



Select Board

21 State Line Road, West Stockbridge, Mass. 01266

Tel. (413) 232-0300 x319

Fax. (413) 232-7195

E-mail: admin@weststockbridge-ma.gov

Select Board Meeting Minutes February 12, 2024

Quorum present: Select Board Members; Kathleen Keresey, Chair, Andrew Krouss, Andrew Potter, and Town Administrator Marie Ryan.

Kathleen opened the meeting at 6 PM.

Andy Potter made a motion, seconded by Andy Krouss, to approve the minutes from January 16th and 22nd.

All were in favor, minutes approved.

Citizen Speak:

Curt Wilton mentioned the passing of longtime resident Michael Skorput. Michael was involved in many aspects of Town government and served on many committees and boards and will be greatly missed.

Public Works Update – Curt Wilton, Public Works Director

Curt gave an update on grant activity to the Board.

He informed the Board that the Town did not receive a grant from their Complete Streets application. He will work with the Complete Streets subcommittee to re-submit for grant money again to either the same grant or another available grant that the projects may qualify for after the Committee meets again. He and Marie will be meeting with the Complete Streets Grant Coordinator to review the application and see why it did not receive approval for funds.

Andy Potter also suggested these projects could be submitted for funding through AARP and other available grants.

Curt stated that he and Marie have worked hard spending many hours to earn the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Designation (MVP) for the Town, which was approved recently. This will allow the Town to be eligible for more grants in the future. The largest project he believes that could be funded is a new multi-purpose municipal safety building for the

Fire/Police/Department of Public Works. Curt and Marie will be researching the possibility and available funding for this type of project.

Wiseacre Farm Next Steps – Kathleen Keresey

Kathleen has done research in regard to consultants that can review the odor mitigation plan presented by Wiseacre Farm. State Representative Smitty Pignatelli reached out to her and suggested the Board request the Cannabis Control Commission (CCC) do a comprehensive review of the plan as well. Kathleen did find two companies that could provide a review of the mitigation plan. She asked the Board if they agree this review as a next step and both Andy Potter and Andy Krouss agreed.

Kathleen requested the Board approve Town Counsel Nicole Costanzo become the representative for the town to work with Byers Scientific and a third party consultant which the Board will hire. Nicole is already doing this type of work for other towns as well. The Board agreed to have Nicole be the Town's representative and work with both companies. The expense of the third-party consultant will be paid by Wiseacre Farm.

Select Board Speak:

Andy Potter stated that he will recuse himself in the public hearing for the trailer park request for rent increase to the Rent Control Board. He stated that he had spoken with a resident where he had made statements that may not be considered impartial in the process ~~after~~ because this resident put their conversation into a written document. This may appear to be unfair to the petitioner therefore, he recuses himself from the Rent Control Board and all matters related to this public hearing.

Andy Krouss asked Jon Piasecki if any of the complainants of the cannabis odor have come to see him and discuss the issue. Jon stated no, however, he is holding a community meeting on March 25th and Byers Scientific in attendance to discuss the mitigation plan. This meeting will be in person at Wiseacre Farm and he will be sending out invitations.

Andy Potter made a motion, seconded by Andy Krouss, to adjourn open session and enter into executive session and not to return to open session.

Anticipated executive session in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A Paragraph 21 (a)(3), to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining, as meeting in open session would have a detrimental impact on the Board's negotiating position (Police Union Contract)

Roll Call vote to enter into executive session and not return into Open Session.

Kathleen Yes
Andy Potter Yes
Andy Krouss Yes

Open Meeting Adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie y. Ryan

Marie Y. Ryan
Town Administrator