

Minutes

Select Board

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

Absent: None

Staff: John P. Musante, Town Manager; Deb Radway, Human Resources Director; Sandy Pooler, Finance Director; David Ziomek, Assistant Town Manager/Conservation and Development Director; Guilford Mooring, Public Works Superintendent; Amy Rusiecki, Public Works Assistant Superintendent

Other: Rudy Perkins, HAP Housing Project Manager; Bill Elsasser

Ms. O’Keeffe called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m., followed by a moment of silence for Monday's marathon bombing tragedy in Boston. Ms. O’Keeffe read a draft of a letter to the City of Boston from the Select Board, on behalf of the Amherst community. The Select Board signed the letter of condolence.

Public Comment

Bill Elsasser expressed concerns regarding potential air quality impacts of resurfacing of Sunderland Road.

Announcements were made about a prescription drug disposal day at Wildwood School, an Open House at Craig's Doors Emergency Shelter, and the Coffee Hour reception for former Moderator Harrison Gregg.

The Select Board requested an update on the status of the prescription drug disposal box at the Amherst Police Department; requesting follow up and an update to the website if the drop off is no longer available.

The Select Board also requested the latest information from HAP Housing on the Olympia Oaks project, prior to extension of land development agreement on next agenda.

Reorganization

VOTED 4-0-1 abstention (O’Keeffe) to reelect Stephanie O’Keeffe as Chair.

VOTED unanimously to continue the current practice of rotating the Vice Chair position monthly.

VOTED 4-0-1 abstention (Hayden) to reelect Aaron Hayden as Clerk.

Special License Fee for sale of wine produced by farmer-winery for off-premise consumption

VOTED unanimously to set the fee per Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 138, Section 15F, for a special license for sale of wine produced by a licensed farmer-winery for off-premise consumption at indoor or outdoor agricultural events at \$50.00 for each license granted.

Seasonal Liquor License Renewal

VOTED unanimously to renew the Seasonal Wine and Malt Liquor License for Cherry Hill Golf Course, 323 Montague Road (Manager: Barb Bilz) for operations from April 1, 2013 through January 15, 2014.

Parking and Street Closure Requests

VOTED unanimously to approve the reservation of metered parking spaces on the east and west side of Boltwood Avenue between Spring Street and College Street on May 8, 9, 13 and 14, 2013 for events at the Lord Jeffery Inn.

Minutes

VOTED 4-0-1 abstention (Brewer) to approve the minutes of March 4, 2013, March 18, 2013 and April 8, 2013, as amended.

Committee Appointments

VOTED 4-0 with 1 Absent (Brewer) to appoint Nancy Pagano to the Kanegasaki Sister City Committee for a term expiring June 30, 2016.

FY 14 Non-Union Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)

The Town Manager outlined his FY 14 COLA recommendation and that of the Personnel Board. Mr. Musante and Ms. Radway provided explanation on a planned compensation study, noting the lack of increase in employees' health care premium costs. Ms. Radway reported on an informal survey of comparable communities, which showed an increase of 2% COLA to be the norm. The Select Board spoke in support of the recommendation and expressed appreciation for the planned compensation study.

VOTED unanimously to authorize a 2% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all Non-Union Step Levels, effective July 1, 2013.

Layout Modifications to Existing Public Ways and Street Acceptance for New Public Roads

VOTED unanimously, its intention to alter the layouts of portions of Bay Road, West Bay Road, and West Street as public ways to include within said layouts the parcels of land shown on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in the Town of Amherst Hampshire County Bay Road, West Bay Road and West Street Altered and Laid Out By the Town of Amherst," dated December 2011, and that the Select Board forward the alteration of layout petition and plan to the Planning Board for its comments and recommendations pursuant to G.L. c. 41, §§81G and 81I.

Voting and Assignment of Select Board Positions on Town Meeting Warrant Articles

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 6 – Street Acceptance – Olympia Drive; Alisa Brewer to speak to the Article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED 4-1-0 to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 7 – Street Discontinuance – Eastman Lane; Aaron Hayden to speak to the Article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 8 Acquisition of Easements – South East Street CDBG Sidewalk Project; Alisa Brewer to speak to the Article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 9 – Grant of Electrical Easements – Boltwood Walk; Aaron Hayden to speak to the Article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 10 – Accept Altered Layouts of Rights of Ways – Atkins Corner; Aaron Hayden to speak to the Article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 11 – Conveyance of Discontinued Rights of Ways – Atkins Corner; Aaron Hayden to speak to the Article on behalf of the Select Board.

Finance Director Sandy Pooler summarized Capital Articles 19-23 for the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 19 – Capital Program – Equipment in the amount of \$1,118,955; Diana Stein to speak to the Article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 20 – Capital Program – Buildings & Facilities in the amount of \$464,500; Diana Stein to speak to the Article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 21 – Capital Program – Bond Authorizations in the amount of \$400,000 for a Fire Pumper Truck, \$425,000 for 2 large trucks and a bucket truck for DPW, and \$400,000 for repairs at Wildwood Elementary School; Jim Wald to speak to the Article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 22 - Capital Program – Debt Rescission in the amount of \$80,000; Jim Wald to speak to the Article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 24 – Community Preservation Act, Part A in the amount of \$282,395; Diana Stein to speak to the Article on behalf of the Select Board.

