

**MINUTES
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
APRIL 22, 2013**

Chairman Belanger called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Members present were Douglas Belanger, Sandra Wilson, Thomas Buckley, Dianna Provencher and Matthew Dennison. Also present was Town Administrator Robert Reed.

Fee Schedules – Amendment proposals

- Executive Director Robert Wilson was present to speak to his proposal to make changes to the current EMS Department fee and rate schedule (on file) as posted on the Town Clerk's bulletin board in accordance with Town's General Bylaws Chapter 6, Section 3. Discussion on reimbursements from insurance programs not being what they once were; the revolving account is not up to the numbers of years ago. They feel the proposed rates is a better fit for administrative costs and ambulance services combined.

MOTION: Ms. Wilson moved to adopt new EMS rates, as presented, effective 5/1/13.
Mr. Buckley seconded. UNANIMOUS

- Nobody was present on proposal to make changes to the current Weights & Measures fee and rate schedule (on file) as posted on the Town Clerk's bulletin board in accordance with Town's General Bylaws Chapter 6, Section 3. Discussion of where the fees are deposited to, which Mr. Reed will confirm for the Board, but he believe the fees are deposited into the General Fund.

MOTION: Ms. Wilson moved to adopt new Weights & Measures rates and language, as presented, effective immediately. Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

Board of Health – alliance with City of Worcester

Karyn Johnson was present to discuss current tobacco control alliance and proposed alcohol control alliance. Grant provides funding for education and she will work with Town Administrator to pursue outreach in Leicester. The Board thanked her for attending.

Pole Hearing – Joint owned by Verizon and Mass Electric

Petition to relocate the following:

- Pole #36 on Whittemore St on the northerly sideline approximately 15' west of current location. Old pole 36 with pushbrace and existing pole 32-2 are to be removed and all utilities transferred to new pole location.
- Two stub poles on southerly side of Whittemore St to provide support for the main pole line and removal of old braces.

MOTION: Ms. Provencher moved to approve both petitions for work on Whittemore St utility poles, and authorize the Board's signatures. Mr. Dennison seconded. UNANIMOUS

Annual Town Meeting

General Bylaw amendments

All proposals have been forwarded to the Bylaw Committee for their review and consideration:

- Article 31 – set up an agricultural commission empowered to resolve disputes arising from this Bylaw, which we could have done upon adoption of the "Right to Farm" Bylaw adopted in May 2005. Ms. Provencher promoted this article.
- Article 32 – establish "stretch energy code" for new building criteria, which will allow our becoming a "green community" and being eligible for energy improvement grant funds, hopefully used to replace our Town Hall boiler.
- Article 33 – reduce membership of Advisory Board from current nine (9) to seven (7) members and language clarification on appointment process.

MOTION: Mr. Dennison moved to recommend approval of each of the three General Bylaw articles #31, #32, and #33. Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

Article 1 – Town Reports

Articles 2 thru 14 – Consent Calendar of repeat housekeeping articles

MOTION: Ms. Provencher moved to recommend approval of Articles 1 through 14.
Mr. Dennison seconded. UNANIMOUS

Article 15 – Chapter 90 roadway funds – Motion to approve by Dennison, 2nd Provencher, UNANIMOUS

Article 16 – Elected Officials pay – Motion to level fund rates by Provencher, 2nd Buckley, UNANIMOUS

Article 17 – Operating Budget – HOLD

Article 18 – out-of-state retiree ins costs – Motion to approve by Dennison, 2nd Provencher, UNANIMOUS

Article 19 – annual CMRPC assessment – Motion to approve by Buckley, 2nd Wilson, 4-0, Provencher abstained

Article 20 – Reserve Fund set at \$50,000 – Motion to approve by Wilson, 2nd Provencher, UNANIMOUS

Article 21 – rescind borrowing authorization SBAB project – Motion to approve by Dennison/Provencher/UNAM

Article 22 – FY'14 Capital Plan budget – HOLD

Article 23 – Stormwater obligations – Motion to approve by Wilson, 2nd Buckley, UNANIMOUS

Article 24 – Town-owned dams – Motion to approve by Provencher, 2nd Dennison, UNANIMOUS

Article 25 – establish Hillcrest Capital Stabilization acct – Motion to approve by Provencher, 2nd Buckley, UNAM

Article 26 – driveway repairs – Motion to approve by Dennison, 2nd Provencher, 3-2 Wilson & Belanger opposed

Article 27 – two new police vehicles – Motion to approve by Provencher, 2nd Wilson, UNANIMOUS

Article 28 – GASB 45 requirement – Motion to approve by Provencher, 2nd Wilson, UNANIMOUS

Article 29 – Carey Hill Estates road conversion – HOLD

Article 30 – Town Common improvements – Motion to approve by Provencher, 2nd Wilson, UNANIMOUS

