

Memorial Town Hall, 1 Library Street, Georgetown, MA 01833

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

Memorial Town Hall

08/16/2021

7:00PM-General Meeting

Verizon channel 42/Comcast channel 9

Selectmen Present: *D. Dawes, Chair, Vice Chair P. Kershaw, A. Smith and G. Fowler.*

Absent: *D. Twiss*

Others Present: *Michael Farrell, Town Administrator. Administrative Assistant, Maureen Shultz, Police Chief Donald Cudmore.*

7:00PM Call to order

Invocation-Douglas W. Dawes

Pledge of Allegiance

NEW BUSINESS: Conservation Restrictions:

Vanessa Johnson-Hall, Assistant Director of Land Conservation / Essex County Greenbelt Association spoke on the following two conservation restriction request and asked the Board for approval and their signatures.

Review and approval of the Conservation Restriction from Montana Development LLC to Greenbelt / 4 acres parcel of land open space parcel on rear Barry Way and Conservation Restriction donation to Greenbelt, 92 Nelson Street.

A. Smith motioned the Board to approve the Conservation restriction above at rear Barry Way, seconded by P. Kershaw. Roll call votes was taken 3-1 in favor. G. Fowler abstained from vote.

A. Smith motioned the Board to accept Conservation Restriction donation to Greenbelt, 92 Nelson Street seconded by P. Kershaw. A roll call vote was taken 3-1 in favor. G. Fowler abstained from vote.

G. Fowler asked what do we as a Town benefit from these restrictions -has concerns with little parcels of land in Town not getting taxed on them.

It was mentioned that these parcels do have tax revenue for the Town -they are privately owned.

G. Fowler questioned the paperwork needed signed by the Board had David Twiss as Chairman it was confirmed that the paperwork for the Board to sign had been changed to reflect current Chairman Doug Dawes.

Police Chief Cudmore request for a new PSB Generator for the Public Safety Building:

Police Chief Cudmore spoke on the following regarding the need for a new generator/ replacement of a PSB Generator.

Current generator broke down a few weeks prior/ should have been replaced in 2011, delivery of a new unit will take about 30-36 weeks, Carl Maglio. Town Electrical Inspector was thanked by Chief Cudmore on assisting with helping when the current unit broke down.

D. Dawes commented it is time for a new generator at the Georgetown Police Department.

D. Dawes asked M. Farrell about funding a new generator through Capital Improvement funding and inquired about time frame to have it delivered.

D. Dawes asked Chief Cudmore on a new public safety building in the future -Chief Cudmore will do a presentation to the Board at a future meeting.

G. Fowler asked Chief Cudmore if he was comfortable with Natural Gas.

P. Kershaw asked / suggested about rebates for a new generator.

Town meeting would have to approve the funding from the Capital Funds.

D. Dawes asked about a maintenance plan with a new generator and the cost that may be associated with that plan

Chief Cudmore spoke on having no maintenance plan as of yet, a future maintenance plan could be covered under his Department Budget.

P. Kershaw motioned the Board to approve the PSB power point generator system purchase for \$104K approximate cost for the Public Safety Building, seconded by A. Smith. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

The following discussion took place.

G. Fowler suggested the motion be amended to include the funding source.

G. Fowler asked M. Farrell, Town Administrator what was done in the past when Penn Brook needed a new emergency boiler and the Town had to find the funding. M. Farrell, Town Administrator stated it went to the Fall Town Meeting to be approved.

G. Fowler stated the vote will allow the Police Chief to go ahead and go forward with the new generator and we will find the funding later.

D. Dawes stated the funding would be either through ARPA (Board of Selectman) and or Capital improvement funding (Town Fall Meeting) approval.

P. Kershaw asked for clarification on the purchase of a new generator -does it mean it has to wait until Fall Town Meeting.

