

Board of Selectmen Meeting
Memorial Town Hall

6-7-17
Approved: August 2, 2017

Selectman Cindy Doty
Selectman Edmund Jaworski
Selectman Brian Moriarty
Ms. Marlene Michonski

Selectman Moriarty opened the meeting at 5:35pm. He announced a reminder that 6-27 is a special election at Memorial Town Hall to vote on the ATM water transmission line, the last piece of the current phase, past C&S to Gore Avenue. This is a debt exclusion with a temporary increase in real estate taxes of \$15/year per 100k valuation for 10 yrs.

He said also that he attended the ribbon cutting at the 5 College Textbook Annex on route 5/10, a facility servicing the 5 local colleges. The executive director said good things about Kyle Scott, Hatfield, and Mr. Genovese.

He also mentioned the Memorial Day parade & festivities. A great job was done; the grounds looked nice. He thanked Selectman Jaworski for his service.

Public Forum- N/A

Minutes

Selectman Jaworski moved to discuss minutes of 4-4, 4-11, 4-18, 4-24, 5-9, and 5-19. He mentioned revisions for 4-4 and 4-18. All voting in favor, the motion was approved with revisions as discussed.

Authorize A/P Warrants-

Selectman Jaworski moved to approve warrants as presented. Selectman Doty seconded. All voting in favor, the motion was approved.

Selectman Moriarty welcomed Selectman Doty again. Members discussed Board liaisons. Selectman Jaworski is to take FRTA. Selectman Doty asked about being the liaison for the Fire Department as she works in EMS. Selectman Moriarty said it's a liaison role not voting so there would be no conflict. Selectman Moriarty will take PVPC and Selectman Jaworski is to be an alternate.

Transfer of Liquor License of Hatfield Market

Selectman Jaworski excused himself from the discussion as he is an abutter. Selectman Moriarty noted this was on last month's agenda. Ms. Michonski reviewed the application. Mr. Habib appeared before the Board. He said he hoped to open on July 1st.

Selectman Moriarty moved to transfer the Liquor License of Hatfield Market to Naxog, dba Hatfield Market. Selectman Doty seconded. The motion was approved.

Colonial Power Group

Mark Cappadona, Denise Allard

Mr. Cappadona spoke about DPU's approval of Hatfield's plan and its decision for a new opt out aggregation. Consumers will receive 1 bill from Eversource with 1 reference line on the bill. Everyone on basic service is automatically in the pool unless they opt out. He answered questions from the Board and noted that residents should check if there are any fees or penalties to opt out from their 3rd party supplier. Responding to a question from Selectman Jaworski, Mr. Cappadona said the basic service rates will change every 6 months. Everyone that has a basic service account will get a letter which will appear to come from the town and will explain the program details. Selectman Doty said the basic service supply rate will be listed. Colonial power's fee will be included in the basic service line.

Responding to Selectman Doty's question about DPU review, Mr. Cappadona said the plan will be updated every 3-5 years. Their website will give all the information, and there will be information to post to the town website. He said they would come back to the Board, for approval of the plan but wouldn't have to go back to town meeting.

Selectman Doty asked about HCOG. Mr. Cappadona explained that HCOG's plan was they were going to be the aggregator and the supplier so that might be the reason why DPU rejected it. Selectman Moriarty thanked Ms. Allard and Mr. Cappadona for coming in and answering the questions. Mr. Cappadona left a number of 866-485-5858 if anyone should have a question. He said this may not get started until 2018. Selectman Moriarty suggested an information session as we get closer.

Mr. Mitch Matusiewicz appeared before the Board regarding two questions: one concerning an abatement and one about meters and policies. He complained that people in town should be able to have a second water meter for certain water usage which would not require the water to be treated through the town sewer system such as sprinkler systems. Selectman Moriarty explained the current process is 1 meter/household. Mr. Matusiewicz said this is a new Board and this is something that needs to be corrected.

Selectman Jaworski said this discussion goes back to when water meters were first installed. He said it's a good policy for the town as a whole as there are operating and maintenance expenses for the water treatment and sewer plants. There was lengthy discussion of this topic. Selectman Doty noted there was a plan that everybody in town was to get on town sewer. Responding to her question about how many were on town sewer, Mr. Genovese said it's about 50%.

