

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



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

Absent: George D. Archible

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

2) Sign Documents:

- a) Warrant #1733 was signed for \$394,397.56.
- b) Routine documents
- c) Approval of Minutes: Mr. O'Connor moved the Board accept the minutes of January 23, 2017. Motion seconded by Mr. Aponte. Motion passes 3 – yes, 1 abstain (Aldrich).

3) Additions to the Agenda:

- Appointment Recommendation – Council on Aging: Ms. Aldrich presented the details to the Board. Per the recommendation of Bill Korzenowski, Director of the Council on Aging, Ms. Aldrich moved to appoint Ronald Duford to the position of custodian, Council on Aging, effective February 27, 2017. Motion seconded by Mr. Aponte. Motion passes 4 – 0.

4) Appearances Before the Board:

- 7:00 p.m.: - Executive Session – MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21, Subsection 3: Mr. O'Connor moved the Board enter executive session at the beginning of their regular session pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21, Subsections 2, 3 and 6 and to reconvene in open meeting. Seconded by Mr. Aponte. Roll call vote: Aponte – yes, Aldrich – yes, O'Connor – yes, Barnett – yes.
- 7:35 p.m. – PVPC Public Hearing – FY17 CDF: Mr. O'Connor read the public hearing notice and opened the hearing. Jim Mazik from the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission was present for the hearing. Mr. Mazik presented an overview to the Board of the FY17 CDF. The deadline to file is March 10th, 2017. He stated that one million dollars is the upper limit and that PVPC has 71 applications on file for housing rehab. The aging in place program has close to 50 applications. The requirement to designate a “target area” has been eliminated in this round of grants.

There are essentially two programs the housing rehab which has been a staple which includes code violations, septic repairs, electrical upgrades, heating upgrades. This is for moderate income families or lower. There are 30 housing units for rehab of which 20 will be for Belchertown. There is a leveraging requirement and he is suggesting that moderate income families be asked to put up \$200 towards the cost of the project, those of low income will be asked to put up \$100 and then those who are very low will not be asked to do anything. If there are circumstances where people can't come up with the money the request can be waived.

The other program is the aging in place program which is a grant program to seniors 65 and older who are in owner occupied homes. It will be for safety type of improvements such a furnace cleanings, slip resistant stair treads, walk in bathtubs, grab bars, railings. This grant will cover up to \$5,000. A leveraging requirement will also be asked for and will be very modest. It will be \$50 for moderate income, \$25 for low income and no money if they are very low income.

The total being proposed for the grant is \$990,000. The Town of Hadley is on Board.

Mr. O'Connor moved to close the public hearing. Seconded by Mr. Aponte. Motion passes 4 – 0.

Mr. O'Connor moved the Board authorize the submission of the proposal for the FY17 Belchertown-Hadley Community Development Fund Grant application to the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development in an amount not to exceed \$990,000 as detailed in the public hearing and to include funding for a Housing Rehabilitation Program and an Aging in Place Program for Belchertown and Hadley residents. Motion seconded by Mr. Barnett. Motion passes 4 – 0.

Mr. O'Connor moved the Board authorize the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to sign all required forms, documents, letters and authorizations pertaining to the proposed FY 2017 Belchertown-Hadley Community Development Fund grant application. Motion seconded by Mr. Aponte. Motion passes 4 – 0.

- 8:00 p.m. – Intention to Lay-Out Town Way Hearing – Sheffield Estates (Sheffield Drive, Spring Hill Road, Waterford Drive, Lexington Drive): Steve Williams, Director of Public Works was present. He stated that this is not a public hearing but is the process that will start the public hearing. This is his request to have the Board vote their intention to lay-out Sheffield Estates subdivision which consists of Sheffield Drive, Spring Hill Road, Waterford Drive and Lexington Drive as town ways. He wants to bring this to town meeting in May. He needs the Board to read the motion to lay these streets out. He has also included a template for a letter to the Planning Board of the Board's intent. Tonight's vote is the intent following a public hearing the Board will then vote to take the step to lay it out.

