

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MAY 23, 2019 at 6:30pm
BECKER COLLEGE, BORGER 110, 964 MAIN STREET, LEICESTER, MA 01524

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING

Chairwoman Provencher called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. Chair Dianna Provencher, Vice Chair Sandra Wilson, 2nd Vice Chair Brian Green, Selectman Harry Brooks, Selectman Rick Antanavica and Town Administrator David Genereux were in attendance.

1. Discuss 3-5 Year Goals

- Mr. Brooks discussed the Administrator's changing of the Economic Development position to a Highway position at the Fall Town Meeting, stating that while he supported it, the other four Board members were opposed, so he didn't know why it was done. Mr. Genereux explained that he did not get that same impression, and that there were three opportunities to change the wording, but the vote on the recommendation did not occur until the night that the warrant was signed. Mr. Genereux stated that he has consistently maintained that the Board and Administrator must work together in harmony to illustrate leadership to the community, and had he had been sure the recommendation was going to be negative, he would not have brought it forward.
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- Mr. Brooks stated that the Town should be looking at fencing the retaining ponds on the fire station property, as a potential hazard to the public. Ms. Wilson said that many public retention ponds aren't fenced. Mr. Genereux agreed to obtain quotes for a chain link fence.
- Mr. Genereux related to the Board that Representative LeBoeuf was told by the Attorney General's Office that if the Cherry Valley water budget is not in place by June 30th, they could continue to fund operations under MGL Chapter 44 Sections 4 and 9, but could not change water rates.
- Mr. Genereux further discussed water bills and liens on property in Cherry Valley. Ms. Wilson explained that the foreclosures happening in Cherry Valley were not directly connected to water or sewer bills. Mr. Brooks stated that they could be. There was further discussion about the effect of the water/sewer situation on property values.
- Mr. Genereux discussed a recent email received from Mass DOT regarding paving of Route 9 to take place in July and August. Mr. Genereux stated that he would try to get more information from Mass DOT.
- Mr. Green stated that he wanted to concentrate on economic development when he comes of the Board. He will be working on the natural gas expansion. Mr. Antanavica asked that a survey be sent to Staffordshire.
- Mr. Brooks asked about installation of charging stations for electric cars. Mr. Green stated that they are not available very cheaply through grant funding, and suggested using CMRPC.
- Mr. Brooks asked about what the Town will be spending its Chapter 90 allotment on this year, as funding could not be used to improve the Town Hall parking lot. Mr. Genereux stated that it would be on the June 3 agenda.
- Ms. Provencher discussed the formation of the committee to dispose of the Memorial School.
- Mr. Brooks inquired about water being taken from Henshaw Pond for irrigation at the Hill Crest Golf Course. Mr. Genereux said that he would check into it.
- Mr. Brooks asked about how the Public Safety meetings were going. Mr. Genereux discussed a few issues that have been taken on by the Committee thus far. Mr. Brooks asked about conditions on Rogers Street, and stated that the intersection of Auburn and Tobin needed a stop sign. He

further suggested a flashing light on Route 9 at Burncoat Street, and a stop sign at the intersection of Main and Paxton Street westbound.

- Ms. Provencher spoke of the issue with water chestnuts in the town ponds and asked whether they could be cleaned up as part of the annual MVP grant. Mr. Genereux stated that it could, but the Town would have to alter its' hazard mitigation plan to make that item a priority.

2. Review Comprehensive Policy Manual

No discussion was held on this topic

3. 7:35 pm – Executive Session

- Exceptions 3 & 7 – Discuss strategy with respect to pending litigation in the case of BSI v. Town of Leicester, Civil Action No. 1885CV00985 pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3) and (7) and Suffolk Construction v. DCAM, 449 Mass. 444 (2007).**

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Brooks to enter into executive session at 7:35 pm under Mass General Law Chapter 30A, Section 21A, Exceptions 3 and 7, to discuss strategy with respect to litigation (BSI Litigation) and (7) and Suffolk Construction v. DCAM, 449 Mass. 444 (2007) to discuss pending litigation in the case of BSI v. Town of Leicester, Civil Action No. 1885CV00985. The Chair declared that to discuss these matters in open session would compromise the position of the Town. Roll call: 5:0:0.