

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Tuesday February 25, 2020 (following Health meeting). PM 6:03 pm

Board members present: James Consolati, Matthew Puntin, Michael Curtin & Molly Curtin-Schaefer.

Mail was read, previous minutes and treasury warrants were approved, birthday cards were signed.

Mail reviewed: DEP-water quality certification (bridge NO T-10-007), East-West Rail Study Comments from Berk. Cnty. Selectmen's Association.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

UPDATES by James Consolati

GREEN COMMUNITIES: A discussion ensued regarding meeting the criteria for the Green Community Designation. Qualifying communities can apply for grants to fund energy efficiency initiative, renewable energy, innovative projects.

The 5 qualification criteria are:

1. Adopt as-of-right siting, in designated locations, for RE/AE generation, or RE/AE R&D or RE/AE manufacturing
2. Adopt expedited (12 month) application/permitting process
3. Establish an energy use baseline with a plan to reduce baseline by 20% in 5 years
4. Purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles (town trucks are exempt)
5. Require new residential construction and new commercial and industrial real estate construction to minimize life-cycle energy costs (Adopt Stretch Code – 780 CMR 115, Appendix AA)

Renewable Energy Generation Designation as-of-right: A discussion ensued regarding meeting the criteria for the Green Community Designation as-of-right. It was agreed that an acre of land at the Transfer Station will be a designated area for the minimum of 250K watts of generation power (solar, wind or biomass conversion) and this would meet criteria #1.

Visiting Nurse Association: James Consolati signed the annual contract for Porchlight VNA Nursing Service for FY20.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: The new police cruiser was ordered with a gasoline engine and it came in with a hybrid engine. If another cruiser is ordered it could take up to this Fall for it to be delivered. Pat Holian is going to test this vehicle for a few days to see how it preforms. The Selectmen would like Chief Holian's input on this after the test drive.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: The Tyringham Affordable Housing Commission is posting a meeting to vote to dissolve the Housing Trust. The Real Estate owned by the trust will revert to the Town of Tyringham and the Selectmen will sell the RE and put the proceeds in the trust fund to be used for Affordable Housing initiatives.

Adjourned 7:25 pm


James Consolati, Chairman


Matthew Puntin, Clerk


Michael Curtin, Member