



Select Board

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Select Board Meeting Minutes November 16, 2020 Via Zoom Meeting

Open Meeting

Quorum present: Roger Kavanagh, Select Board Chair, Eric Shimelonis, Select Board Member, Kathleen Keresey, Select Board Member, and Marie Ryan, Town Administrator.

Others Present: Steve Traver, Fire Chief

Roger called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. He said that he had signed the warrants and asked the other Board members to sign them the next time they are at the Town Hall.

Roger made a motion to approve the Select Board Minutes for the meetings of October 5, October 19 and October 23, 2020. Eric seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Kathleen, Yes Eric, Yes Roger, Yes
Motion passed.

Town Administrator Update:

- A first and second round for monies from the COVID Relief Act was submitted and received by the Town. The amount submitted in the first round was \$41,602, the amount received was \$25,863. The amount submitted in the second round was \$27,965, the amount received was \$10,365. Marie noted that she will be submitting the costs not covered under the COVID Relief Act to a FEMA program to see if some of those expenses can be reimbursed under that program.
- The Town server/email should be put in place for Marie's computer this week or next and once her programs are working smoothly then the rest of the computers will be updated.
- The security cameras have been installed at Town Hall and are all working.
- The Town Hall will be closed to the public beginning Thursday, November 19 due to the recent increase in positive COVID19 cases.

Fire Department Update:

Fire Chief Steve Traver informed the Board that he has canceled all training and meetings until

after Thanksgiving due to the increase in COVID cases recently. He will assess the situation after that time and see when it will be safe to start up again. The fire trucks have been getting repaired as issues come up. There are a few issues with electronic sensors in the trucks but they are being worked on and repaired.

Steve told the Board that he feels that the two towns, Richmond and West Stockbridge, are working very well together and there have been no issues. The department members are all up to date now on certification except for one new person who will be working on that. Now that all members are certified, the department will qualify for some grants that will help with the cost of getting new updated equipment. The Association (West Stockbridge Rescue Service) has helped purchase pagers and new security cameras for the front of the station. He will work with Curt on getting electrical outlets to install the cameras.

Shared Streets Grant:

Roger asked Kathleen to discuss the status of the Shared Streets grant. Kathleen shared her current spreadsheet for the grant and reviewed it and where they are at with spending the money. Currently they have spent/will spend \$137,188 and were awarded \$141,000. She feels they are very close to using all of the grant money but would like some ideas on how to spend the remaining amount. She told the Board they will be able to spend the money by the December 31st deadline. Roger and Eric thanked Kathleen for all her hard work on this grant.

Kathleen mentioned that they will be having some marble donated to the Town that could be used to help with screening across from TurnPark and in the upper parking lot at the old town hall. TurnPark is willing to provide design for artistic screening on Moscow Road and the Town will only have to pay for the materials.

Board of Health Member:

Roger stated this agenda item would be passed over at this time.

Select Board Speak:

Eric gave an update on the status of the Green Communities designation and grant. There have been two walk throughs in the Town buildings for HVAC and lighting. There is a possible energy savings of up to 12% a year in just the Town Hall upgrades, with lighting and other upgrades adding another 8% or more. The grant money will also assist the Town in purchasing a new boiler for the DPW/Fire Station building.

Kathleen mentioned that she would like the Board to have a separate meeting just to discuss the next grant from Mass DOT. This discussion needs to include how they would like to proceed with this grant and who will be taking it on. She feels this grant will be a type of overlap with the Master Plan and thinks that the Master Plan Committee should be coordinating with this. It was also mentioned to include the Parks & Rec Committee and Bill Barth, West Stockbridge Representative for the Transportation Committee. Before involving all these people, Kathleen would like to have time to read through the grant. Roger suggested a meeting on Friday, November 20 at 10 AM, both Eric and Kathleen agreed. Kathleen also would like Dana Bixby to be included in the meeting.

Citizen Speak:

Joe Roy, Jr. said there is a Vision Committee meeting tomorrow and Bill Barth will be giving an update. Eric will attend this meeting and discuss the possibility of Bill's participation on this

next grant. Joe would like to send a video to Marie to be posted on the website from the Halloween event.

Joe Roy, Parks & Rec Chair, said he and his committee will do whatever is needed to help with the new grant.

Kathleen asked if the Town could get some media PR for the work done around the Town as a way of thanking Mass DOT and Kittelson & Associates, consultants. Roger will contact Terry Cowgill at the Edge and Marie will contact Heather Bellow at the Berkshire Eagle and see what they can do for us.

Roger made a motion to adjourn at 7:14 PM, Eric seconded and roll call vote:

Kathleen, Yes Eric, Yes Roger, Yes
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie U. Ryan

Town Administrator

Documents: October 5, October 19 and October 23, 2020 Select Board Minutes

Spreadsheet from COVID Relief Act submission
Sample of Community Host Agreement from Town Counsel