

Minutes

ATTENDANCE

Select Board

Present: Stephanie O’Keeffe, Jim Wald, Alisa Brewer, Aaron Hayden, Diana Stein

Absent: None

Staff: John P. Musante, Town Manager; Sandy Pooler, Finance Director; Chief Tim Nelson; Captain John Ingram; Jonathan Tucker, Planning Director; David Ziomek, Conservation and Development Director

Other: Sam and Joe Fitzgerald; David Keenan, Rob Crowner, Maurianne Adams, Denise Barberet, Vince O’Connor, Melissa Perot, John Fox and Rudy Perkins.

Meeting called to order by Ms. O’Keeffe at 6:31 p.m.

Public Safety Presentation

Chief Nelson and Captain Ingram formally commended the excellent life-saving work of two eight year old boys, Sam and Joe Fitzgerald who called 911 and provided important information to the dispatch during a recent family medical emergency.

Public Comment

David Keenan provided a letter to the Select Board regarding disposal issues prior to the landfill closure and capping, offering his assistance to follow up on the subject with the appropriate personnel.

It was noted that Christian Coach Taxi Business License was removed from the agenda for this evening, as the application package was not sufficiently complete for Select Board review.

Meeting Dates

VOTED unanimously to approve the schedule for Select Board Meetings Jan - June 2013 with Monday as the primary meeting day: 1/7, 1/28, 2/11, 2/25, 3/4, 3/18, 4/22, 4/29, May TM dates as necessary, 6/10 and 6/24 and Wednesday 1/16 for the Town Manager’s budget presentation and Friday 4/05 to sign the Annual Town Meeting warrant.

Taxi/Chauffeur Licenses

VOTED unanimously to approve new Taxi/ Chauffeur Licenses for Edward Mathews of Easthampton MA and Henrique Correia daVeiga of Amherst on behalf of Ziqui Taxi.

VOTED unanimously to approve two new Taxi/ Chauffeur Licenses, one for Joshua Yvon of Chicopee MA and one for Lawrence O’Connor of Northampton, MA on behalf of Aaron’s Transportation.

VOTED unanimously to approve new Taxi/ Chauffeur Licenses for Ellen Dickinson of West Hatfield and Carole Jean Lait of Montague on behalf of Celebrity Cab.

New Taxi Regulations

VOTED unanimously to approve the Rules and Order Regulating the Use and Operation of Taxi Businesses in the Town of Amherst dated November 5, 2012, as presented effective January 1, 2013.

Special Licenses

VOTED unanimously to approve a Special Wine and Malt License for a reception to be held at UMASS Amherst at the Fine Arts Center, MOCA on November 14, 2012 from 5-7:00 p.m., Meredith Schmidt, Campus Center Director.

VOTED unanimously to approve a Special Wine and Malt License for an anniversary celebration to be held at the Eric Carle Museum on November 10, 2012, from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., Kristine Elison, Owner/Manager.

Committee Appointments

VOTED unanimously to confirm the Town Manager's appointment of Maureen O'Leary, Amherst, MA to the Board of Health for a term to expire June 30, 2015.

Agreement for Assessors Services to the Town of Pelham

VOTED unanimously to authorize the Town Manager to enter into an Intermunicipal agreement with the Town of Pelham for the Amherst Assessing Department to provide assessing services to the Town of Pelham.

Proclamation

VOTED unanimously to proclaim November 8, 2012 Puerto Rican Day and to permit the Puerto Rican Flag to be flown from November 9, 2012 to November 30, 2012.

Merry Maple Tree Lighting and Greeting Card Day

VOTED unanimously to approve the Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce request to close the following streets on Friday, November 30, 2012 for the annual Merry Maple event:

- Close the Main Street parking lot in front of Town Hall from 12:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
- Prohibit parking in the Spring Street parking lot, north side only, from 2:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
- Close Boltwood Avenue, between Spring Street and Main Street, from 12:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
- Block off part of a lane on North Pleasant Street from the Pub Restaurant to the Town Common to allow for Horse Drawn Carriage rides.

Board deferred decision on free parking for the holidays to the November 19, 2012 meeting after brief discussion and agreement on need for revision.

Voting & Assigning Special Board Positions on Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles

The Board agreed without formal vote to start Select Board meetings prior to the November 19, 2012 Special Town Meeting sessions at 6:15 p.m.

Board agreed to defer taking a position for November 19, 2012 Special Town Meeting Article 12 Zoning Bylaw - Single Family Dwellings; Aaron Hayden to speak to article on behalf of the Select Board until the Board's meeting of November 19, 2012.

VOTED unanimously to recommend November 19, 2012 Special Town Meeting Article 13 Zoning Bylaw - Two Family Dwellings; Aaron Hayden to speak to article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend November 19, 2012 Special Town Meeting Article 14 Zoning Bylaw - Converted Dwellings; Aaron Hayden to speak to article on behalf of the Select Board.

Maurianne Adams presented handout with background information on Articles 16, 17 and 19. Melissa Perot presented handout for Select Board on Article 19.

