

TOWN OF LANESBOROUGH SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Submitted by Diane Stevens, Town Secretary

April 27, 2015

Present: Mr. John Goerlach, Chairman
Mr. Robert Ericson
Mr. Henry Sayers
Mr. Paul Sieloff, Town Administrator

Warrants: Warrants Signed

The meeting was opened by John Goerlach at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment

Betsy Bean thanked the Highway Department for placing 12 dozen 250th flags around Town. Paul Soroken and Ron Tinkham came before the Board relative to the work by the Fire and Water District on Sunrise Street. Sunrise Street residents have asked Mr. Tinkham to address the Board regarding their concerns. Mr. Tinkham stated that he has spoken with Fire and Water Superintendent Dan Gaylord and Water Commissioner Bill Prendergast and has been given different versions of how the project will be completed. Mr. Soroken sent a letter to the Town which was given to the Board. Mr. Tinkham and Mr. Soroken would like the Board to check into the problems to make sure that the work is performed properly. Mr. Sieloff stated that he has been bringing these concerns to the Water District and they have a list of things that need to be completed. Mr. Sieloff stated that with many residents' water lines being frozen it took top priority for the Water District. Mr. Sieloff stated that the Water District was waiting for the asphalt plant to open to be able to black top the road. Mr. Tinkham stated that there was a lot of work that still needs to be completed. Mr. Goerlach stated that he would talk to DPW Director Decelles tomorrow and get a list of what needs to be completed and forward that to the Water District. Mr. Goerlach asked Mr. Tinkham to forward a list of items to be completed to DPW Director Decelles. [#1]

Unveiling of Town Hall Painting – in Library

Mr. Sieloff invited participants at the meeting to join him in the Town Library for the unveiling of an oil painting of Town Hall which was painted by local artist, Walt Pasko. Mr. Sieloff stated that a \$400 grant was obtained from the Cultural Council of Northern Berkshire which made it possible to procure the painting of the portrait to commemorate the Town's 250th Anniversary. COA Director Lorna Gayle handed out information sheets to participants and Winslow Newton attended the unveiling representing the Newton family. Mr. Sieloff stated that the painting will appear on the cover of this year's Town Report and Ms. Gayle stated that a download of the painting will be available for download on the Town's website to use as a screensaver. [#2]

Permit(s) / Contract(s) / Use of Town Property or Notification to Town of Community Event / Appointment(s)

Application for Permit to Use Town Owned Property – Town Clean Up

Martha Freedman for the Town Clean up Committee came before the Board relative to the 7th Annual Town Clean-up Day which will commence on Saturday, May 30th from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Mrs. Freeman stated that last year 46 bags of litter were collected. Mrs. Freedman stated that bigger items were reported and picked up by the Highway Department. Mr. Goerlach stated that the Town will coordinate with the Highway Department to make sure they are available. Mrs. Freedman stated that the Sheriff's Department cleaned up Route 7 and this is a great way to continue the effort and make the Town more presentable. It was the consensus of the Board to accept the application. [#3]

V's Doghouse – Petition for Change of All Alcohol License

Brenda Vella and Attorney Michael Hashim came before the Board with a Petition for Change of All Alcohol License for V's Doghouse. Mr. Sieloff stated to the Board that the Health Department reported to him that there were outstanding issues. A Memorandum from Health Agent, Ed Fahey was presented to the Board concerning the establishment's failed public water supply and failed communications with the Board of Health and the Department of Environmental Protection. Mr. Sieloff stated that a water system has not been put in place. Attorney Hashim stated that these items are not related to the Petition and that the Board of Health should not hold up the filing of this paperwork. Ms. Vella stated that she has never heard of issues with the Department of Environmental Protection regarding the water system. Mr. Goerlach stated that the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission wants all things in place before the paperwork is submitted. Mr. Sayers asked if the back of the

