

Minutes

ATTENDANCE

Select Board

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

Absent: None

Staff: John Musante, Town Manager; Sandy Pooler, Finance Director; David Ziomek, Assistant Town Manager; Jonathan Tucker, Planning Director.

Other: Rob Crowner, Planning Board; Melissa Perot, petitioner for Article 19 and citizens Alan Root, Mary Wentworth, Hwei-Ling Greeney and Heidi Overby

Meeting called to order by Ms. O’Keeffe at 5:30 p.m. It was noted that the 5:30 start was due to Game 6 of the World Series, and that this indulgence by the non/less-rabid Sox fans on the board was much appreciated.

Public Comment

Alan Root, Ann Whalen Apartments urged support for a Community Health Center “wellness center” at the Bangs Center or somewhere downtown, and provided a draft petition to Select Board. Mary Wentworth, Clark House resident offered her support, further suggesting a poll of all seniors in the Town of Amherst, believing you would find a wide support, consistent with Mrs. Bangs’ will, which was to establish a hospital at the Bangs Center. Hwei-Ling Greeney and Heidi Overby voiced their support for a health center to include dental services.

FY14 1st Quarter Budget Update

Mr. Pooler reviewed the packet memo detailing revenues and expenses to date, and answered questions from Select Board members. There are no matters of concern and all is tracking as expected. Much appreciation was expressed for the comprehensive report and for the work of the finance staff.

Accept Deeds for Conservation Land – Brunelle Street

Mr. Ziomek reviewed the location of this parcel and Town Meeting’s vote to approve its acquisition.

VOTED unanimously, pursuant to the votes taken under Article 8B of the November 19, 2012 Special Town Meeting as continued, and Article 24B of the May 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, as continued, the Select Board hereby accepts the foregoing Deed from Lorraine H. Brunelle to property located off Potwine Lane, Amherst, which property is to be administered, managed and controlled by the Amherst Conservation Commission under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, §8C.

Call Special Town Meeting/Citizen Petition

This agenda item was scheduled in case the citizen petition article discussed at a recent meeting were to be brought forward, but that did not occur.

Voting & Assigning Select Board Positions on Town Meeting Warrant Articles

VOTED unanimously to recommend November 4, 2013 Special Town Meeting Article 13: Zoning – Medical Marijuana Uses; Aaron Hayden to speak to the article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend November 4, 2013 Special Town Meeting Article 14: Zoning – Affordable Duplexes; Aaron Hayden to speak to the article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend November 4, 2013 Special Town Meeting Article 15: Fraternity Residence (R-F) Dimensions; Aaron Hayden to speak to the article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend November 4, 2013 Special Town Meeting Article 16: Zoning: Permit Granting Bodies and Signs; Aaron Hayden to speak to the article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED unanimously to recommend November 4, 2013 Special Town Meeting Article 17: Zoning: Dimensional Interpretation; Aaron Hayden to speak to the article on behalf of the Select Board.

VOTED 4-0, 1 Abstain (Stein) to recommend November 4, 2013 Special Town Meeting Article 18: Zoning: Uses Allowed in Mixed-Use Buildings; Aaron Hayden to speak to the article on behalf of the Select Board.

Petitioner Melissa Perot spoke on behalf of her petitioned article. Ms. Stein requested additional information from the petitioner for consideration, and noted that she would put off taking a position until then.

VOTED 4-0, 1 Abstain (Stein) to not recommend November 4, 2013 Special Town Meeting Article 19: Petition – Zoning: Uses Allowed in Mixed-Use Buildings; Aaron Hayden to speak to the article on behalf of the Select Board.

FY 15 Budget Policy Guidelines

The current draft of the guidelines was reviewed and discussed by the Select Board. This was to be the public's opportunity to offer comment, but none did so. Ms. O'Keefe will incorporate additional revisions into a new version for consideration at the next meeting.

Town Manager's Report

Mr. Musante reported on the following: Continuing efforts to work with affordable housing partners to preserve affordable units at Echo Village and Rolling Green Apartments; launching of the Town-Gown Steering Committee; intentions to schedule three to five neighborhood meetings with those living near the planned solar project at the old landfill to get input on location and screening ideas for a reduced panel array footprint; recognition for the fine work of the Fire Department for the recent fires in Hadley, at a Newmarket Center tanning salon, and at Hampshire College; collective bargaining updates; public safety preparations for the World Series and Halloween; and the upcoming opening of the homeless shelter for the winter season.

Member Reports

Select Board members provided updates on the activities of the committees to which they serve as liaisons.

Proclamation and Flag Raising Request: Puerto Rican Day

VOTED unanimously to proclaim November 8, 2013 Puerto Rican Day and to permit the Puerto Rican Flag to be flown from November 8, 2013 to November 29, 2013.

Taxi Driver Licenses

VOTED unanimously to approve a new 2013 taxi driver/chauffeur license for Ariana Baez on behalf of Gottago Taxi.

Special Liquor License

VOTED unanimously to approve the Wine and Malt Special License for Top of the Campus Inc. for a reception to be held November 4, 2013 in the DEFA Film Library, 502 Herter Hall, UMass Amherst from 4:30 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.; Brenda Ryan-Newton, President.

ADJOURN - The meeting adjourned at 8:34 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
10.28.13 Final Agenda

10.28.13 Draft Motions
FY 14 First quarter YTD Budget Report
Brunelle Deed Acceptance and Deed
Draft Warrant to Call Special Town Meeting
General Laws Chapter 39, Section 10
Petition for Special Town Meeting to change to Residential Rental Property bylaw Sec. 11 Fees
Petition for Special Town Meeting to enact Special Legislation for housing credits
Planning Board Report Article 13, Zoning Medical Marijuana Uses
Planning Board Report Article 14, Zoning Affordable duplexes
Planning Board Report Article 15, Zoning R-F Dimensions
Planning Board Report Article 16, Permit Granting Bodies Signs
Planning Board Report Article 17, Zoning Dimensional Interpretation
Planning Board Report Article 18, Zoning Mixed Use Buildings
Planning Board Report Article 19, Petitioned Zoning Mixed Use Building
Petitioner Handout for Mailing Article 19
CPAC Annual Proposal Memo Version 2015
Puerto Rican Day Proclamation 2013
Taxi Driver Application – Baez, A
Special License Application UMass 11.4.13
Budget Guidelines Discussion
FY 14 Budget Aaron Hayden notes
Draft Select Board Fall Town Meeting positions
Document Submitted at Select Board meeting