Board agreed to defer taking a position for November 19, 2012 Special Town Meeting Article 16 Petition – Zoning Bylaw – Two Family Detached Dwelling, Article 17 Petition – Zoning Bylaw - Converted Dwellings Standards & Conditions, Article 18 Petition – Zoning Bylaw - Replacement of Existing Structure or Structure Containing Dwelling Units and Article 19 Petition – General Bylaw - Nuisance House until the Board's meeting of November 19, 2012.

VOTED unanimously to recommend November 19, 2012 Special Town Meeting Article 6 Multi-Year Solar Agreements; Aaron Hayden to speak to article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend November 19, 2012 Special Town Meeting Article 3 Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund; Alisa Brewer to speak to article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend November 19, 2012 Special Town Meeting Article 4 Transfer to Stabilization Fund; Alisa Brewer to speak to article on behalf of the Select Board.

Dave Ziomek and Rudy Perkins of HAP spoke on the Article before the Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend November 19, 2012 Special Town Meeting Article 7 Olympia Drive Street Acceptance with the following motion: That the Town authorize the Select Board to acquire, by gift, purchase, and/or eminent domain, a permanent easement to use Olympia Drive for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town of Amherst and permanent drainage, water, sewer, access and/or other easements related thereto, including, without limitation, a water and sewer easement in Authority Way, all as shown on a plan entitled "Roadway Acceptance Plan Olympia Drive and Authority Way, Amherst, MA," dated August 23, 2012, prepared by Doucet & Associates, Inc., and on file with the Town Clerk; Diana Stein to speak to the article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend November 19, 2012 Special Town Meeting Article 9 General Bylaw - Ban of EPS Foam in Restaurants; Diana Stein to speak on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend November 19, 2012 Special Town Meeting Article 10 Zoning Bylaw - Public Water Supply Protection; Alisa Brewer to speak on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend November 19, 2012 Special Town Meeting Article 11 Zoning Bylaw – Lodging or Boarding House Definitions; Jim Wald to speak on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend November 19, 2012 Special Town Meeting Article 15 Zoning Bylaw - Residential Zoning Definitions; Jim Wald to speak to article on behalf of the Select Board.

FY 14 Budget Policy Guidelines

Agreed without formal vote that Ms. O’Keeffe will amend the draft Budget Guidelines for further consideration at the November 19, 2012 meeting, adding a sentence that provides for flexibility in the event there is a compelling opportunity to add staffing for public safety and code enforcement,.

The Board also agreed to try to think of ways to suggest community priorities that may not otherwise be included in the long-term capital plan.

Deferred discussion on parking for the holiday season to next meeting, as the revision was not yet prepared.

Town Manager Report

Mr. Musante provided a report on the Town's preparedness and response during the recent Hurricane Sandy, noting limited damage and power outages and good coordination with WMECO.

Mr. Musante reported on his attendance at a recent meeting of key stakeholders about how a regional Chamber of Commerce might supplement and complement local Chambers.

Mr. Musante provided details on the proposed DEP Anaerobic Digestion Facility at a Hadley location, on the Amherst town line by the Town’s Wastewater Treatment Plant on Mass Ave & Mullins Way, being explored as possible site for this waste-reduction technology, noting the cost-savings potential for the Town of Amherst.

The Town Manager advised he and staff were still pursuing reconsideration with DHCD regarding Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), noting recent info indicates potential funding for up to \$450K -- half our current \$900K grant -- in transitional funding for next year. Ms. Brewer noted that amount is still constricted by the 60/20/20 percentage requirements for non-social service/capital spending, social service spending, and administration, so the funding for all areas is cut by half and can't simply be allocated differently.

ADJOURN The meeting adjourned at 10:16 p.m.

Submitted by John P. Musante, Town Manager

List of Documents Presented at the Meeting - Available in the Online Packet for the Meeting Date

Agenda and Draft Motions

Summary of Key Changes Recommended Revisions of Taxi Regulations

Final Draft Rules and Orders Regulating Taxis

Response from Taxi Companies to Rules and Regulation Change

Taxi Business License Application – Christian Coach Taxi

Taxi Driver Application – Okoroafon, Daniel

Planning Board Report Article 10 Public Water Supply Protection

Planning Board Report Article 11 Lodging or Boarding House Definition

Planning Board Report Article 12 Single Family Dwelling

Planning Board Report Article 13 Two Family Dwellings

Planning Board Report Article 14 Converted Dwelling

Planning Board Report Article 15 Residential Zoning Definitions

Planning Board Report Article 18 Replacement of Structures

Town Manager Memo Article 6 Multi Year Solar Agreements

Town Counsel Explanation and Motion Article 7 Olympia Drive

FY 14 Budget Police Guidelines 11-5-12 Draft

Amherst Water Supply Protection Committee Response to Suggestion for Oil and Gas Bylaw

Proposed Schedule for Select Board Meetings January – June 2013

Puerto Rican Day Proclamation 2012

Draft Service Contract for Provisions of Assessment Services for Pelham

Town Manager Memo on Agreement for Assessing Services with Pelham

Taxi Driver Applications Daveiga; Dickenson; Lait; Mathews; Yvon; and O'Connor

Special License Applications UMass and Portabella Catering