talk with the BSC group about the Mount Washington Road.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

Mary Brazie,
Office Administrator

minutes.17/jan23

The recording of the minutes is on record at the Town Hall for 90 days. Anyone who wishes to may obtain a copy or listen to the recording at Town Hall. Attachments are on file at Town Hall.