



Town of Bernardston
Board of Selectmen

MEETING MINUTES: for the meeting of April 30, 2015

Select Board Members Present:
Robert R. Raymond, Chairman
Louis J. Bordeaux, Vice-Chairman

Others Present:
See attached list.

Chairman Bob Raymond called the meeting to order at 6.00pm.

Bob announced the meeting was being broadcast by BNCTV.

Warrants (*week ending 4/24/2015*)

Bob asked for a motion to approve the Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$36,345.32 Motion by Lou. Second by Bob. Motion carried.

Bob called for a motion to approve the Vendor Warrant in the amount of \$41,096.11. Motion by Lou to approve, second by Bob. Motion carried.

Minutes

Regular Meeting of April 15, 2015. Motion by Lou to approve as written, second by Bob. Motion carried.

Special Meeting of April 27, 2015. Motion by Lou to approve as written, second by Bob. Motion carried.

Calendar & Announcements

Bob read aloud the calendar and announcements.

Building Permits

Non reported.

Citizen's Concerns

None.

BOS Meeting
April 30, 2015
(cont.)

New Business

DEP/FCSMWD – The Franklin County Solid Waste Management District is requesting the Board to sign reimbursement paperwork for a \$500 grant from the state DEP. The FCSWMD purchased recycling bins, reusable grocery bags and compost bins on behalf of the Town. Motion by Lou to approve the reimbursement request by the FCSWMD, second by Bob. Motion carried.

FY16 CDBG Application – The Franklin County Housing Authority is requesting the Board's interest in participating in the FY16 Community Development Block Grant application. The Town was awarded over \$1million for FY13 to continue housing rehabilitation loans to low-moderate income households and the Meals on Wheels program. Bernardston served as the lead town with Conway, Sunderland and Shutesbury with administration handled by the FCHA. Lou stated the Board, on behalf of the Town, should express interest in the FY16 CBDG program if there are projects and activities to benefit the residents. Motion by Lou to offer a letter of interest to the FCHA for the FY16 CBDG application, second by Bob. Motion carried.

Cushman Library – Cushman Library has asked the Board for permission for use of the Town Hall to host a book sale on Saturday September 26 and Sunday September 27. Friday September 25th would be used for set-up. Motion by Lou to permit the Cushman Library to use Town Hall to host a book sale from September 25 – 27, 2015, second by Bob. Motion carried.

FCCIP – The Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program (FCCIP) is proposing a new building permit rate structure for FY16 as follows:

- a) \$6.50 per \$1,000.00 value adjusted for an annual COLA. Presently, the fee is \$6.00 per \$1,000 value.
- b) Minimum fee of \$50.00 be raised to \$55.00.

Jane asked about an accounting of fees taken in by the FCCIP and if the Town was eligible for any reimbursements.

Master Plan Steering Committee – Eric Almeida has tendered his resignation from the MPSC effective April 30, 2015. Motion by Lou to accept the resignation with regret, second by Bob. Motion carried. A letter of appreciation will be sent to Eric and an advertisement will be placed on BNCTV accordingly for interested persons to complete the MPSC membership.

Final Meeting – Bob stated publically that this was Lou Bordeaux's final meeting as an elected member of the Board of Selectmen. Lou declined to seek a second term of office. Lou said it was a very fulfilling experience and he enjoyed every minute serving with his elected colleagues and all Town employees.

*BOS Meeting
April 30, 2015
(cont.)*

Old Business

BES Gym Roof – CGKV Architects submitted a draft schedule for the BES gym roof replacement project. It appears work could begin as early as June 8th. CGKV asked of the Board would permit work on the roof during school hours between 8am-3pm. Bob said school is released June 18th and it would probably be better to wait until school is out before work begins. Lou agreed. Bob read off comments submitted by Jason Knutson of CGKV related to the quote submitted by Titan Roofing back in January 2015.