establishment would still be open to the public. Ms. Vella stated that it would be. Mr. Sayers asked if there would be an entrance from the back as there have been issues with this in the past and Ms. Vella said there would not be. Mr. Sayers also stated that the Police Department has had to respond to problems at the establishment in the past and would like to not have these issues going forward. Attorney Hashim asked if these issues were ever brought in front of the Board. Mr. Sayers stated that it would have but unfortunately the establishment burned down. Mr. Ericson asked about placing bollards in front of the front door so as not to block emergency access. Attorney Hashim and Ms. Vella stated that it would be done. Mr. Ericson asked about egress to the back of the establishment. Mr. Sayers stated that he had received complaints about gate being left open. Ms. Vella stated that it was a one-way locking mechanism so no one could access from the outside. Mr. Goerlach asked if the neighbors had any issues. One resident asked if the noise could be lowered by 10 p.m. Joe Dickson stated that when patrons park on Gulf Road it is difficult to pass through and this poses problems especially for emergency vehicles. Mr. Goerlach stated that the issue is that the Police Department must enforce the parking regulations by ticketing and towing vehicles. Mr. Dickson stated that the Board had discussed having Arizona Pizza and V's Doghouse fence in the area around their dumpsters and have lids kept down to prevent debris from blowing onto Gulf Road and Route 7. Attorney Hashim stated that the dumpster area will be fenced in. Mr. Goerlach stated that the Board will send Arizona Pizza a letter about their dumpsters and that maybe automatic closures on gates could be installed. Motion 15-42. Motion made by Henry Sayers to approve the Petition for Change of All Alcohol License, seconded by Robert Ericson. John Goerlach abstained from vote. Motion carried 2-0. [#4]

USPS Name Change - Lanesborough

Virginia Mach came before the Board to approve the filing of paperwork with the United States Postal Service to officially change the spelling of the Town's name from Lanesboro to Lanesborough which is the Town's incorporated name. Mr. Sieloff stated that he wanted to see if the Board wanted to do this. Mr. Sayers stated that he and Mr. Sieloff have talked about changing the zip code to differentiate from Hancock and New Ashford. Motion 15-43. Motion made by Robert Ericson to petition the Post Office to change the name from Lanesboro to Lanesborough, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. Mr. Goerlach stated he would like Paul to look into changing the zip code. Mr. Sieloff stated that he would look into this. [#5]

250th Anniversary Committee – Selectmen sign placement approval

Robert Barton, on behalf of the 250th Committee, presented the Board with a list of sign locations to be placed throughout the Town and would like the Board to approve the selling of memorabilia at Town Hall. Mr. Barton also presented the Board with 250th Anniversary stickers which will be placed on businesses selling passports. Mr. Barton stated that he would work with Mr. Sieloff on exact placement of the signs. Motion 15-44. Motion made by Robert Ericson to approve the sign locations, permanent signs and A-frame signs as listed and presented to the Board by the 250th Committee, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. Mr. Barton would also like the Board to approve the selling of 250th memorabilia (i.e. t-shirts, maps, passports, and other possible items) in either the Library or Town Hall. Mr. Sieloff stated that the Town Clerk would be best point person and Betsy Bean said that the Library has good coverage to be able to sell the items. Mr. Barton spoke about the Historic tour coming up and showed the house numbering placards which are being placed on historic buildings as part of the tour. If a house is over 150 years old the sign is free. Mr. Goerlach thought it was a nice idea to have the signs placed on historic houses. Mr. Barton stated that Mary Ellen Donna is coordinating this project. [#6]

Ambulance Enterprise Fund Representatives

Mr. Goerlach asked Mr. Durfee if the Board authorized raising the fee per call if this would help motivate people to participate in more ambulance calls or stay on as EMT's. Mr. Durfee stated that he has 3 people in EMT training now but new regulations make it difficult for people to keep up with the amount of training required. Mr. Goerlach asked Mr. Sieloff to speak with the State representative about the guidelines making it difficult for the Town to keep EMT's on. Mr. Sieloff asked Mr. Durfee to see him on Wednesday so they can call the State representative. Mr. Garrity said that the Town has lost many EMT's due to tougher guidelines and there are no others available with accredited hours. Motion 15-45. Motion made by Robert Ericson raise the rate to \$20 per call for Ambulance Enterprise service, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. Mr. Durfee wanted to make sure that residents knew that this is not tax money but money generated by the Ambulance Enterprise

service. Mr. Goerlach asked where they are in budget when it comes time to get a new ambulance. Mr. Sieloff stated that the ambulance will be paid off this year.