The Select Board requested further clarification from Town Counsel regarding the eligibility of the Ann Whalen kitchen repairs with CPA funds.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 24 – Community Preservation Act, Part B in the amount of \$156,000; Diana Stein to speak to the Article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED 4-1-0 to recommend no position to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 24 – Community Preservation Act, Part C in the amount of \$125,000; Diana Stein to speak to the Article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED 4-0-1 abstention (Stein) to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 24 – Community Preservation Act, Part D in the amount of \$110,000; Diana Stein to speak to the Article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 23 – Water and Sewer Debt, Part A in the amount of \$1,000,000; Aaron Hayden to speak to the Article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 23 – Water and Sewer Debt, Part B in the amount of \$1,000,000; Aaron Hayden to speak to the Article on behalf of Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 12 – FY 13 Budget Amendments, Part A in the amount of \$35,910; Alisa Brewer to speak to the Article on behalf of Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 12 – FY 13 Budget Amendments, Part B in the amount of \$376,253; Alisa Brewer to speak to the Article on behalf of Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 12 – FY 13 Budget Amendments, Part C in the amount of \$78,270; Alisa Brewer to speak to the Article on behalf of Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 12 – FY 13 Budget Amendments, Part D in the amount of \$20,071; Alisa Brewer to speak to the Article on behalf of Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 12 – FY 13 Budget Amendments, Part E in the amount of \$41,814; Alisa Brewer to speak to the Article on behalf of Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 16 – FY 14 Operating Budget: Debt Service in the amount of \$1,959,603; Aaron Hayden to speak to the Article on behalf of Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 16 – FY 14 Operating Budget: Conservation & Development in the amount of \$1,010,848; Aaron Hayden to speak to the Article on behalf of Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 16 – FY 14 Operating Budget: Community Services in the amount of \$1,708,238; Aaron Hayden to speak to the Article on behalf of Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 16 – FY 14 Operating Budget: Public Safety in the amount of \$9,099,025; Aaron Hayden to speak to the Article on behalf of Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 16 – FY 14 Operating Budget: Public Works in the amount of \$2,020,127; Aaron Hayden to speak to the Article on behalf of Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 16 – FY 14 Operating Budget: General Government in the amount of \$6,400,243; Aaron Hayden to speak to the Article on behalf of Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 16 – FY 14 Operating Budget: Water Fund in the amount of \$3,813,478; Aaron Hayden to speak to the Article on behalf of Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 16 – FY 14 Operating Budget: Sewer Fund in the amount of \$3,767,404; Aaron Hayden to speak to the Article on behalf of Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 16 – FY 14 Operating Budget: Solid Waste Fund in the amount of \$535,895; Aaron Hayden to speak to the Article on behalf of Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, Article 16 – FY 14 Operating Budget: Transportation in the amount of \$907,599; Aaron Hayden to speak to the Article on behalf of Select Board.

FY 14 Budget Discussion

The Town Manager briefed the Select Board on the State budget and the status of the House and Senate budget processes. Mr. Musante noted while progress is being made on transportation and funding for higher education, much is still unknown.

Town Manager's Report

Mr. Musante reported the Town Hall generator has been installed and is operational, offering appreciation to Ron Bohonowicz, Fred Hartwell and Mike Moore for their work.

The Town Manager noted Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Amy Rusiecki ran the Boston Marathon and thankfully made such good time that she had long since left the area by the time of the explosions.

An RFP for the engineering work to display the Civil War tablets in the Town Room has been initiated. The Town is seeking a grant from the State's Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee in the amount of \$5000 to create and install interpretive materials along with the tablets, with the goal to have the tablets displayed by the end of 2013.

The Town Manager reported on the second weekend of additional ambulance coverage paid for by the University, joint patrols with UMPD and APD officers, and coordination of Mullins events with other detail ambulances.

The Select Board offered sincere appreciation for the assistance from the University, believing the strong visibility of UMPD off-campus working with Amherst police officers sends a strong message in relation to our working together with the University to address these issues.

Member Reports

Ms. Stein reported on Agricultural Commission activities including Amherst Farmers Market discussion, attendance at an exhibit on a collaborative project between seniors and Amherst College students, Pi Kappa Phi dinner highlighting their work in the community, a ribbon-cutting for Atkinson Family Practice and Audit Committee report.

Ms. Brewer reported on her attendance at Pi Kappa Phi dinner as well, highlighting perspectives of members on being in a fraternity, as well as collaboration with DAAC on projects, and CDBG Advisory Committee reports from agencies funded. Invitation for UMass achievement dinner and awards ceremony was reviewed with regrets due to conflict with TMCC Warrant Review.

Mr. Hayden reported on his interviewing of Amherst College students for internships with Amherst Media and the Public Shade Tree Committee.

Mr. Wald noted his observations from attendance at Pi Kappa Phi dinner, stressed academic achievements of group; Public Arts Commission efforts for Kendrick Park portal sculpture and Historical Commission vote to establish a Local Historic District Study Committee for the Lincoln-Sunset area of Town.

Ms. O'Keeffe reported on attendance at Pi Kappa Phi dinner, feedback from students on CCC - Walk This Way initiative, and serving as a judge at Greek Week event at the Mullins Center.

ADJOURN - The meeting adjourned at 9:30 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

Draft Motions

Reorganization Policy

Non-Union FY 14 COLA Recommendation

Chart of COLA 1997-2003

DPW Memo on Modifications and Authorizations Needed for Atkins Corner Project

JCPC FY 14 Final Report

CPAC FY 14 Annual Report

Information from DPW Superintendent on Articles 7 -11, including maps and plans

Background Info from Finance Director on Articles 12 and 23

MMA Publication on House Budget Proposal

Summary of BCG Meeting 3-28-13

MGL Chapter 138, Section 15F

MA ABCC Seasonal Renewal Certification Summary 2013

Draft Select Board Minutes of 03-04-2013; 03-18-2013 and 04-08-2013.