



Town of Bernardston Board of Selectmen

MEETING MINUTES: for September 18, 2013

Select Board Members Present:

Louis J. Bordeaux, Chairman
Virginia M. Budness
Robert R. Raymond

Others Present:

Peter Snow
Tom Newton
Jane Dutcher, Finance Committee

Chairman Lou Bordeaux called the meeting to order at 6.00pm.

Lou announced this meeting is being broadcast live on BNCTV.

Warrants (week ending September 6, 2013)

Lou called for a motion to approve the Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$27,278.18 Motion by Virginia to approve. Second by Bob. Motion carried.

Lou called for a motion to approve the Vendor Warrant in the amount of \$78,757.58. Motion by Virginia to approve. Second by Bob. Motion carried.

Minutes

Regular Meeting of September 4, 2013. Motion to approve by Virginia, second by Bob. Motion carried.

Calendar & Announcements

Lou read aloud the following:

- PVRSD Building & Grounds Committee, 7.30pm Wednesday September 18th at Central District Office Conference Room.
- Board of Health, 9.30am Thursday September 19th at Town Hall.
- Special Town Meeting, 7pm Monday September 23rd at the BES Gymnasium.
- Town Bylaw Committee, 10am Monday September 30th at Town Hall.
- Tax Collector – Holding Extra Hours on Tuesday October 1st from 9am-12noon & 4pm-7pm.
- Gun Buy Back – Saturday October 5th at the Greenfield Police Station 10am-4pm. \$50 for handguns, rifles and shotguns. \$100 for assault rifles. Guns must in a) working condition, b) UNLOADED and c) delivered in a bag.

Permits

None

Citizen's Concerns

Peter Snow, 11 Burrows Tpk, - Peter asked the Board about whether they had consulted Town Counsel about the Charity Lot account expenditures. Lou stated the Selectmen had sought an opinion from Town Counsel before proceeding to expend funds from the Charity Lot account.

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Tom Newton, 26 Hartwell St – Tom Newton described a potential parking hazard on Rt 10 to the Board providing photographs as evidence. Tom said that cars parked on RT10 westerly between Hartwell St and Center St block the view of oncoming traffic traveling in an easterly direction when a vehicle is stopped at the Hartwell St/Rt 10 intersection. The main cause appears to be overflow parking from the United Church of Bernardston services on Sundays. Tom suggested “No Parking” signage be posted on the road between Hartwell and Center Streets to keep the sight lines clear from obstruction. MassDOT has jurisdiction over Rt 10 as a state highway. The Board agreed to write to the MassDOT District 2 office in Northampton to see if the problem can be alleviated. Police Chief James Palmeri will be copied on the correspondence. Motion to address the problem with MassDOT by Bob, second by Virginia. Motion carried.

Appointments

No appointments.

New Business

Franklin County Mutual Aide Agreement – Police Chief James Palmeri had forwarded a revised Franklin County Mutual Aide agreement for the Selectmen’s review and comment. The Board had no specific issues with the agreement and generally feel public safety mutual aide agreements are valuable to the Town to provide law enforcement and fire protection services. Motion to sign the Mutual Aide Agreement by Virginia, second by Bob. Motion carried.

BES Use application – Community Volleyball applied for space at the BES gymnasium Sundays 6-10pm September 29, 2013 thru June 2014. Motion by Bob to approve the request, second by Virginia. Motion carried.

Selectmen Association Quarterly Meeting – The next quarterly Franklin County Selectmen’s Association is scheduled for Thursday September 26th at the Polish Club in South Deerfield. Lou said he cannot make the meeting. Bob and Virginia said they were unsure.

