

**TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2016
Selectmen's Meeting Room, Lawrence Memorial Hall**



Present: George D. Archible, Brenda Q. Aldrich, Nicholas O'Connor, William R. Barnett, Ronald E, Aponte

Call to Order: Chairman Archible called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

2) Sign Documents:

- a) Warrant #1717 was signed for \$915,741.83.
- b) Routine documents
- c) Approval of Minutes: Mr. O'Connor moved the Board accept the minutes of October 11, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Aponte. Motion passes 4 – yes, 1 – abstain (Barnett). Mr. O'Connor moved the Board accept the executive session minutes of October 11, 2016 as amended. Seconded by Ms. Aldrich. Motion passes 4 – yes, 1 – abstain (Barnett).

3) Additions to the Agenda: None.

4) Appearances Before the Board: None.

5) Discussion/Action Items:

- a. Accept Zoning Board of Appeals, Associate Member Resignation: Mr. Barnett presented the details to the Board stating that Noah Pefaur has submitted a letter of resignation as an associate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Board accepted the resignation and a letter will be sent to Mr. Pefaur thanking him for his service to the Town.
- b. Accept Meals Driver Resignation: Ms. Aldrich presented the details to the Board stating that David Garrison has submitted a letter of resignation as a Meals on Wheels Driver. The Board accepted the resignation and a letter will be sent to Mr. Garrison thanking him for his service to the Town.
- c. Appointment of Meals Driver(s): Ms. Aldrich presented the details to the Board. Per the recommendation of Bill Korzenowski, Council on Aging Director, Ms. Aldrich moved to appoint Graeme Reed to the position of home delivered meals driver, effective immediately. Motion seconded by Mr. O'Connor. Motion passes 5 – 0.

Per the recommendation of Bill Korzenowski, Council on Aging Director, Ms. Aldrich moved to appoint Cheryl McLaughlin to the position of home delivered meals driver, effective immediately. Motion seconded by Mr. Aponte. Motion passes 5 – 0.

Per the recommendation of Bill Korzenowski, Council on Aging Director, Ms. Aldrich moved to appoint Brandi Wagner to the position of substitute meals driver and substitute nutritional aide, effective immediately. Motion seconded by Mr. Aponte. Motion passes 5 – 0.

- d. Appointment of Senior Center Aide: Ms. Aldrich presented the details to the Board. Per the recommendation of Bill Korzenowski, Council on Aging Director, Ms. Aldrich moved to appoint Heather Woodworth to the position of senior center aide, effective immediately. Seconded by Mr. Aponte. Motion passes 5 – 0.
- e. Appointment of DPW Laborer: Mr. Archible presented the details to the Board. Per the recommendation of Steve Williams, Director of Public Works, Mr. Archible moved to appoint Joshua D. Miller to the position of transfer station laborer, effective immediately. Motion seconded by Mr. Aponte. Motion passes 5 – 0.
- f. Appointment of Auxiliary Police Officer(s): Mr. Aponte presented the details to the Board. Per the recommendation of Police Chief Pronovost, Mr. Aponte moved to appoint Marissa Smith and Matthew Menard to the position of Auxiliary Police Officers. Motion seconded by Ms. Aldrich. Motion passes 5 – 0.
- g. Endorse November 8, 2016 State Election Warrant: Mr. Barnett presented the details to the Board. The Town Clerk has requested the Board endorse the November 8, 2016 election warrant. Mr. Barnett moved the Board endorse the November 8, 2016 election warrant. Motion seconded by Ms. Aldrich. Motion passes 5 – 0.
- h. Request to Close at Noon – Day Before Thanksgiving: Mr. O'Connor presented the details to the Board. Non-essential town office employees are asking to close at noon on the day before Thanksgiving. Employees will have to use their own time (vacation, personal). Mr. O'Connor moved the non-essential town office employees close at noon on the day before Thanksgiving, using their personal or vacation time. Seconded by Mr. Barnett. Motion passes 5 – 0.
- i. Executive Session – MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21, Subsections 1 and 3: Mr. O'Connor moved the Board enter executive session at the conclusion of their regular session pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21, Subsections 1 and 3 and not to reconvene in open meeting. Seconded by Mr. Aponte. Roll call vote: Archible – yes, Aldrich – yes, O'Connor – yes, Aponte – yes, Barnett – yes.
- j. Miscellaneous Matters: None.

