

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
MINUTES

Date: December 5, 2017
Time: 7:00pm
Place: Town Hall
Egremont

Present at the table were Chairman Bruce Turner, Vice-Chairman McGurn, Selectman Brazie.

Others in attendance: Corey Wiley(Berkshire Record), Mary McGurn, Susan Bachelder, Abigail Rogers-McKee, Juliette Haas, Sanny Makki, Jared Kelly, Elliott Snyder, Bill Wood.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

It was announced that the meeting is video and audio recorded.

SCHEDULED ISSUES:

Juliette Haas gave the board the first annual year end report for the Green Communities grant. The Town utilized the \$138,000 grant to upgrade heating systems in some town buildings, and to weatherize other town buildings. The town has saved about 12.6% on its energy costs. About 21% of the towns energy use comes from Solar. The Town is now eligible to apply for a competitive grant of up to \$250,000 for further upgrades. Juliette proposes to upgrade the heating/ac system in Town Hall, replace the town's streetlights with LED's, and updated the Town Hall lights to LED's.

TOWN OFFICIALS:

Chairman Turner noted what a great event the fund raising party for the South Egremont School foundation was. He was very pleased to see so many young children present.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board interviewed Jared Kelly, Sanny Makki and Bill Wood for the second alternates position on the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Board voted unanimously to appoint Jared Kelly.

The Board met Abigail Rogers-McKee who is interested in filling a vacancy on the Historical Commission. Ms. McKee was unanimously appointed.

The Board approved moving forward with the Stewardship-Biological Management Plan for the Karner Brooke Ridge (former Friedman property). The cost is approximately \$1800 and may be covered by a grant.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Board voted to adopt an amended vacation pay policy for town employees that restricts pay outs of unused vacation to employees who terminate their employment for reasons other than retirement.

The Board voted to accept and sign the proposed contract with Interim Police Chief Brian Shaw for the period January 8 to March 31, 2018.

FOLLOW UPS:

Though only two contractors attended the walk thru of the South Egremont School, at least 8 contractors have taken out plans and specifications for the project. Bid opening is December 7 at 1pm. Richard Allen has sent a letter to the Board asking that the town not move forward on this project until it is fully funded and also asking that the Board take into consideration the opinion of non-voters. The recent fund raising party raised another \$1500 for the school foundation.

Charter/Spectrum has agreed to an extension for filing the Issuing Authority report, though they have not responded yet to the requests made at a recent meeting for information.

Vice-Chairman McGurn reported on a lively round table discussion hosted by the School Superintendent, with several members of the School Committee and Selectmen from all five towns with the exception of Sheffield present. The South Egremont School was the elephant in the room. The School Committee is going to start meeting in the five towns of the district.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

Chairman Turner asked about the no-parking ban issued for the winter months. Though it has been issued for over 30 years this was the first time it was sent out via the email list serve which seemed to get some peoples attention. The winter parking ban is allowed by statute and is observed in all towns in some manner.

Chairman Turner asked also about the timber trespass issue on Mount Washington Road on land owned by the Town. The abutting property owner has been notified of his error, admits to doing it, and awaits action from legal counsel.

Susan Bachelder reported that it looks like the Appalachian Trail will be deaccessioning its property on Route 41 to the Greenagers. Historic New England will hold the preservation restriction.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Mary Brazie,
Office Administrator

minutes.18/dec5

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.