Surplus Property – The Town received 2 bids for the 2004 Ford Police Cruiser declared surplus by the Board at the request of the Police Chief. The vehicle was advertised for public bid on Monday April 20th. Bids closed at 3:00pm on Monday April 27th. Bids were as follows:

- a) Jacob Louison, Putney, VT: \$550.51
- b) Christopher McMahon, Millers Falls, MA: \$351.00

Motion by Lou to award the bid to Jacob Louison, Putney, VT in the amount of \$551.50, second by Bob. Motion carried. The vehicle was originally purchased with community policing funds. The proceeds will be deposited into that account under the jurisdiction of the Police Dept.

Annual Town Meeting – The following articles were deferred for recommendation by the Board until this meeting from the special meeting on April 27th: Article 6 Education, Article 9 Stabilization accounts, Article 10 Transfer from Stabilization for a new Highway Dept truck, Article 14 Transfer to the Town Renovation/Construction account, Article 19 balance of a prior year Staples account and Article 21 a revised Open Container bylaw.

- Article 6 – The Finance Committee has recommended a 2.5% increase to Bernardston's share of the FY16 PVRSD budget totaling \$2,647,538.76. Bob stated he felt the district had tightened their belts with regard to a responsible budget for FY16 and he felt their request at +4.511% (\$2,699,476.00) was reasonable. The difference is \$51,937.24. The total PVRSD budget increase over FY15 is less than 1%. Jane said the 2.5% increase translates into a .06c tax rate increase for FY16 and a 4.511% increase equals .30c tax rate increase. There was significant discussion on the subject between all parties present including Superintendent Dayle Doiron reiterating the 2.5% increase triggers a potential \$157,000 loss to the district and job cuts as a result. Bob said he did not to appear obstinate supporting the 2.5% when the district has done what was asked of them in developing a FY16 budget. The Town of Warwick meets Monday May 4th and may well decide the assessment as the third of four towns to agree to the PVRSD FY16 budget for Bernardston should they vote the PVRSD recommended increase. Motion by Lou to support the \$2,699,476.00 FY16 Bernardston share of the PVRSD budget, second by Bob. Motion carried. Article 6 will now read 19,567.73 from Free Cash and \$2,948,365.00 raise and appropriate for a total of \$2,967,932.73 .

*BOS Meeting
April 30, 2015
(cont.)*

- Article 9 – Motion by Lou to approve Article 9 as written, second by Bob. Motion carried.
- Article 10 – Motion by Lou to approve Article 10 as written, second by Bob. Motion carried.
- Article 14 – Motion by Lou to approve Article 14 as written, second by Bob. Motion carried.
- Article 19 – Town Coordinator, Hugh Campbell reported this balance is now likely \$991.26 given reconciliation of the Staples account with outstanding charges yet to be paid. The balance on the account is old and the origins of the expenses are unknown. The account is now closed. Motion by Lou to approve Article 14 as revised to \$1,000.00, second by Bob. Motion carried.
- Article 21- The Chief of Police seeks to amend the Open Container bylaw by inserting “smoking marijuana” into the bylaw. Town Counsel has revised the bylaw language to be consistent with use of alcohol or drugs in public places. The bylaw if amended by Town Meeting must be approved by the state Attorney General’s office.

Motion by Lou to sign the 2015 Annual Town Meeting warrant as amended, second by Bob. Motion carried.

Town Coordinator Report

Hugh Campbell reported on the following:

- a) The FRCOG is willing to meet with the Board to discuss the Fryenhagen property on Martindale Rd for a brownfields site assessment. Bob acknowledged a meeting with the FRCOG is worth pursuing.
- b) The 2014 Annual Report is near completion by the publisher. Final copies are expected mid-week of the week of May 11th.

Adjourn With no further business to be discussed, Lou made a motion to declare the meeting adjourned at 7.10pm, Bob seconded. Motion carried.

Attest: Hugh Campbell, Town Coordinator

_____, Chairman
Robert R. Raymond

_____, Member
Louis J. Bordeaux