Memorial Day Parade

Mr. Goerlach stated that he will check with Jeff Dechaine to set a date for the parade.

Emergency Management Director Garrity's House Numbering Proposal

Emergency Management Director Charles Garrity came before the Board regarding a house numbering proposal. Mr. Garrity stated many houses have either no number or numbers that are difficult to read. Mr. Garrity stated that a Town Bylaw exists relative to house numbering and he would like the Board to approve a consistent sign that is easily read to make it easier for Emergency Management Services to find addresses. Mr. Garrity wanted to know if the Town could set aside money to pay for these address signs. He stated that it may be possible to have junior fire fighters help the elderly put them up on their properties. Mr. Goerlach asked what people without mailboxes would do. Mr. Garrity stated that he could come with more information at another meeting but just wanted to present it to the Board to get the process moving forward. Mr. Goerlach asked Mr. Sieloff if there was any money to pay for this. Mr. Goerlach stated that he likes the light blue 5 x 14 sign with 3 inch numbers. Motion 15-46. Motion made by Robert Ericson to approve the House Numbering Proposal as presented by Emergency Management Director Charles Garrity, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. Mr. Goerlach stated that he would like the DPW Director to order one for Town Hall. Mr. Goerlach asked Mr. Durfee if he would order one for the Fire Department. He stated he would. [#7]

Reminder: Kinder Morgan Presentation at Elementary School Gymnasium on April 28th at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Sieloff stated that this item was placed on the Agenda to remind the Board about the Kinder Morgan presentation tomorrow, April 28th at 6:00 p.m. in the gymnasium at the Elementary School. He stated that the time had been changed from 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Mr. Sieloff stated that the representatives will give a 15 minute presentation and then have 90 minutes for questions. The Board of Health and Conservation Commission have been invited to participate.

Chapter 90 Proposed Roads – Potter Mountain Road, Bailey Road and Old State Road

Mr. Sieloff presented the Board with Chapter 90 contracts from DPW Director Decelles which required their signatures relative to the work on Potter Mountain Road, Bailey Road and Old State Road. The Board signed the documents.

Budget Discussion

Operating Budget - Capital Budget - Ambulance Enterprise Budget - Sewer Enterprise Budget

Mr. Sieloff wanted to make sure that the Board didn't have any questions regarding these budgets. Mr. Sieloff stated that Mr. Ericson would like \$10,000 for Green Community projects matching funds. Mr. Ericson stated that it is unclear as to whether the grant would need matching money for some of the projects they are proposing. Mr. Goerlach stated that he does not want to give the Energy Committee \$10,000. Mr. Ericson stated that it is unclear about whether the State reimburses the Town 100% for projects with the Green Community program. Mr. Sieloff stated that a \$500 budget account is proposed for the Energy Committee for incidentals and the \$10,000 would not be released unless the Board voted on it. Mr. Goerlach stated that nothing was said about the Town matching money for these projects. Mr. Goerlach wanted to know if in-kind money could be considered matching money. Mr. Goerlach asked Mr. Sieloff to talk to the Town Accountant about this. Mr. Sieloff stated it would be set up as an Article at Town Meeting. Mr. Sieloff would like something formal from Jim Barry from the State to clarify what the State would pay for. Mr. Sieloff stated that there are only about 8 changes to be made to the budget and he would like to put the High School budget forward as proposed by the Mount Greylock School Committee. Mr. Sayers does not approve of what the High School is proposing. Mr. Ericson agreed. Mr. Sieloff stated that the Finance Committee is going to meet with the High School on Wednesday. Mr. Goerlach would like the High School to do a study like the Elementary School did as to staff per student ratio. Mr. Sayers stated that the new Superintendent salary came in less and there should be money there. Mr. Ericson stated it is incumbent upon the Town to work with the new Superintendent to let him know about Town's position and budget when working with teacher salary negotiations. Motion 15-47. Motion made by Henry Sayers to send a letter to Mount Greylock Regional High School stating that