- 6) **Town Administrator's Report:** He called the Selectmen's attention to the right of first refusal document in their to be signed folder. It is specific to property that the Board has already voted to waive their right of first refusal to on South Washington Street. In the past the Board would notify the buyer and seller of their position on the property but more recently a specific form has been requested for the Board to complete. The form will need to be notarized so he will have the Conservation Administrator join the meeting to do so.

The office has been working on the tax classification hearing. A date has not been set but November 14th or November 28th are the dates being considered.

He has also been working with the town accountant and department heads preparing projected budgets for the next revenue committee meeting which is scheduled for

November 1st. Most department heads have submitted all of the information that was requested of them. The town accountant will work on putting the info into a spread sheet prior to the meeting. They were asked to submit a 5 year projection in terms of expenses but also capital and needs as well. Mr. O'Connor indicated that he will be at the school committee meeting tomorrow and he will make sure they are preparing for the revenue committee meeting.

Mr. Barnett questioned if the school committee had made any decision on the 70/30 split. Mr. O'Connor indicated that no decision had been made. The revenue subcommittee is more about identifying the gap would be and not necessarily about making recommendations on the budget. Mr. Barnett stated the cost of insurance has been determined. Mr. O'Connor stated the unions are still in negotiations.

Mr. Barnett questioned if anyone knew what the cost would be to Belchertown if Ballot Question #2 passes. Mr. Brougham stated it would cost the town half a million dollars; Chapter 70 money will be reduced by \$500,000. The Board asked residents to be very careful on how they vote question #2 as it will be detrimental to the town's budget.

7) Review of Weekly Mail:

#13) The Town received notice of a bond cancellation from CNA Surety Insurance for Cars by Heldon, a class II business. Mr. Aponte confirmed with the town administrator that if a bond is cancelled then the license is revoked. Mr. Brougham will look into the bond cancellation. Typically when the office receives the notice we contact the license holder.

8) Individual Board Members' Reports:

Ms. Aldrich: Thursday night the Senior Center is holding a haunted history of New England, a presentation by Chris Daly. It will begin at 7:00 pm at the Senior Center.

She questioned the town administrator regarding the water situation in town. He indicated that the town was never in the full drought area that DEP established in the beginning. In September the Water Board of Commissioners made the decision to establish a mandatory water ban as the wells had dropped 3 ft in June and an additional foot in August. Last week DEP moved the town into the drought warning which if the town had not already done the mandatory outdoor water ban we would have had to now.

Mr. O'Connor questioned the Patrick Center Re-use Committee. Mr. Brougham stated he needs to get a meeting scheduled soon. They need to schedule an appearance before the Historical Commission, explain the condition of the building, and open it up if they wish to have a tour. He thinks that in conjunction with having a re-use meeting of the building they also need to have a meaningful discussion about the future of the building.

Mr. Archible: Today on Rt 202 they were doing core samples for the project for the small corridor that the town is looking into doing from the center of town all the way down to the court area.

They did 1800 tons of black top on Rt 181 last week. He spoke with the director of public works who feels the project won't be completed before the snow comes but that the road will be in good shape by then.

On Thursday, November 10th at the Belchertown High School for Veterans Day, which is also the Marine Corps birthday, at 11:00 am the 3rd grade class from Swift River Elementary School will be doing a performance for the veterans. All are invited to attend.

Two weeks ago the Board discussed sending a letter to the executive committee of the Hampshire Council of Governments regarding Belchertown's concerns. The letter has been sent. Mr. Barnett indicated he has received the letter as did the other members of the executive committee.

He stated our letter has enhanced their concerns.

9) **Questions from the Press:** None.


10) **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.


Minutes submitted by Gary L. Brougham, Town Administrator

Board approved/endorsed: November 14, 2014


Board of Selectmen - Town of Belchertown


Endorsed by a majority:


George D, Archible, Chairman


Brenda Q. Aldrich


Ronald E, Aponte


William R. Barnett


Nicholas O'Connor