

Town of Amherst
Minutes of the Select Board

May 10, 2017 - 6:00 p.m. - Amherst Regional Middle School, Band Room

Members present: Alisa Brewer, Connie Kruger, Doug Slaughter, Andy Steinberg, Jim Wald
Staff present: Town Manager Paul Bockelman
Others present: None
Press present: Scott Merzbach, Daily Hampshire Gazette

Meeting called to order by Ms. Brewer at 6:05 p.m.

Select Board Meeting Schedule

Ms. Brewer asked the Board to review future Select Board meeting dates through September and to note any conflicts they may have. Mr. Bockelman noted significant upcoming agenda items. The Board agreed to schedule multiple dates during the summer for flexibility with the understanding that not all of the meeting dates will be needed once the timeline for the Town Manager evaluation is clear.

Mr. Slaughter moved to set the Select Board meeting schedule through September as amended as: May 22, June 5 and 20, July 10, 17, and 24, August 14, 21, and 28, and September 11, 18 and 25, 2017. Mr. Steinberg seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Town Manager's Report

- Mr. Bockelman provided an update on filling the seats for the Dog Park Task Force. Mr. Bockelman will convene the first meeting in early June at which time the Task Force will select a chair to guide its work.
- Negotiations continue with Amherst Media, with productive discussions moving forward.
- Organizing for a Downtown Planning forum to be co-hosted by Planning Board, Select Board, and Town Manager is moving forward.
- Business Improvement District Memorandum of Understanding with the Town is up for renewal and Mr. Bockelman has been in touch with the Business Improvement District. The Town Manager will provide a copy of the existing document for members review and requests suggestions for improving the agreement.
- Mr. Bockelman advised the Select Board that he had signed the Preservation Restriction for the Jones Library property, which went through the Trustees, the Historical Commission and is now at the State level. Ms. Kruger asked that he share the information on Town Meeting floor if the question arises.
- An update on the grant the Town was awarded for a solid waste coordinator during Mr. Hechenbleikner's tenure was provided. Mr. Bockelman reported he is inclined to accept,

explaining his reasoning. The grant funds approximately 50% of the salary, with the Town needing to fund zero salary in the first year but the Town must agree to keep the person on for a two year period. Mr. Bockelman reported he was looking to support the position with the savings in other areas of the budget.

- The next coffee with the Town Manager will be on May 19th at Atkins flagship store 7:30 a.m. – 9 a.m., accompanied by David Ziomek, Assistant Town Manager.

The meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Submitted by:

Paul Bockelman
Town Manager

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

05-10-2017 Agenda

05-10-2017 Draft Motions

Draft Select Board Meeting Schedule May to September 2017