

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
MINUTES

Date: April 24, 2017
Time: 7:00pm
Place: Town Hall
Egremont

Present at the table were Chairman Flynn, Vice-Chairman Turner, Selectman Brazie, Also present were Tom Berkel, Steve Rawlings, Tom Gage, David Seligman, Ralph Noveck, Tom Sierau, Laura Allen, Mike Bandzierz, and for part of the meeting Bill Turner, Susan Bachelder, Marj Wexler, and Berkshire Record reporter Sam Rappaport.

This meeting is audio and video recorded.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

MINUTES:

The Board accepted as presented the minutes of April 6 and 10.

NEW BUSINESS:

Two bids were received for the foundation stabilization and ADA upgrades at the South Egremont School House. Northern Construction \$435,000 and Salco Construction \$463,658. Both bids are over budget. The Board voted unanimously to reject both bids. The Board will meet with consultant Evelyn Smith to talk about options to move forward.

The Board accepted the resignation of Andre VanKov from the Agricultural Commission as he is moving out of the country.

The Board spoke with David Seligman about his interest in the Conservation Commission. The Board voted unanimously to appoint him to the Commission.

FOLLOW UPS:

Charlie Flynn reported that verbal discussion with Charter and MBI are moving forward. Charter will build out a minimum of 96% of the town. The remaining 28 homes may be built out with MBI grant funds. Charter is planning to begin make ready work this year and could conceivably begin construction in late 2017/early 2018, with construction being completed 9-12 months later. Charter will not use the middle mile. It was reported that Fiber Connect has been seen around town measuring poles.

The bridge on Mount Washington Road is OPEN!!

The Board awaits a response from the school district to the suit filed against it by the Board for Breach of Contract in regards to the actions of the school committee to close the South Egremont School. The Board will speak against the school budget at the Town Meeting, as will the Finance Committee. The Board will ask the district to move forward with the removal/replacement of the oil tank as soon as school is out for the summer.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

The Board will meet for a very short meeting on May 8, and will hold a regular meeting, at which it will re-organize, on May 22.

Fire Chief Bill Turner announced his retirement as Fire Chief effective in May. The new chief will be Joseph Schneider. The Board thanked him for his 35 years of service in that position. Chief Turner will remain in the department and will serve as a deputy chief for a time.

Fire Chief Turner also announced the towns new, lower ISO rating of 5/5Y from a 6. Residents may see a lower fire insurance premium. He credited the fire department members for their hard work that resulted in this improved rate.

BUDGET/TOWN MEETING:

The Board reviewed with the Finance Committee and the Moderator motions for both the Special Town Meeting and the Annual Town Meeting on May 2.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Mary Brazie,
Office Administrator

minutes.17/apr24

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.