

**TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2017
Selectmen's Meeting Room, Lawrence Memorial Hall**



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

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

2) Sign Documents:

- a) Warrant #1820 was signed for \$1,210,153.24.
- b) Routine documents
- c) Approval of Minutes: Mr. Aponte moved the Board accept the minutes of the executive session of October 10, 2017. Motion seconded by Mr. Archible. Motion passes 5 – 0. Mr. Aponte moved the Board accept the minutes of the regular meeting of October 23, 2017. Motion seconded by Mr. Archible. The motion passes 5 – 0.

3) Additions to the Agenda: None.

4) Appearances Before the Board: None.

5) Discussion/Action Items:

- a. Discuss B Town Motors, LLC: Mr. Barnett presented the details to the Board. The owner of B Town Motors has built a large addition to his business and is requesting to increase his license to allow a greater number of used cars on the property along with additional parking spaces. Mr. Barnett moved the Board allow B Town Motors LLC to have up to 34 used vehicles to be displayed on premises, plus eleven additional spots for employee/customer parking. Motion seconded by Mr. Archible. Mr. Aponte mentioned that there have been no complaints filed against B Town Motors and they have followed all proper permitting processes. Motion passes 5 – 0.
- b. Review ZBA Special Permit Application – Jasak-Bangs, 19 Jackson Street: Ms. Aldrich presented the details to the Board. Ms. Jasak-Bangs wants to convert a garage into a photo studio. Following a brief discussion the Board agreed to refer the application back to the Zoning Board of Appeals with no concerns. They do ask that consideration be given to any concerns that may be brought up by abutters or other committees or commissions.
- c. Endorse Mass Cultural Council FY2018 Contract: Mr. O'Connor presented the details to the Board. It is an annual event where the Board endorses the contract for the Mass Cultural contract. This will be the 2018 contract in the amount of \$5,500.00. Mr. O'Connor moved the Board authorize the Chairman of the Board to endorse the Mass Cultural Council FY2018 Contract. Motion seconded by Mr. Archible. Motion passes 5 – 0.
- d. Endorse Council on Aging Formula Grant: Ms. Aldrich presented the details to the Board. Annually the Board endorses the Formula Grant form for the Council on Aging. This grants funds the Senior Center Aide and Outreach Aide positions

along with assisting the Med Ride program and Volunteer Recognition. The grant is in the amount of \$23,377.00. Mr. O'Connor moved the Board authorize the Chairman of the Board to endorse the Council on Aging Formula Grant in the amount of \$23,377.00. Motion seconded by Mr. Aponte. Motion passes 5 – 0.

- e. Acknowledge Conservation Administrator's Retirement Notice: Mr. O'Connor presented the details to the Board. LeeAnne Connolly, Conservation Administrator, has formally notified the Board of her intent to retire. Her last day of work will be February 27, 2018. Ms. Connolly has worked for the Town for 21 years and will greatly miss all of her co-workers. Mr. Aponte stated that Ms. Connolly has had a fantastic record in obtaining grants for the preservation of open space. She will be greatly missed.
- f. Accept DPW Heavy Equipment Operator II Resignation: Mr. Archible presented the details to the Board. Scot Swistak has resigned from his position as a heavy equipment operative II with the department of public works, effective October 30, 2017. A letter will be sent to Mr. Swistak thanking him for his service to the Town.
- g. Appointment to ADA Committee: Ms. Aldrich presented the details to the Board. Paul Adzima, the ADA Coordinator, is recommending the appointment of Eric LeBeau to the ADA Committee. Ms. Aldrich moved the Board appoint Eric LeBeau to the Americans with Disabilities Committee, effective immediately. Motion seconded by Mr. O'Connor. Motion passes 5 – 0.
- h. Miscellaneous Matters: None.

6) **Town Administrator's Report:** None.

7) **Review of Weekly Mail:** Mail reviewed, no discussion held.

8) **Individual Board Members' Reports:**

Mr. Archible: It was brutally cold for the Veterans' Day services in the morning. He thanked the people that did come for the ceremonies. He thanked Ray Janke for pulling off the services. He was not able to attend the ceremony at the high ceremony at the high school.

Mr. Aponte: He was in attendance at the Veterans' Day ceremony at the high school. The fifth and sixth grade band was exceptional. The auditorium was packed for the services. A tremendous job well done by Ray Janke and the Veterans' Services Advisory Board.

Updated everyone on the Belchertown Day School. It was left that the Day School would talk to the Board of Assessors to see if they would be considered tax exempt. They had had the meeting and the Assessors indicated they can't even render a decision because they can't render a decision on a parcel of land that the Day School doesn't even own. He was approached by the Day School Pilot Team and they want the Town Pilot Team to begin the negotiation process so that they can go ahead with the purchase and sale in other words moving forward. He feels this is putting the cart before the horse. The board has seen the purchase and sale that specifically refers to the pilot purchase and sale with the Day School. It clearly states that if they are not tax exempt they have to pay full market value as determined by the Assessors. If it is determined by the Assessors to be tax exempt then we will enter into the pilot

agreement as determined by the team that was put together by the Board of Selectmen. The Day School wants to start that negotiation now but again he feels like it's the cart before the horse. Mr. Archible doesn't believe they can do it. Mr. Aponte believes they have enough to move forward with the purchase and sale. Once that has been finalized they will own the property and then they can go to the Assessors who can then make the determination if they are tax exempt. If it is determined to be tax exempt then it will come to the town pilot negotiation team who will then work it out with the Day School pilot negotiation team. The Board was in agreement.

Mr. Aponte will let the Day School know of the board's decision.

He mentioned mail piece #18 from the Attorney General's office regarding the OUI – last drink. Once again no Belchertown establishment made the list of the reported DUI's. It is a good sign that are businesses are doing their job.

Mr. O'Connor: Offered his appreciation for everyone that participated in the Veterans' Day services. Also a thank you to the boys and girl scouts that came out in the morning because it was really cold.

Mr. Barnett: The Veterans' services in the school were magnificent.

- 9) **Questions from the Press:** Steve Hill from the *Sentinel* asked for confirmation that the Senior Center Formula grant is through the State. He was told it is and what the money is used for.

The Board wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!


- 10) **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.


Minutes submitted by Gary L. Brougham, Town Administrator

Board approved/endorsed: December 11, 2017

Board of Selectmen - Town of Belchertown

Endorsed by a majority:


Brenda Q. Aldrich, Chairman


George D. Archible


Ronald E. Aponte

William R. Barnett

Nicholas O'Connor