Farmers Market at Cushman Park, June – October 2014 – Virginia reported that Jim Gildea representing the Farmers Market is considering a move to Cushman Park next year from their present location in the parking lot of the United Church of Bernardston on Rt 10. Cushman Park offers more direct exposure and a countrified feel to the market. The present location right off Rt 10 is set back off the road where traffic is entering or exiting Interstate Rt91. Bob expressed initial concern about keeping the park area in a good condition and does not want to see ruts developing from vehicular use. In addition, parking on Rt10 would be limited unlike the situation at present. Virginia said the Framers Market has to iron out several details if a move was proposed the least of which would include sanitary options for customers.

PVRSD Capital/Maintenance Expense Definition – Bob has requested a meeting with other PVRSD members to discuss a definition of maintenance and capital expenses. Only Warwick responded so far. Warwick is grappling with the PVRSD over an unpaid expense of a well pump at the elementary school. Warwick feels the expense is maintenance and PVRS insists it is a capital expense. The language in the District Agreement on the

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subject is vague and Bob wants to clearly define the difference so that deferred or neglected maintenance does not turn into a capital expense. Warwick has proposed an October 1st meeting with PVRSD.

Appointment of P/T Officer – Police Chief James Palmeri requested that Mike Kelly be re-appointed to be re-appointed to the Bernardston Police Force as a Part-Time officer. Motion by Bob to appoint Mike Kelly as a Part-Time officer, second by Virginia. Motion carried.

Fire Dept – MEMA Grant Award – Lou as Chairman of the Board signed a contract with MEMA for an \$8,500 grant award on behalf of the Fire Department for emergency preparedness related to Vermont Yankee.

Senate Special Election Reimbursement – Paul Luther, Town Clerk reported to the Board, the Town had recovered a total of \$2,336 for costs related to the US Senate Special Primary election in April and Senate election in June. Overall, the election cost cities and towns \$7.2 million. This was approximately \$500,000 less than in 2008, because many municipalities opted to combine local elections with the primary. Bernardston did combine its local and US Senate primary elections.

CPTC Fall Workshops - Virginia noted that UMass-Amherst was hosting several land use and zoning workshops in the near future. These would be useful to the Conservation Commission, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals. The information will be passed onto to those committees.

Planning Board – Bob referenced he attended the Planning Board hearing on a home occupation permit submitted by Kringle Antiques at a residence on South St. The Planning Board took no action on the permit reconvening for September 30th. Bob's main concern was the residence has a South St address but has a driveway exiting off West Mountain Rd. Kringle assured Bob there would be no development on West Mountain Rd.

Old Business

None.

Town Coordinator Report

Hugh Campbell spoke to several issues:

- a) Heating Oil & Diesel Fuel FY14 – no price has been locked in yet for the Town. A price is expected to be set by September 30th.
- b) Landfill Monitoring – still no word from Huntley Associates regarding the Town's petition to go to annual monitoring. DEP was petitioned last July, 2012.
- c) BES Snow Plowing Bid FY14 – the snow plow bid will be published within the next week with a submission date of October 16th.

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- d) Hillside Pizza – Hillside Pizza will be submitting a malt and wine on premises liquor license for the Board’s consideration in the near future. The Town has up to 5 available.
- e) School Rd Trees – Hugh suggested the Board respond to the subcontractor’s opinion on the health of the trees on School Rd by stating their position is that the trees should be replaced. The Board agreed and correspondence will be drafted accordingly with copies to the Tree Warden and Town Counsel.
- f) Japanese Knotweed, Church St – The Franklin County Sherriff’s Dept has not scheduled a crew for this project as yet.
- g) Cushman Park culvert – The Conservation Commission will be holding a Request for Determination Applicability for the Town’s plans to place a steel grate over the culvert outlet in Cushman Park.
- h) Town Report contest 2012 – Hugh has entered the Towns’ 2012 Annual Report into the Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) Town report contest for 2012.

Adjourn With no further business to be discussed, Virginia made a motion to declare the meeting adjourned at 7.04pm. Bob seconded. Motion carried.

_____, Chairman _____, Member _____, Member
Louis J. Bordeaux Robert R. Raymond Virginia M. Budness