



# Select Board

21 State Line Road, West Stockbridge, Mass. 01266-0525

Tel. (413) 232-0300 x319

Fax. (413) 232-7195

E-mail: [admin@weststockbridge-ma.gov](mailto:admin@weststockbridge-ma.gov)

## Select Board Meeting Minutes October 18, 2021

### Open Meeting

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

**Others in Attendance:** Curt Wilton, Director of Public Works and Steve Hayward from National Grid.

Eric called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM and listed Select Board members present.

### Approval of Minutes:

Kathleen made a motion to approve the minutes from October 4, 2021, seconded by Roger.

Roll call vote:

Roger – Yes Kathleen – Yes Eric – Yes

Minutes are approved.

### Town Administrator Update:

-Hazard Mitigation Plan – Marie meet with Curt, Earl and a few citizens on Wednesday, Oct 13 to review the draft of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan has now been sent back to Foresight Land Services for a final DRAFT to be submitted to MEMA for review and approval. Marie stated that changes may still be incorporated at any time.

-Emergency Management Plan (EMP) – The Town currently does not have an official EMP. Marie reached out to Bob Barry from MEMA who supplied a template to her. She will work on this with the assistance of the Fire Chief, Police Chief, Director of Public Works and the Emergency Management Director, Lou Oggiani. Lou, Bob and Marie will be meeting on Tuesday to review the plan and make any corrections or additions. The plan will then be reviewed again by the Fire, Police and DPW. Once finalized, a copy of the plan will be located

at the Fire Station, Police Station, DPW and Town Hall as well as filed with the State.

-Moscow Road Purchase- We are very close to a closing/purchase. Foresight Land Services is meeting with the Planning Board Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup> to request a Form A to separate the parcels into what the Town is purchasing and what National Grid will still own.

-Town Hall new phones – The new phone system and new phones for Town Hall will be installed Tuesday, Oct 19<sup>th</sup>.

-Reminder that Treat or Treat is Sunday, Oct 31<sup>st</sup> from 4-6 PM followed by the Parks & Rec Haunted Drive-Through from 7-9 PM.

-Foundry Special Permit – The 20-day appeal period for the Special Permit granted to the Foundry has lapsed and there were no appeals of the decision. The Town Clerk has signed and dated the Permit and mailed it to Amy Brentano, owner of the Foundry, for her to file with the Registry of Deeds.

### **National Grid Pole Location – Steve Hayward from Nation Grid**

Steve Hayward requested approval from the Select Board for two poles to be located on Washington Square. One pole will be for service to Crane Lake Camp and the other will be to provide service to a resident on Washington Square. Curt Wilton, Public Works Director had no issue with the pole locations and asked Steve to make sure that the poles were placed as far off the road as possible.

Eric made a motion to approve both pole locations, seconded by Kathleen.

Roll call vote:

Roger-Yes Kathleen – Yes Eric- Yes

Motion approved.

### **Municipal Parking Lot Agreement – Eric Shimelonis**

Eric informed the Board that Lisa From Six Depot and Karden from Werkshires have both approved of the parking lot agreement that the Town presented to them from Town Counsel, with one proposed change that makes the indemnification paragraph stronger. The Board agreed to have Town Counsel do a final review of the agreement prior to signing it.

Roger inquired if the Department of Public Works (DPW) has begun working on any type of improvements on the parking lot. Curt and Eric both responded that the DPW will not begin working on improvements in the parking lot until after the agreement is signed by all parties.

### **Special Permit Granting Authority (SPGA) – Select Board**

The Board discussed the possibility of transferring the Select Board's responsibility as the Special Permit Granting Authority (SPGA) in several sections of the Town Zoning Bylaws to the Planning Board. They believe that the majority, if not all, of these permit processes should be overseen by the board that has the expertise. Eric proposed that the Planning Board being the SPGA for all classifications would insure more consistency to the process. Roger and Kathleen both encouraged that the responsibilities of the SPGA be given to the board that has the proper expertise. Roger said that he was not opposed to shifting some or all SB SPGA

responsibilities from the Select Board to the Planning Board, but he thinks the decision to make those changes should be based on a consistent set of criteria that needs to be developed by the Select Board.

These SPGA changes will be one part of many Town Bylaw adjustments that will be considered, drafted, and put forward for a town vote.

### **Select Board Speak:**

Kathleen mentioned that the TurnPark's architect no longer has the time to work with the Town on a design for the fenced in area on Moscow Road. She will research other consultants to assist in creating the best design for that space.

Roger informed the Board that the 8 Town School District Planning Board has hired consulting firms to conduct the research needed to develop recommendations related to the potential consolidation of the Berkshire Hills Regional School District and the Southern Berkshire Regional School District. He encouraged the Select Board and town residents to check out the website ([www.rsdpb.org](http://www.rsdpb.org)) to see what the 8 Town School District Planning Board has been working on.

Eric gave an update on the Green Communities grant. The first disbursement should arrive any day, and all of the high-efficiency lighting has been ordered for all of the town buildings.

Eric has also been working on a design for new signs for the Town. This project would provide the Town with signage that is all of the same modular design. The first sign would replace the current Town Hall sign. He has had some challenges finding a company within the county that can take the project on, but has gotten some new leads to pursue.

Roger made a motion to adjourn at 6:50 PM, Kathleen seconded.

Roll call vote:

Roger-Yes Kathleen – Yes Eric- Yes

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marie U. Ryan*

Town Administrator

Documents:

-Minutes: October 4, 2021

-Municipal Parking Lot Agreement Draft

-List of all sections where the Select Board is listed as the SPGA in Town Zoning Bylaws