Mr. Genovese said a rate study would have to be done to assess the impact of changing this. Selectman Moriarty said some research will be done on this.

Regarding the abatement request, the Board denied this as it did not qualify. There was not a signed certificate of occupancy when Mr. Matusiewicz moved in to his house. Mr. Matusiewicz said he left 4 messages for the Water Department but got no call backs. He said he then got an outrageous water and sewer bill. Selectman Jaworski said he voted not to grant the abatement and said he easily printed out a water service application from the website.

Mr. Matusiewicz described unsuccessful efforts to contact Mr. Genovese. He said he paid his taxes without having a certificate of occupancy. There was discussion regarding how Mr. Matusiewicz would know what to pay without a meter installed. Mr. Genovese asked who took out the bldg. permit as the water source must be identified on the permit. Mr. Genovese said there is a water and sewer impact fee to tie in to the town. Mr. Matusiewicz said he was not going to pay for the water tie in fee and the sewer tie in fee. Responding to Mr. Genovese's question regarding who turned the water on to the house, Mr. Matusiewicz said he believed it was his excavator.

Mr. Genovese asked if a final inspection was done and meter installed. Mr. Matusiewicz said there are 2 meters. Mr. Matusiewicz said he had no access to the rules and regulations. Selectman Jaworski said you put in the second meter knowing it's not allowed in the town. Mr. Matusiewicz said he thought the town policy is wrong. Selectman Jaworski told Mr. Matusiewicz he is in violation. Selectman Moriarty said 1 meter per household. Selectman Moriarty said whether something is online or not is not a valid reason to say you can't do or not do something. Mr. Matusiewicz asked Mr. Genovese if he would like to have him remove the second meter and Mr. Genovese said yes.

DPW-

Mr. Genovese said Chestnut Street has been milled and a base coat put down. Tomorrow will be the final coat. He is trying to coordinate milling and paving of Valley, South and Bridge Streets, after talking to the farmers, the best month to do those is in July.

He informed the Board that water is bubbling up on Rocks Road where the new water main came through. A sample will be taken tomorrow to determine what kind of water it is. Geeleher has been called. He said he doesn't think its ground water.

Memorial Town Hall Front Steps

The town will buy the materials and will hire a contractor to install. We will get quotes for labor. Straits Rd sewer line will be happening in July. The ballot question regarding the 740k is to extend it to Gore Ave. Pipe is now exposed in the Mill River. Selectman Jaworski said hopefully information can go on the website. Mr. Genovese said Rocks Rd is the priority. Concern was expressed that this might be the water main. Mr. Genovese said there is an 11 degree bend right at this spot but we're not going to know until we excavate it.

He mentioned other items including the tiling of floors when school closes. The generator is up and running. Mr. Genovese asked the chair to sign 2 copies of the EPA subscriber agreement. Selectman Jaworski moved to enter into the subscriber agreement with EPA that Brian McGrath is signatory authority based on recommendation of DPW and Ms. Michonski. Selectman Doty seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Historical Commission Appointment

Selectman Jaworski moved to appoint Lynn Omasta to replace Frederick Martin on the Historical Commission. Selectman Doty seconded. The motion was approved.

Center School

Ms. Michonski related that Town Counsel, Gary Brackett and Attorney Reidy anticipate closing at the end of this month.

Financial Management Update

Ms. Michonski met this afternoon with a consultant and the financial team to have FY17 closed out by Labor Day. There will be a conference call in 2 weeks to check progress. Selectman Moriarty said we have high expectations. The Treasurer is working on October and by the end of June she should be through December. Selectman Moriarty said the treasurer-collector's and the accountant's responsibilities often overlap. They need to work and let the other person catch up. A consultant will assist both departments in moving forward and may recommend procedural improvements. The town needs to look at staffing increases. Responding to a question from Selectman Jaworski, Selectman Moriarty said he thinks everybody is on board.

A roll call vote was conducted to enter into executive session to conduct contract negotiations with non-union personnel. The Board signified they would not again return to open session. With Selectman Jaworski voting aye, Selectman Doty voting aye, and Selectman Moriarty voting aye, the motion passed. The meeting ended at 7:25.p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ki J. Eno