

Board of Selectmen Meeting - Tuesday, January 14, 2014. --- 7:04 pm.
116 Main Road, Tyringham

Present-- Christopher Johnson, Peter Curtin, Gerard Miller
Others present - Molly Curtin Schaefer and (see attached list)

Mail was read, Treasury warrants were approved, previous minutes were approved.

POLICE CHIEF: The Board accepted a resignation letter from Peter Curtin. He resigned as Police Chief on December 31, 2013 after 31 years of service to the Town. Gerard Miller stated the Berkshire Eagle will be contacting Peter as they want to run a story about his resignation and the promotion of Patrick Holian to Chief.

MUNICIPAL AGGREGATION: Christopher Johnson made a motion to accept and approve the Municipal Aggregation Plan DPU 13-142 dated December 18, 2013, Gerard Miller seconded. No opposition.

GENERATOR:

The Town Hall generator maintenance contract thru Andrus Power was signed by Christopher Johnson.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Tonio Palmer passed out a draft document of budgets for Town Meeting in May. Tonio read thru the new grouping of budgets, reorganized expenses and explained the redesign format. Gerard Miller thanked the Finance Committee for all the work on this document. Gerard Miller asked about revenues that flow into the town. Jim Consolati explained those numbers are part of the exercise that are currently included, and that the numbers are estimates only until the State finalizes their budget. The Finance Committee will hold budget meetings to present the budgets to the Town for the Fiscal Year 2015 which begins July 1, 2014. The first meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2014 and if needed April 29, 2014. The Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for May 13, 2014.

BY LAWS - Jim Consolati discussed the Finance Committee by-laws and formalizing the wording which will go before the Planning Board, Board of Selectmen and a public hearing, and presented to the Town at the Annual Town Meeting in May.

HIGHWAY BUILDING: Matthew Puntin, Chairman Highway Building Committee presented an update on the proposed highway building and the land on Webster Road which is approximately 2 acres and owned by the Harding family. This is the only property the committee has found with desirable land that is usable and in a fairly central location. Peter Curtin spoke to Margaret Harding regarding the sale of land; she is willing to work with the Town. Matthew Puntin will contact her. At this point the Town could enter into an agreement for purchase and sale of this land with the family,

contingent on a Town Meeting vote. It was agreed the Selectmen, Town Counsel and Trust family members should set up a meeting. Veronica Deyeso expressed her concerns and opposes a highway building on Webster Road. A discussion ensued about this location and the process the committee has been thru trying to locate desirable property. Matthew Puntin also stated he would be willing to sit down and review the schematic with Mrs. Deyeso. Christopher Johnson and Gerard Miller agreed Mrs. Deyeso's concerns were all valid, and discussed the fact that this is a very preliminary discussion about this land. The purchase would have to go thru public hearing and Town Meeting vote before the Board could take any further action.

WI SPRING - Ron Goldberg stated many families on the North end of Town do not have internet yet. Ron asked about a pole being placed on Jerusalem Road and equipment being installed to bounce the signal to those residents. Gerard Miller expressed concerns about installing 1 pole and having a snowball effect and other residents asking for a pole which could become very expensive for the Town. A discussion ensued about internet coverage in Tyringham. The Board will speak to Holly Ketron and Wi-Spring representatives. It is possible that the tower could be raised to get more coverage to households.

FIRE DEPT.

Charles Slater stated the Fire Company voted the following: Rob Kimberly as Deputy Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Warden. Andrew Slater as 1st Assistant Chief.

Gerard Miller made a motion to appoint Rob Kimberly-Deputy Fire Chief, and Deputy Fire Warden. Andrew Slater as 1st Assistant Chief. Christopher Johnson seconded. Burning season opens Wednesday, January 15, 2014. Call Charles Slater or the Fire Company for permits. A document will be put on our web site and blasted to the Email subscribers.

BERKSHIRE COUNTY RETIREMENT:

Gerard Miller spoke with Berkshire County Retirement regarding the Town Clerk position, appointed officials have to fill out weekly time sheets, and have their hours certified by the Board and the Board must assign hours. Gerrard Miller made a motion to assign 4 hours per week to the town clerk, Christopher Johnson seconded. This is under Chapter 41 s. 19E . It is considered a holdover position and as such it should have been on ballot in May 2013. Once the official is elected again, no time sheets are needed.

TIME SHEETS:

Time sheets - Gerard Miller asked that all employees submit time sheets (even salaried employees) listing normal duties, meetings, and any traveling out of Town for various reasons. Christopher Johnson seconded, no opposition. Molly to develop time cards for all.

Health Insurance – Gerard Miller stated he will work with Town Counsel to develop an article for Town Meeting that will no longer offer health insurance for Elected Officials making over \$3,000.00 effective as of May 2014 if the Board supports this idea. This article will not affect any current elected official who has health insurance thru the Town. Christopher Johnson seconded, Peter Curtin opposes. Gerard will draft up article with Town Counsel. Gerrard stated this will be drafted so it will not affect anyone who currently has insurance thru the Town but a way to limit future costs associated with health insurance.

Gerard Miller discussed the purchase of secure cluster mail boxes to be erected on Goose Pond Road. He outlined the fact that the Town financially supports the Community Post Office and the Town could provide cluster mailboxes at Goose Pond. The approximate cost would be \$1,600.00 per pedestal and 2 are needed. Gerrard will talk to Lee Post Office, and reach out to residents at Goose Pond. Gerard Miller would like to discuss these steps with Lee Post Office he will report back to the Board.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

A long and short range plan should be developed outlining maintenance issues, priorities etc. with Town Buildings and costs associated with this upkeep. Larry Gould and Leslie Beebe developed a list a couple of years ago which should be updated.

Annual Town Report- A discussion ensued about the timing of the Annual Report. Further information is needed.

Legislative Meeting

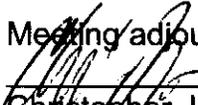
The Board approved a Legislative Breakfast meeting that will be held at the Town Hall on February 28, 2014. 8am – 10 am.

DONATION: Kathryn Greenthal made a donation to the town and the Board agreed to use the money toward the new park fence. A letter will be sent thanking her for the donation.

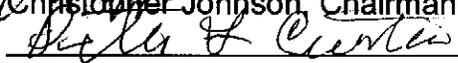
CEMETERY COMMISSION:

A letter will be sent to the Cemetery Committee, Chair. asking them to contact the Planning Board regarding updating their by-laws. The Board would like an article on the May 2014 meeting.

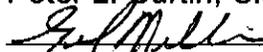
Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.



Christopher Johnson, Chairman



Peter L. Curtin, Clerk



Gerard Miller, Member