



Select Board

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Select Board Meeting Minutes June 5, 2023

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

Others Present: State Representative Smitty Pignatelli

Kathleen called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Kathleen made a motion, seconded by Andy to approve the minutes from May 10 and May 17, 2023. All in favor – minutes approved.

Citizen Speak:

Baker Street resident Joanna Yurman raised her concerns about the increase in truck traffic, speeding and illegal parking on Baker Street. She would like more Police patrol in the area. Kathleen asked her to send her statement to Marie, who will forward to the Police Chief.

TurnPark One Day Liquor License: Manager Jared Gelemينو

Jared requested approval for a One Day Liquor License for TurnPark for their event on June 10, 2023. He informed the Board that he has a parking plan which will include a parking attendant and will use the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He has worked with DPW Director Curt Wilton on this parking plan. He has also arranged for a Police Detail on site through Police Chief Portieri. He assured the Board that he and another staff person has received TIPS training required to control alcohol use.

Kathleen made a motion, seconded by Andy, to approve the One Day Liquor License for TurnPark for June 10, 2023. All in favor – motion approved.

National Grid Austerlitz Road Joint Pole Location: Donald Taggart, National Grid Representative

Don Taggart requested that the Board approve a joint pole location for National Grid and Verizon on Austerlitz Road. This new pole would be to provide services to a new home on that road and the location of the pole will be between 9 and 10 Austerlitz Road.

Kathleen made a motion, seconded by Andy, to approve the joint pole location. All in favor – motion approved.

Open Discussion with Representative Smitty Pignatelli:

Representative Pignatelli gave an update on the priorities he is currently working on. The three main agenda items he is supporting are regional equity, housing and broadband and technology. He informed the Board that the Governor recently hired Ann Gobi as the new Rural Director. This is an important step towards helping the small towns with regional equity. He has met with Ann to discuss the issues that small towns deal with so she is aware and can assist in the effort to help small towns with equity of funding for housing and broadband and technology.

Kathleen informed Smitty that the Town is already working on housing issues with an updated Master Plan that is almost completed. Andy Krouss also stated that he has been working with Wylie Goodman from Berkshire Regional Planning Commission on improving broadband in the Town. Wylie will be addressing the Board and citizens at the next Select Board meeting on June 20.

Smitty also discussed shared services which are important and will allow towns to receive more funding. Currently West Stockbridge has shared services with Richmond for the Fire Chief, Ambulance and EMTs. The Town Highway Department also has a few pieces of equipment they share with Richmond as well.

Smitty is attempting to have a process in place which a tiered approach for funding by the State of multiple criteria levels, each being eligible for funding and competing with other towns and cities of similar size and structure. This gives the small towns a better opportunity to receive funds without competing against larger cities and towns.

Kathleen and Andy thanked Smitty for attending and coming to meet with them.

Special Town Meeting:

Marie requested that the Board vote to hold a Special Town Meeting to approve transfers for year end balances to pay final Fiscal year bills, if necessary.

Kathleen made a motion, seconded by Andy, to hold a Special Town Meeting on Monday, June 26, if necessary. All in favor – motion approved.

Select Board Speak:

None

Kathleen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Andy at 6:51 PM.
All were in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie y. Ryan

Marie Y. Ryan
Town Administrator