SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
7:00pm, September 21, 2022
Town Hall, 557 Main Street, Becket

Attendees
Select Board (SB): Chris Swindlehurst (CS), *Vice-Chair*; Michael Lavery (ML), *Clerk*
Absent: William Elovirta (BE), *Chair*

Staff: Katherine A. Warden (KW), Town Administrator; Beverly Gilbert (BG), *Administrative Assistant;*

Others: Ron and Laura Fairchild

Others remote: Unknown Individual

1. **The Chairperson will call the Select Board meeting to order.**
   CS called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and indicated that the SB is recording the meeting.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
   CS led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Broadband Update and Select Board to discuss and possibly vote on policies and decisions relating to the Broadband Project**
   None.

4. **Approval of the September 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes**
   ML moved to approve the September 7, 2022 Meeting minutes, CS 2nd: Motion carried.

5. **Public Input (limited to 3 minutes per person, 20 minutes total for this agenda item).**
   Ron and Laura Fairchild expressed appreciation to the members for serving on the SB.

6. **Select Board to vote on appointment: Jane Markham to the Cultural Council effective September 7, 2022 through June 30, 2025**
   After reviewing the appointment application, ML moved to appoint Jane Markham to the Cultural Council effective September 21, 2022 through June 30, 2025. CS 2nd: Motion carried.

7. **Select Board to acknowledge retirement:**
   - **David Shorey – Building Maintenance and Grounds Technician – Last day of work 9/23/2022**

   After the SB acknowledged, with regret, receipt of David Shorey's notification that he is retiring with his last day of work scheduled on September 23, 2022 and his official retirement date is effective October 21, 2022, the SB signed a letter of appreciation to him for his eighteen years of service to the town. The SB remarked that he will be missed.

   The SB also signed a letter of appreciation to Tyler Cormier who resigned from his Equipment Operator/Truck Driver Highway Department. His last day of work is on October 6, 2022.

8. **Review/potential vote on One-Day Wine & Beer Permit Application**
   - **Becket Arts Center, Canterbury Farm,1986 Fred Snow Rd, Becket, 9/25/2022 (1pm till 4pm)**

ML moved, pending the Police Chief's review/approval and clarification about whether an insurance certificate is required for properties not owned by the town, to issue a one-day wine and beer permit to the Becket Arts Center for a fundraiser scheduled at Canterbury Farm, 1986 Fred Snow Road at 1pm till 4pm on September 25, 2022. CS 2nd: Motion carried.

During discussion, KW pointed out that in accordance with Policy on Issuing One Day Liquor Licenses, applications must be filed 30 days prior to an event in order to be considered by the Select Board. To prevent last minute applications which may be disruptive to the staff, she will remind organizations that routinely submit one day permit applications about this aspect of the policy.

9. **Select Board to review Departmental Reports**
   - **Ambulance Dept. Response to Towns – 2022 Calendar year through Sept. 7th**
   - **Others - tba**

The Highway Dept. also submitted a report (Aug. 1 to Aug. 26, 2022).

10. **Town Administrator's Report and Recruitment Update**

KW provided the following update:
- She is searching for a vendor to clean the Town Hall twice a week until the Building Maintenance & Grounds Technician position is filled.
- Recruitment Update – received 18 applications for Ground/Maintenance, 4 applications for Highway Equipment Operator/Truck Driver and 1 application for Planning Board Administrative Assistant.
- Power washing, window and gutter cleaning of Town Hall will occur on Friday.
- She has arranged for Martino Glass, Pittsfield to provide an estimate for weather stripping of the Town Hall doors.
- The SB agreed KW will adopt the following work schedule: 8:30am-4:30pm, Monday through Friday and Noon till 8pm on Wednesday. On Wednesdays she may be available to those not able to visit during the day, and the Town Clerk is open on Wednesday evenings.
- KW will meet with Dave Shorey on Friday to review setup of the sound system for the STM.
- KW is meeting with Representative Pignatelli on Tuesday.

11. **Select Board's Comments and Announcements**

ML stated that it was his understanding that because the SB agreed the decision should be up to the residents, the SB did not vote on a recommendation for the Oct. 1st, 2022 Special Town Meeting article to see if the town will appropriate funding for the repair and replacement of the Wahconah Regional High School Track. The warrant lists that both the Finance Committee and SB recommends approval of this article. The SB agreed there will be an announcement at the beginning of the STM to convey that the SB did not take a position.

12. **Any other business to come before the Board**

None.

13. **Correspondence/announcements:**
   - **2022.09.08 Notice of Filing, Public Hearing, Procedural Conference and Request for Comments: D.P.U. 22-BSF-C3 (NEMA)Petition of NSTAR Electric Company**

d/b/a Eversource Energy for Approval of an Alternative Basic Service Procurement Plan

- **Tba**

The SB also received a Notice dated September 19, 2022 to announce that the Planning Board has scheduled a Public Hearing for October 12, 2022 to review Olivia Pattison's Special Permit application to operate 30 Washington Street (Map 206, Lot 39) as a general store and restaurant.

14. Select Board to review and sign payable warrants

The SB reviewed and signed payable warrants.

15. Select Board to adjourn the Meeting

ML moved to adjourn, CS 2nd: Motion carried. At 7:28pm, CS adjourned the meeting.

Signed by:

William H. Elovirta / *October 5, 2022*

William H. Elovirta, *Chair* Date Approved

Documents discussed at this meeting:

- 2022.09.21 Select Board Agenda
- 2022.09.07 Select Board Meeting Minutes
- Highway Dept. Report
- Correspondence as listed above - Agenda item 13
- Appointment Application Jane Markham – Cultural council
- Town Administrator's report week ending 9/18/2022
- Departmental Report listed above Agenda item 9
- Letter of resignation – Tyler Cormier
- Letter of Retirement – David Shorey
- BAC One Day Wine & Beer Application
- SB Letters of Appreciation: David Shorey, Tyler Cormier