Article 31 – (see above)

Article 32 – (see above)

Article 33 – (see above)

Article 34 – zoning for medical marijuana – Motion to support by Dennison, 2nd Provencher, UNANIMOUS

Article 35 – zoning amendment for child care – HOLD

Special Town Meeting

Article 1 – amend FY'13 budgets with supplemental appropriation (on file), concerns with the following:

- IT – combine Town's IT services and needs with that of School Dept for budget savings
- Snow & Ice – include fuel costs in these expense reports
- Chart of Accounts – standard that is currently not being met
- Board of Health – regional costs are not supposed to escalate, our in-house person is now only here two days/week vs five.

Article 2 – no capital projects anticipated for funding at this time

MOTION: Mr. Dennison moved to recommend approval of Special Town Meeting Article 1, hold on Article 2 at this time. Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

Correspondence

1. Memo from School Dept appointing Kathleen Pelley as rep to Capital Improvement Planning Committee.

MOTION: Ms. Provencher moved to appoint Kathleen Pelley as School's rep to CIPC, term to expire 6/30/43. Mr. Buckley seconded. UNANIMOUS

2. Memo from EMS Exec Director Robert Wilson noting that Ambulance/Fire Study Sub-committee has been inactive for two years and requesting abolishment thereof.

MOTION: Mr. Dennison moved to abolish Ambulance/Fire Study Sub-committee, effective immediately. Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

3. Memo from Richard Johnston requesting that we abolish Waite Pond Task Force, whose duties have been completed at this time.

MOTION: Ms. Provencher moved to abolish the Waite Pond Task Force, effective immediately.
Ms. Wilson seconded. UNANIMOUS

4. Memo from Senator Moore regarding transportation bond bills. FILE

Late – MEMA grant contract form in the amount of \$1135 to sign on behalf of Emergency Management Director, to be used for purchase of laptop computer for tracking of emergency services.

MOTION: Mr. Dennison moved to Chairman to sign MEMA contract form as presented.
Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

Late – Memo from Highway Supt noting retirement June 28th of Highway mechanic Gary Dufries and requesting that we start hiring process now.

MOTION: Mr. Dennison moved to begin process of hiring new Highway Dept mechanic and to forward letter of congratulations and thanks to Mr. Dufries. Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

FY'14 Budget discussions

Points of interest brought forward this week included:

- Bonnie Layden, Advisory Board, did not feel that a \$750,000 Override implemented for the next three years will be enough to avoid our coming back to the townspeople asking for more.
- Town Administrator Reed felt that the sooner we set a budget number to work backward from, as it will allow more time to educate the public in this regard.
- Selectmen Matt Dennison felt we need to know what services will be restored should an Override pass.
- Rick Antanavica, Advisory Board, was not in favor of an Override that includes any raises for employees.
- Doug Belanger noted that we must first determine what our priorities are, and he is hearing public safety. The Board agreed.

Agreement – CMRPC and Town of Leicester assessors' map conversion to GIS system – HOLD

Agreement – Spencer & Leicester 2013 CIC Grant funding has been cut. We now must pay assessment for our portion from our Stormwater budget. Intermunicipal Agreement for matching grant funds for signature.

MOTION: Mr. Buckley moved for Board to sign Intermunicipal Agreement for matching grant funds, as presented. Ms. Wilson seconded. UNANIMOUS

Regional Dispatching – draft letter prepared by TA as an update to our 5/17/10 communications to the State 911 Department. The letter informs their Executive Director that the Town of Leicester continues to consider and work toward implementation of a regional dispatcher program with the City of Worcester. The Board reviewed and amended the letter, to be signed by the Chair.

MOTION: Ms. Wilson moved for Chair to sign amended letter to State 911 Department, with regard to regional dispatching services. Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

Board Reports/New Business

Selectman Dennison: Boston Marathon bombing issues are overwhelming. Our public safety command was there to assist. Our thoughts and prayers are with all those in need.

Selectman Provencher: CERTS grant due on April 24th, great time at the Little League parade and ceremonies

Selectman Buckley: Mothers Club fundraised coming up at high school

Selectman Belanger: Eagle Scout project geared toward all houses being numbers; complete forms for assistance and they will be there to number each and every house to assist public safety needs.

MOTION: Ms. Wilson moved to allow meeting to move beyond 10:00pm deadline.
Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

Executive Session

MOTION: Ms. Provencher moved for the Board to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Chapter 21(a)3 collective bargaining; no public announcements anticipated, the Board to adjourn with lack of quorum. Ms. Wilson seconded. The Board was polled: ALL AYES

The Board went into Executive Session at 10:01pm.
The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan LeChasseur,
Administrative Assistant