Mr. O'Connor asked Mr. Williams to explain to the residents what this means for them. He explained that this means the residents along these public ways are not responsible for maintenance, safety or snow removal. As the subdivision is in default it came over to the town automatically but once the town accepts it those responsibilities become the towns. The town has rights to the property, rights to maintain that property and the town can start to expend public funds on repairs (Chapter 90 funds).

Ms. Aldrich moved the Board of Selectmen vote its intention to lay out Sheffield Estates (Sheffield Drive, Spring Hill Road, Waterford Drive, Lexington Drive) as a public way, all as shown on a plan entitled "Sheffield Estates Subdivision" Street Acceptance Plan & "As-Built" Conditions Plan, dated June 27, 2016, prepared by Sherman & Frydryk, LLC and recorded with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 237 Page 52 and on file with the Town Clerk, and to forward this vote and the plan to the Planning

Board for its comments and recommendations pursuant to G.L. c. 41, §§81G and 81I. Motion seconded by Mr. Aponte. Motion passes 3 – yes, 1 – abstain (Barnett).

5) Discussion/Action Items:

- a. Award Bid 2017-01 – Hamilton Street Forest Management Project – Forestry Services: Ms. Aldrich stated that the town meeting in May 2016 voted to approve this.

Steve Williams, Director of Public Works presented the details. The bids were opened on January 25, 2017. Four bids were received and three were opened. The fourth bid was received a day late. The bids ranged from \$7,500 on the low side to \$27,799.61 on the high side. The net gain is potentially about \$18,000 after paying the forester that the town hired. He's heard a lot of good things about Anderson Timber Harvesting. He and the forester took a ride to Monson to check out a job that they did there and he was very impressed with their work.

This property is behind the town landfill and is about a 90 acre parcel. Timber harvesting will be done on approximately 60 of those acres. It is a management project so we will be thinning it.

Mr. Aponte moved the Board award the Forestry Services contract to Anderson Timber Harvesting of 12 Woods Road, Westminster, MA 01473 in the amount of \$27,799.61. Motion seconded by Mr. O'Connor. Motion passes 4 – 0.

- b. Award Bid 2017-02 – Sale of Town Owned Surplus Vehicles/Equipment: Mr. Williams presented the details to the Board. He is recommending the bid be awarded to two individuals.

Mr. Aponte moved the Board award the 1980 John Deere Tractor/Mower (salvage/parts only condition) in the amount of \$1,500 to Anthony McAvoy, 355 Old Enfield Road, Belchertown, MA 01007. Motion seconded by Mr. O'Connor. Motion passes 4 – 0.

Mr. Aponte moved the Board award the following items to Robert Johnson, 91 Canal Drive, Belchertown, MA, all of which as salvage/parts only condition – 2000 Ford Crown Victoria in the amount of \$108; 2007 Ford Crown Victoria in the amount of \$108; and 1998 Road Side Message Board/Wanco Mobile Trailer in the amount of \$517. Motion seconded by Mr. O'Connor. Motion passes 4- 0.

- c. Endorse Chapter 90 Reimbursement Request: Mr. Williams presented the details to the Board. Mr. Barnett moved the Board endorse the Chapter 90 reimbursement request in the amount of \$41,293.60 for the Maple/State Street improvements. Motion seconded by Mr. Aponte. Motion passes 4 – 0.
- d. Review Planning Board Application for Site Plan Approval for B-Town Motors, 141 State Street: Gary Brougham, Town Administrator presented the details. There are two items specific to B Town Motors. One is the actual site plan review. The Planning Board will review the plan on February 28th.

There is a building currently on the site. The business owners have done very well at this location and want to expand their business. The plan is to add a 60 ft. long and 30 ft. deep building that will be attached to the existing building. The two family house that is nearby is going to be raised in the near future. It is also required that they have a special permit from the ZBA for automotive repair. They will be meeting with the ZBA this

Wednesday evening. As long as they the permission to precede they hope to begin with this project once the snow melts.