the Board is displeased with the budget and would endorse only the original request of \$2,710,155, seconded by Robert Ericson. Unanimously voted. Mr. Sayers stated that he did not think there should be any raises on Inspector's stipends. Mr. Ericson stated that he didn't think they should pick who gets raises and who doesn't. Mr. Goerlach stated that raises should only be for hourly employees. Mr. Goerlach would like Mr. Sayers to talk to Mr. Sieloff about the increases.

Berkshire Wind Pilot Agreement

Mr. Sieloff stated that he has to speak with Attorney Blake and wanted to know if the Board wanted to consider sending a formal letter to Berkshire Wind stating that if an agreement is not made in a certain amount of time legal action will be taken. Mr. Ericson asked what Hancock did. Mr. Sieloff stated they brought a lawsuit against them. Mr. Sieloff stated that he will tell Attorney Blake that the Board is interested in sending that letter.

McCann Technical School – Fueling Station Shelter

Mr. Sieloff stated he has been playing phone tag with the school's superintendent. The Board stated that they would like to see a final drawing before making a final decision.

Kinder Morgan access to Town Property for surveys

Mr. Sieloff stated they he did not feel comfortable giving them access to Town Property to survey and would like to know what the Board wanted to do. Mr. Goerlach would like to wait until tomorrow's meeting with Kinder Morgan before making a decision. Board mutually agreed to wait until after meeting.

Quarterly review of Board's Open Projects List

Mr. Sieloff stated that there are projects that need to be added. The Board reviewed the list with the Town Administrator and asked Mr. Sieloff to modify the document and bring it back at the next meeting for further review. [#8]

Police Station Roof Project

Mr. Sieloff stated that he would like to move forward with this project. Mr. Ericson stated that he would like the chimney removed and insulation to be placed under the new shingles. Mr. Sieloff stated that he would talk to DPW Director Decelles about obtaining quotes.

Proposed Police Chief Contract

This matter will be discussed in Executive Session.

Town Hall Roof Hatch (Proposal #043-15) and possible refund of retainage

Mr. Goerlach stated that he would not like to move forward with DP Carney Construction unless the other project they worked on has been completed. Mr. Sieloff stated that he will talk to Mr. Carney.

Other business which could not have been reasonably foreseen within 48 hours of the meeting.

None.

Selectmen's Items

Mr. Ericson wants the Board to consider the Beth Greenblatt proposal. Mr. Goerlach wanted to let the Board know that he was donating a roller to the Recreation Committee and it will be used at the Elementary School tomorrow. [#8]

Town Administrator Report

None, in light of the review of the Open Projects List.

Approve Minutes

Motion made by Henry Sayers to approve the Minutes of April 13, 2015, seconded by Robert Ericson. Unanimously voted.

Executive Session – To enter into executive session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a) (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel.

Motion by Robert Ericson to go into executive session at 8:30 p.m. in preparation for negotiations for nonunion personnel, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Robert Ericson, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Footnotes:

- [#1] Paul Soroken Letter to Board – Sunrise Street
- [#2] 250th Town Hall Portrait Handout
- [#3] Application for Permit to Use Town Owned Property – Town Clean Up Committee
- [#4] V's Doghouse Petition for Change of License – Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission
- [#5] USPS Name Change – Lanesborough
- [#6] 250th Committee – Sign Placement List
- [#7] Emergency Management Director House Numbering Proposal
- [#8] Board of Selectmen Open Projects List