



Board of Selectmen

Date of Meeting: Monday, December 19, 2016
Location: Town Hall, 221 Main Street
Time: 6:30 PM – 7:35 PM
Members Present: Chairman James Wood; Michael May; James Underwood; Marty McNamara, Town Administrator

The meeting commenced at 6:30 PM.

Financial Warrants were signed in agreement.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Report of the Town Administrator to the Board of Selectmen:

- ***April Steward:*** Out of the office for a few days due to a death in the family
- ***Town of Shrewsbury:*** Town Manager has been in touch with ma and is upset over FedEx project. Inquired about Colonial Drive and Rt. 290 interchange. I explained that those roadways are outside of the scope of the project. There have been some discussion with MassDOT and Secretary Ash about getting assistance in both of those areas. He wasn't happy and stated that their next step would be to challenge the development legally and probably would be appealing the planning board's decision. They have until December 27th to do that. Stephen Madaus is also counsel for the Town of Shrewsbury so he would have to recuse himself from participating in any of those meetings. If we wanted to get counsel we would need to seek special counsel. I have the names of a few lawyers but would like to hold off until we know if they are actually going to follow through with an appeal. There are still some discussions taking place and hopefully they can work it out. We are hopefully that they can work things out so that FedEx does not leave Boylston and go to another town. Mike May heard that the Town of Shrewsbury had a meeting with the developer of the FedEx development without the Town of Boylston's involvement. They invited the developer into a meeting with state officials including the DOT. Selectmen May is very concerned that the Town of Shrewsbury has interfered and has potentially created an environment with the developer that has caused them to make statements that they might have no choice but to walk away if certain actions are pursued by the Town of Shrewsbury. It may be in our interest to schedule an executive session to discuss pursuing a legal situation if it continues down that path. It may be in our best interest to take an aggressive posture until these things get sorted out. Selectmen Underwood agreed.
- ***Compass Pointe Sanding:*** Spoke with co-owner and they indicated that they will not be plowing or sanding the roadway. They will only be doing the initial roadway. I have spoken with the Highway Superintendent and have instructed him to be prepared to plow and sand the roadway because it is a safety issue.
- ***Free Cash:*** Unofficially the town accountant has informed me that the free cash amount should be around \$834K which is similar to where it was last year.
- ***Finance Committee:*** The finance committee is meeting tonight to work out a schedule for meeting with department heads to go over budgets. All budgets are due into my office next Thursday.
- ***Union Negotiations:*** Due to my unavailability, the third session was cancelled. There is another session scheduled for the first week of January.
- ***Highway Department Resignation:*** Graham Conlon resigned effective Friday, December 23, 2016. I have asked the Superintendent to take hiring someone a little bit slow. Selectmen May inquired about the HR Assistant position. He stated that there has been a lot of support for the role and wanted to know where we are in that process. TA said that the job description and ad have been written and he was

waiting until after the first of the year before he starts recruiting for that position. Between Christmas and New Year's is a tough time of year to be finding good quality candidates. We are also waiting for the Collins Center to send us back our contract. They said it is on its way so we should be seeing that in the next couple of days.

- **Weston & Sampson Credit:** In order to receiving a credit for the color of the salt shed there has to be an amendment to the original contract, reducing their fee by \$5K. We receive a credit on the last invoice from Construction Dynamics by \$5K. So the architect and the GC each absorbed half of the cost of the incorrect covering color being installed.
- **IRS Mileage Reimbursement Rate:** IRS has changed the rate again from \$0.54/mile to \$.053.5/mile. The Town Accountant has asked the BOS to approve the new 2017 mileage rate in accordance to the IRS rate. *Mike May made a motion to accept the new IRS mileage rate of \$0.53.5/mile; Jaimie Underwood 2nd; voted all in favor.*
- **Department Head Reports:**
 - Chief of Police is out on PPL
 - Fire Chief is leading a training on CPR
 - Highway Superintendent is in another Meeting

Report of the Building Inspector to the Board of Selectmen:

- **Schedule of Permit Fees** were presented.
- YTD \$116K – \$200K brought in in permit fees
- Nissan Electric car broke down last week. The Asst. Tax Collector was not able to start the car initially, but then it started before it had to be towed.
- Liquor License inspection have been performed

Historical Society: Martha Bigelow and Judy Hays

Here looking for a variance to put in a chair lift at the Old Town Hall. Tried in 2009 and variance was never submitted. The HS had contacted a company to come in and see if anything could be done. They measured and said that they could put in a chairlift, but the ADA requires is a wheelchair lift and there is not room for that. So the alternative is an elevator. The HS feel that that would be detrimental to the building. They are also under the impression that they were told that due to the building being built in the 1830s and made out of Boylston granite that it was exempt, being a historical building. It is located in the Historical District. So it was left at that point. A few months ago the HS curator decided to try again. He went through the same process and met resistance down in Boston. They told him that he could try for a variance. He has the paperwork and handed it over to Martha and Judy to head up the project. It is getting harder for seniors to make it up the stairs and they would like to see something done so that they do not have to turn people away from programs that are run on the second floor of the building. They would like to receive a variance and have a chair lift installed on the stairs. They have received pricing from a chairlift company and feel that it is a really good price. Mike May asked for clarification on the installation of the chair lift vs. a single lift wheelchair lift. The granite block outside wall makes it difficult to do anything that would necessitate adding on to the outside of the walls, and that would also be detrimental to the historical aspect of the building. The AAB (Architectural Accessibility Board) is asking for the variance. If they cannot get the variance, they can appeal the decision. In 2009 the AAB told the Historical Society that the building did not comply, so don't bother submitting your application for a variance because they were going to deny it. The Historical Society would like to try again. The town owns the building, therefore they will need signatures from the board in order to proceed with the variance request. Jim Wood is in favor of them proceeding with the variance. Jamie Underwood had a suggestion for getting the building listed on the National Register of Historic Landmarks and that classification would help in applying for the variance. Martha believes they already are registered with the state as a historic landmark, there have been conflicting reports. There are 61 buildings in the Historic District that are included as Historic Buildings but none of the buildings are individually called out. Dave Butler pointed out that if you get the building registered nationally, there could be a catch 22 where

they don't want to make any changes at all to the building. How will this be paid for? The chair lift approximate cost is around \$13K. The Historic board has looked into the possibility of acquiring a grant. Martha has already contacted one organization that has expressed interest. *Michael May made a motion to support the variance for purposes of having a chair lift installed at the Old Town Hall; Jamie Underwood seconded; voted all in favor.* Martha Bigelow left a copy with Marty McNamara to answer any "owner" questions on the form.

Conservation Committee: Joe McGrath

Brought in a draft agreement he received from Stephen Madaus. Joe wanted to leave the agreement so that the BOS could review and discuss at a later date. He also wanted to discuss the land usage agreement that he has presented in the past. It has been simplified and was presented again for review and can be discussed at a future time.

Signed ABCC License renewals that were approved at the last meeting. No new licenses were submitted for 2017.

The Board of Selectmen discussed honoring the WB Lions Football team for their 2016 Championship season. More details need to be hashed out. Chairman Wood would like to have the names of the oldest man and woman in town to hold a gold can ceremony. He inquired from the TA if he could get that information. Mike May brought up what an asset to the town Bob Bourassa has become and the work he will now be doing up at the Town House.

At 7:35 PM Jamie Underwood motioned to adjourn; Mike May seconded; voted all in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
April C. Steward, Assistant to the Board of Selectmen

Meeting Materials

| | |
|---|--|
| Agenda | On file in Board of Selectmen's Office |
| Meeting Sign in sheet | On file in Board of Selectmen's Office |
| Department Head Information | On file in Board of Selectmen's Office |
| National School Choice Week Information | On file in Board of Selectmen's Office |
| Comm of MA search for lease space | On file in Board of Selectmen's Office |
| National Grid FY18 IVM Notice | On file in Board of Selectmen's Office |
| Building Permits | On file in Board of Selectmen's Office |
| National Grid Herbicide Notification | On file in Board of Selectmen's Office |