Mr. Barnett moved the Board recommend the Planning Board allow B Town Motors to move forward with their project. Motion seconded by Mr. O'Connor. Motion passes 4 – 0.

- e. Review ZBA Special Permit Application for B-Town Motors, 141 State Street: Per the above discussion, Mr. Barnett moved the Board recommend the ZBA issue the special permit for B Town Motors. Motion seconded by Mr. O'Connor. Motion passes 4 – 0.
- f. Formal Appointment of Belchertown Opioid Awareness Task Force: Mr. Aponte presented the details to the Board. This group has been meeting regularly and they are ready to be formally recognized as a town committee. It is recommended that each of the appointments be through June 30, 2017. Mr. Aponte moved the Board appoint Jill Panto, Archie Archible, Sgt. Kevin Pacunas, Officer Jason Krol, Captain Craig Bodamer, Judy Metcalf, Kimberly Dion and Phyllis Ducomb to the Belchertown Opioid Awareness Task Force, terms to expire June 30, 2017. Motion seconded by Mr. O'Connor. Motion passes 4 – 0.
- g. Appointment of Part-Time Police Dispatcher: Mr. Aponte presented the details to the Board. Per the recommendation of Chief Pronovost, Mr. Aponte moved to appoint Lauren Shunaman to the position of part-time dispatcher, effective February 3, 2017. Motion seconded by Mr. O'Connor. Motion passes 4 – 0.
- h. Appointment of Part-Time Police Officer: Mr. Aponte presented the details. The Board accepted the resignation of part-time police officer Courtney Hall. A letter will be sent to Ms. Hall thanking her for her service to the town.
- i. Accept Resignation from Conservation Commission Member: Mr. O'Connor presented the details. The Board accepted the resignation of Joseph Babineau from the Conservation Commission. A letter will be sent to Mr. Babineau thanking him for his many years of service to the town.
- j. Accept Resignation from Historical Commission Member: Mr. O'Connor presented the details to the Board. The Board accepted the resignation of Richard Keating from the Historical Commission. A letter will be sent to Mr. Keating thanking him for his service to the town.
- k. Discuss Warrant Article Re: Hampshire Council of Governments: Discussion not held. Will be taken up at the next Board of Selectmen meeting.

- 6) **Town Administrator's Report:** Mr. Bolduc the Pride owner is very agreeable to allowing the busses to turn around in the Pride area. He also suggested it would not be out of the question for him to add sidewalks to the west side of the property.

There have been additional discussions with the development of the State School. He knows that Steve Williams has concerns about the town's obligation to build the extension on the access to the site. There is a snag with the sewer connections. The Grantham Group is hoping to break ground this spring. Steve Williams indicated that on Wednesday they will be finalizing the placement of the sewer. He is confident the town's portion of the project will be completed before Grantham is ready to break ground.

Bob Bolduc will also be before the Planning Board on the 28th. He is hoping to break ground this spring.

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

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

Mr. Barnett: He is on the committee for the timber rattlesnakes in the Quabbin. He attended the first meeting in Athol which was an educational meeting. The next meeting will be on February 28th here in Belchertown.

He complimented the department of public works for the great job they did with all the snow removal.

Mr. O'Connor: Mentioned that Senator Lesser will be attending the Selectmen's meeting in March. The Board should think of some things that they want to talk about with him. He specifically wants to talk about surplus property. He has concerns about the surplus land that NESFI currently operates.

Ms. Aldrich: Also thanked the department of public works for the great job they did with the snow removal.

She extended condolences to the Besancon family on the passing of Mr. Ron Besancon who had been a great businessman in the town. She thinks the Board should send condolences to the family.

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

10) **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Gary L. Brougham, Town Administrator

Board approved/endorsed: February 27, 2017

Board of Selectmen - Town of Belchertown

Endorsed by a majority:

(Absent)

George D. Archible, Chairman

Ronald E. Aponte

Ronald E. Aponte

Nicholas O'Connor

Nicholas O'Connor

Brenda Q. Aldrich

William R. Barnett

William R. Barnett