

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MARCH 24, 2015
SHEPARD MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

PRESENT: David A. Delanski, Chairman, Robert E. Lavash, Sr. Vice-Chairman, Dario F. Nardi, Clerk
ATTENDEES: See list (attached)

Chairman Delanski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance in the Selectmen's Meeting Room in the Shepard Municipal Building.

Chairman Delanski announced that tonight's meeting was being both video and audio taped and requested anyone in the audience to disclose if they are recording tonight's meeting. Audience member Michael Baril stated he was recording the meeting.

MINUTES

Motion to accept the meeting minutes of March 4, 2015 as written made by Mr. Nardi; second: Mr. Delanski – 1 abstention

Motion to accept the meeting minutes of March 10, 2015 and March 12, 2015 as written made by Mr. Nardi; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Nardi met with Mr. William Scanlan to review net metering proposals from Synergy Energy; Housatonic Solar and Borrego Solar. The conclusion is that the offer from Borrego (landfill project) is best offer with a 2% escalator. Mr. Nardi recommends that consideration be given to a PPA with Borrego at the ATM. There was a consensus of the Selectboard to pursue with Borrego; Mr. Nardi will take the action item to reach out to Mr. Jon Sarno.

Mr. Nardi mentioned that the replacement chairs for the Selectmen's meeting room had been ordered and should arrive within 3-4 weeks. Lastly, he asked his colleagues to complete the evaluations he handed out last week for the two office staff members.

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Sean LeBoeuf addressed his continued concerns with the failed inspection sticker of the Highway vehicle; he remarked that responsibility for the operation of the vehicle is with the CDL operator; then with the foreman and lastly with the Highway Surveyor. They have a responsibility to operate a safety passed vehicle and not operate a vehicle with known safety concerns. Mr. Nardi acknowledged the concerns raised by LeBoeuf and others over the last couple of weeks. He would like to put the matter to rest; as the Board cannot change what may have happened and has since been corrected. There was a consensus of the Selectboard that Board member Lavash would investigate the matter by way of an investigatory interview and have an office staff member (Lorena or Becky) take minutes. LeBoeuf is concerned that this brings light to a pattern of behavior that should be addressed with some form of discipline.

Mr. James Kordek asked the Board if there were any findings on the inquiry to MIIA Insurance relative to operation of said vehicle. Mr. Delanski responded findings from MIIA revealed that the decision to operate is strictly a municipal decision; insurance coverage follows the vehicle.

A final inquiry was made by LeBoeuf to the Board on a letter received from a prior employee. Delanski noted that the matter had been turned over to a third party for further evaluation.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board reviewed the following:

- Letter from Chris Mendrek serving as his resignation from the Town of Warren Highway Department. He has provided a three week notice and is grateful for the opportunity to work in his hometown. He would like the Board of Selectmen and Highway Surveyor to know that all of his duties will be performed and finished prior to his leaving. Noted
- Email from Chief Spiewakowski stating the spaghetti dinner was a great success. They served approximately 70 seniors from Warren and West Warren. He would like to thank all those who helped make this event a success. Noted
- Email from Tim O'Brien confirming the position of CERT as well as Emergency Management. The members work together and support any activities requested by Police or Fire. Board is awaiting Article intentions. Request is made to contact West Brookfield to see if requests have additionally been made there. Mr. Barry Mongeon questioned if precedence was being set; is everyone aware of long-term implications. Delanski remarked that guidelines are set; the EM department operates in part through regional grants – if the stipend is considered; it would likely be something voted on yearly.
- A reminder from the Planning Board that a second informational meeting will be held tomorrow evening, March 25th at 6:45PM to review proposed zoning amendments scheduled for the Annual Town Meeting.

APPOINTMENTS TO LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE & REGIONAL HIGHWAY EQUIP SHARING CO-OP

Motion to appoint Mr. Robert E. Lavash, Sr. to both for an indefinite term made by Mr. Nardi; second: Mr. Delanski – 1 abstention.

TREASURY WARRANT(S) AND INVOICES

Motion to accept warrant # 77 (payroll) and #78 (vendor) dated March 23, 2015 in the amounts of \$36,661.26 and \$39,945.28 respectively was made by Mr. Nardi; Second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous

Motion to accept invoice #3 to PVPC for Comm. Assistance Program for FY2014 in the amount of \$7,454.21 was made by Mr. Nardi; Second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous

FY2016 BUDGET

Delanski announced there is a scheduled meeting on the 25th with West Brookfield Selectmen; Advisory Board; Finance Committee and QRSD to discuss the school budget.

Nardi reminded all that the deadline for article intentions is April 2nd. The Board would meet on the 7th for a regular meeting and on the 11th for a work meeting on budget discussions.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Lavash remarked that the Police Chief’s recent spaghetti dinner at the Senior Center was well attended and had much praise for the elementary school children who assisted in at the event.

Delanski reminded all of the Board’s intent to hold a Candidate’s night on Tuesday, April 29, 2015 in place of the Selectmen’s meeting. He encouraged anyone interested in acting as Moderator for the evening; to submit their letter of intent to the Selectmen’s office as soon as possible; along with any questions to be posed to the candidates that evening. The event is only for the two contested races Selectmen and Tree Warden.

Nardi announced he would again be working with Grey Barr Associates (previously provided LED bulbs for municipal offices) to look at the street lights in Town to find some energy savings by switching to LED lighting.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Next scheduled meeting: March 31, 2015 at 7:00 PM

Motion to Adjourn made by Mr. Lavash; Second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous at 7:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorena Prokop
Administrative Secretary

Dario F. Nardi, Clerk