



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

Select Board Meeting Minutes September 27, 2022

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

Also Present: Marc Portieri, Police Chief and Steve Traver, Fire Chief

Kathleen called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and listed Select Board members present.

Approval of Minutes:

Andy Potter made a motion, seconded by Andy Krouss, to approve the Minutes from August 29, 2022 and September 13, 2022.

All Select Board members voted to approve.

Introduction of new EMTs:

Fire Chief Steve Traver introduced the two new EMTs, Alexis Vanbramer and Jacob Soldato to the Select Board. Alexis and Jacob thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve the community and the Board thanked them for their service.

TurnPark One-day Liquor License:

TurnPark manager, Jared Gelomino requested a one-day liquor license for a TurnPark event on October 8, 2022 from 4 PM – 10 PM. This event will be a craft fair with acoustic music and street vendors for entertainment. Jared will be working with Police Chief Marc Portieri and Public Works Director Curt Wilton on parking plans that will include a parking attendant.

Andy Potter made a motion, seconded by Andy Krouss, to approve a one-day liquor license for a TurnPark event on October 8, 2022.

All Select Board members voted to approve.

MVP Grant Agreement with Richmond:

In April Marie reported to the Select Board that she and Curt were working with Richmond Town Administrator Danielle Fillio and DPW Superintendent Peter Beckwith on submitting a joint grant through the State MVP (Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness) program. At that time, Marie explained that if the Towns were awarded the grant, the Town would be required to provide a \$40,000 match to proceed with the projects, the Board agreed to move forward. The Towns have been awarded the grant funding to repair culverts in both towns, a total of approximately \$300,000 which will be shared equally. Since West Stockbridge is not an MVP designated Town, Richmond will serve as the lead Town for the grant. A requirement for the grant is an agreement between the Towns which states that Richmond will pay the invoices and will submit them to receive the reimbursements from the State. Richmond will bill West Stockbridge for its share of the required match. Marie requested that the Board vote to approve the agreement.

Andy Potter made a motion, seconded by Andy Krouss, to approve the MVP grant agreement with Richmond .

All Select Board members voted to approve.

Senior Work-off Program Discussion – Mary Stodden, Assessor's Clerk

Assessor's Clerk Mary Stodden explained the process and guidelines of the Senior Work-off Tax Abatement program. She told the Board that this program would require the applicants to become town employees which includes taxes taken out on what they earn, then the amount left would be applied towards their taxes. Each applicant would then receive a W-2 at yearend which could affect their total income eligibility for other programs and benefits. The applicants are not guaranteed work, it will be on an as needed basis and by qualification. Mary also explained that there were three Statutory Exemptions; for the blind, Veterans, and income-based. The income-based exemption has a limit of \$20,000 per individual income and \$30,000 for a family income. There will be information about Tax abatement programs placed on the website.

Town Administrator Update:

Marie told the SB that Dana Bixby has suggested that Kathleen take past Select Board member Eric Shimelonis' place as liaison to the Master Plan Committee.

All Select Board members agreed.

Andy Potter made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Andy Krouss.

All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 6:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie y. Ryan

Marie Y. Ryan

Town Administrator