

**Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2017**

6:30 PM: Open Meeting
Quorum present: Peter Skorput (PS), Chair; Curt Wilton (CW); Bernie Fallon. Also present: AdminAsst Mark Webber (AA). Press present: Local Yokel.

Board reviews and approves previous meeting minutes.
Board reviews and approve weekly warrants.

6:55 PM: Open regular portion of meeting.

Board has general discussion about downtown granite curbing; specifically, the corner at Main/Lenox/Swamp. BF asked that the issue be addressed prior to the summer season. CW reports on the history of the curb and notes that the new curbing installed last year is in the exact location as the dilapidated curb which has been in place for several decades. The old bituminous curb had deteriorated and vehicles that ran over it had no tire damage. CW attempted several warning signs and reflectors which all were run over within a day and attributes the many blown tires from distracted driving and notes that a curb is placed for a purpose – to separate vehicles from pedestrians on the sidewalk. CW has scheduled the Great Barrington highway department to grind down the sharp edge of the curb in question in the next few days as a courtesy. Great Barrington had similar issues when they replaced curbing last year. Board agrees that is a good idea and should help with the problem.

7:05 PM: Board holds a joint meeting with the Board of Assessor's to discuss filling the Assessor's vacancy created by the retirement of Amy Butterworth. Present for the Assessors are members Michelle Jenny and Susan Negrini along with Assessor's Clerk Mary Stodden. Susan recommends appointing Eddie Sporn to fill the vacancy. Following a brief discussion, PS nominates Eddie Sporn to fill the vacancy. BF seconds the motion. Joint vote taken: 5-0 in favor.

Other Business/Action/Discussion Items:

- CW opens discussion on the applications received for the Highway Department position. BF states that the list received includes several solid applicants. CW notes that the ideal candidate(s) would have the necessary licenses as advertised. CW recommends narrowing the list of 5 applicants down to 3 and have them come in for interviews with the Board. Following a discussion, Board agrees to invite Thomas Dean, Jesse Twing and Zachary Levesque for the June 5 Board meeting.
- Fire Chief Peter Skorput issues his monthly Fire Chief report to the Board. Peter provides missing NIMS certifications; all Department members now have NIMS certifications on file. Chief issues a written report of recent Department activities (attached). Chief adds that Training Officer Larry Morse continues to set up training sessions for the volunteers. Hydrant testing continues and one is being tested this evening. There was a recent joint training with Richmond and Alford Departments and a "Live Burn" drill held at the Pittsfield training center. CW asks Peter to supply a list of volunteers that have attended trainings so that they can be recognized for their efforts. Board thanks Peter for the report.
- Board has a general discussion about setting up a continuation hearing for the Rent Control Board. PS suggests contacting the owners and press them to deliver updated water use information. AA will contact Town Counsel for availability to set a date for the continuation.
- CW speaks about the parking area at the public restrooms and has an estimate to professionally pave the whole area. The Highway Department recently repaired the area but a complete job would require a paving company. AA notes that the parking area is owned by National Grid and the Town has been informed that further developments on that site would not be welcome by National Grid. Following discussion, Board decides that the repairs are fine for the time being.
- Board approves Chapter 90 funding request for a "Smart Streets" survey of the Town's paved roads as discussed at the previous meeting.
- Board discusses a request to allow filming scheduled for June 1st and 2nd on sections of West Alford Road. NYU film school students wish to film scenes at that location. Board grants permission and instructs AA to contact West Alford Road residents to let them know what's going on.
- Per request of Historical Society head Bob Salerno, Board reads a notice of award letter received by the Massachusetts Cultural Council of a \$90,000 matching grant for ADA compliance work to be done at the Old Town Hall (attached). Board commends Bob and Society members for their continued efforts and success.
- Citizen Speak time: Resident Richard Squailia asks that the Board consider placing a funding article on the upcoming Special Town Meeting to fund the codification of the Town's bylaws. Richard feels that it is an important project and worthy of funding.

8:25 PM: There being no additional business to come before the Board, PS makes a motion to adjourn. BF seconds the motion. Vote taken, 3-0 in favor.

Meeting minutes approved by:

Peter Skorput, Chair

Curt Wilton

Bernie Fallon

Date: _____