Chief Cudmore stated he does not have to pay the fee to be able to use the backup generator. G. Fowler asked about the temporary generator and the emergency generator asked who can use it. asked how they are running now. Finance to have a plan might work out well.

Town Administrator Recruitment schedule.

M. Farrell, Town Administrator spoke on wrapping up the Towns FY21 books – a lot of concern not making the revenue-but the Town did make the books with the help from the Department Heads implementing a spending freeze on the advice of the Town Administrator-Departments did not spend \$400K from their own budgets—voluntarily on their part, this will provide a boost to free cash in the Fall.

ARPA money/funding will be discussed at an upcoming Department Heads meeting, suggestions will be made, discussed together, mini budget season -all request will be submitted to the Finance Committee which they will hold a hearing on before sending to the Boards of Selectman for approval - \$458,867-1/2 direct allotment has been given to the Town.

G. Fowler asked if the Town has met their revenue -doesn't see the short fall.

CARES money has been fully spent.

VOTES BY THE BOARD:

G. Fowler motioned the Board to approve the 10th Annual Coast to Coast to the CURE NF Bike ride to be held on 9/11/21, seconded by P. Kershaw. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

G. Fowler motioned the Board to approve the 7th annual cycling fundraiser/ Tour de Greenbelt to be held on 9/18/21 with the Town's Public Safety Departments approving this event, seconded by P. Kershaw. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

G. Fowler motioned the Board to approve the Meeting minutes from May 17, 2021 as presented with changes seconded by A. Smith.

Discussion took place -G. Fowler suggested that he sees nothing wrong with having a dialogue after a vote by the Board and suggested not to approve the meeting minutes from July 27, 2021 as to clarify past practices, Roberts Rules, requested to visit the procedure & policy procedures, stated he believed that D. Twiss should have been allowed to open that meeting of the Board of Selectman on July 27, 2021. The meeting minutes from July 27, 2021 will be added to the next agenda to correct some wording. G. Fowler suggested a comment should be put down the way it is said, no vote taken -the meeting minutes from July 27, 2021 will put on next agenda.

APPOINTMENT: *P. Kershaw motioned the Board to appoint David Cassidy of Amesbury, Mass on the recommendation of the current wire inspector Carl Maglio, seconded by A. Smith. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.*

BOARD OF SELECTMAN REPORT:

A. Smith spoke on her progress in renewing the cable licenses in Town with Comcast & Verizon has met with Town Council regarding operating cost, capital budget and putting together the new terms of a contract.

D. Dawes reminded residents that the Cable TV Committee is still in need of volunteers along with other Board and Committees in Town.

G. Fowler spoke on setting up a meeting in the near future with the American Legion P and along with members of the Traffic Study group including Chief Cudmore. P. Kershaw met with Parks and Recreation on the Kiosk system but said it never went anywhere and asked G. Fowler if it had to do with cost.

P. Kershaw has been meeting weekly regarding the National Ave project- some open discussions Zoning and Planning Board are on the next steps, meetings going forward, make a decision on what direction to head in.

D. Twiss working on the Fire Chief Search=moving forward – (D. Twiss absent -D. spoke on his behalf).

D. Dawes spoke on the Town Administrators search with MRI Consultants, advertisement has been placed, moving in the right direction.

D. Dawes spoke on Veterans Affairs including a workshop coming up in the Town of Byfield for Veterans' benefit, many informative session and topics, moving wall coming to Plum Island Airport and the Healing Wall that recently was placed in Nahant.

Tentative Board of Selectman meeting to be held on August 30, 2021.

The following dates of the Board of Selectman will be held on September 13th & 17th and then on October 4th & 18th, 2021.

G. Fowler stated he has no problems with those mentioned dates but questioned to meet every two weeks and with the changes of meeting dates it would be meeting three weeks in a row.

ADJOURNMENT:

G. Fowler motioned the Board to adjourn, seconded by P. Kershaw. A roll call vote was taken all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM. Minutes transcribed by Maureen Shultz

