

2017 - Minutes of June 5, 14, 26 Meetings

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes June 5, 2017

- 6:00 PM: Open Meeting.
Board conducts interview with the 3 finalists for open Highway Department position. The 3 candidates interviewed are: Thomas Dean; Zachary Levesque and; Jesse Twing. Board spends approximately 15 minutes with each and asks a series of questions regarding interest and qualifications. Board will discuss their preference for who they'd like to hire and take a vote at their next meeting.
- 7:00 PM: PS opens a Pole Hearing to hear and act on a petition from National Grid to install 3 utility poles on Carlotto Road to serve a house. Following a description of the work to be performed by National Grid agent, PS notes that abutters had been notified of the hearing by direct mail and asks those in attendance if there are any comments. Hearing none, PS makes a motion to approve the petition. CW seconds the motion. Application approved as presented, 3-0 in favor.

Other Business/Discussion/Action Items:

- Board sets upcoming meeting schedule as follows: next Board meeting on June 14th at 6:30; Special Town Meeting on June 26th at 7:00 PM and; Rent Control Board hearing continuation tentatively on July 17th at 7:00 PM.
- AA notes that aquatic weed treatments took place at Mill Pond and Card Pond on May 30th. There may be follow up treatments required at either or both later in the summer depending on initial treatment efficacy.
- Representatives from Ipswich Pharmaceutical address the Board on their interest in establishing a joint medical and recreational marijuana dispensary in West Stockbridge. Attending for Ipswich Pharmaceutical (IP) are principal Joseph McCarthy and Attorney Phil Silverman. Representatives present an overview of their company and mission statement. They note that they are in the process of obtaining a cultivation operation in Hinsdale, MA which would furnish supply to multiple, as yet unnamed dispensary sites. They claim a dispensary in W.S. would create 8-10 full time jobs and those could be excluded to Town residents only. They would be looking for an 800 – 1,000 square foot structure to be located in a commercial zone and compliant with all State regulations regarding location and impact. They mentioned commercially zoned areas of State Line Road and Baker Street. Typical community host agreements are structured to supply the host community with 2.5% of net profits on an annual basis. Facilities have high security and all activities would be closely coordinated with local police. They note that a medical only dispensary is not economically viable and they'd ask for approval for both medical and recreational sales. They note that the State has yet to flesh out the recreational sale regulations. At some point, if the Town was willing to approve a facility, a letter of 'non-opposition' would be required from the Board of Selectmen to be forwarded to State regulators. Board members and several audience members ask a series of questions including: impact on community and safety; impact to and from neighboring New York State; any commitment prior to State establishing recreational sale regulations; facility make up and security; potential cultivation facility; need for various Town Board and Department review and approvals, including Planning Board, Board of Health and Building Inspector; advertising and promotion and next steps. Next steps would be for the applicants to come back to the Board after identifying one or more potential dispensary sites, then further discussions and questions and answers and public process can be scheduled. Board that representatives for attending.

- 9:00 PM: There being no additional business to come before the Board, CW makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. BF seconds the motion. Vote taken, 3-0 in favor.

Meeting minutes approved by:

Peter Skorput, Chair

Curt Wilton

Bernie Fallon

Date: _____