

## Washington Board of Selectmen's Meeting - October 22, 2012

1. J. Huebner called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm. Attending for the Board were J. Huebner, S. Lennon and M. Case.
2. The assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. J. Huebner initiated the Board's interview of Tom Johnson for the vacancy on the Highway crew. The Board had Mr. Johnson's application and resume for consideration. J. Huebner asked Mr. Johnson to describe his work experience and skills. Mr. Johnson spoke of his job at Covanta. D. Fish added information about Mr. Johnson's mechanical skills and strong work ethic. D. Fish has observed Mr. Johnson's work as a part time employee of the DPW and is very satisfied. Mr. Johnson stated that he is looking for a long-term job. Both M. Case and D. Fish have known Mr. Johnson for a number of years and spoke of his good character. At the end of this discussion J. Huebner asked Mr. Johnson for references and made a motion to hire him pending outcome of reference checks by C. Briggs. M. Case seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.
4. J. Huebner spoke with C. Briggs regarding her exit interview with Tom Soules. Her notes from the interview will be kept in the personnel files. Chair asked D. Fish to read the exit interview and discuss with C. Briggs. J. Huebner made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 4 executive session during which T. Soules was discharged from his job on the highway department. M. Case seconded and the motion passed. After discussion with Town counsel, J. Huebner reported that we are not required to advertise highway department jobs.
5. J. Huebner asked D. Fish about A. Southard's CDL license status. D. Fish said that Adam will schedule the re-test shortly. J. Huebner emphasized the importance of getting this done in a timely manner.
6. At this point the Personnel portion of the meeting concluded and the regular Selectmen's meeting began. J. Huebner made a motion to accept the minutes from October 15. M. Case seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.
7. Washington resident Greg Viner hand delivered a summary proposal to purchase the former Mapleview nursing home to the Board. He had contacted J. Huebner last week and the Chair sent a copy of the June 20 Mapleview bid package to him. J. Huebner read Mr. Viner's summary letter into the record. The full text is attached to these minutes. Mr. Viner is interested in using the building for professional offices for his brother Michael Viner of Hinsdale and himself. In addition to a small reception area, the rest of the building would be used for dry storage. The brothers would do extensive restoration to the interior and exterior of the building. They would clean up the grounds. They would like to finish work on the exterior by June 30, 2013 and on the interior by December 31, 2013 for occupancy on January 1, 2014. They could eventually employ 10 people at the site. Traffic impact would be minimal. Total estimated costs are \$137,000. They bid \$1,000 to purchase the property. J. Huebner will ask them to make a presentation to the town. The Planning Board will have to be involved as will the Finance Committee. J. Huebner will send electronic copies of the summary proposal to those groups.
8. D. Fish reported that he has found suitable culvert pipe for Upper Valley Rd at a much lower price than he had originally estimated.

9. J. Huebner called on Ed Bond for an update on the painting of Town Hall exterior. E. Bond reported that the work has been finished except for the scraping and staining of the single door at the end of the Assessor's office. E. Bond was pleased with the job done.
10. J. Huebner signed a permit application from Frank Kennedy for Tuesday morning computer classes.
11. J. Huebner announced that there will be a Capital Assets meeting next week on 10/29.. D. Spencer requested a FinCom meeting for next week also to review the bid on the nursing home.
12. The Chair reported that the work to restrict vehicle weight on Blotz Road had progressed. MASSDOT has placed a weight restriction on a culvert in Dalton which would represent a maximum for the entire road. Details of the weight restriction and other issues still remain to be settled among the 3 towns involved.
13. E. Bond reported that the Pumpkin Walk is ready to go. All 100 pumpkins will be carved by Wednesday. He will have list of donors at end of event and will give that to the Board. The Board wants to acknowledge them in the Tracks.
14. J. Huebner asked Shaun Lennon about the surplus furniture available at Williams College. S.Lennon is waiting for D. Fish to help move it to Town in his truck in a week or so when he is less busy with paving.
15. M. Case stated the Superintendent of Schools Mr.Cameron of CBRSD would like to attend the Nov. 19 meeting. J. Huebner will contact Superintendent Cameron to confirm scheduling.
16. The Chair asked engineer Phil Clark for an update on the Eden Glen flood control project. P. Clark presented his set of drawings of the re-design of the dam area. The drawings showed the width of the bridge based on width of the stream at 36' wide and 86' long. This leaves plenty of room to widen the road, as was done when the culvert was replaced on Lower Valley Road. The structure will have to be about 4' higher. May have to take a small amount of land. In a storm we will get water over the embankment next to the dam. We need to build concrete sluiceway there. We need to protect Bob down below from flooding. The computer model shows we can handle a 2 year storm now. Ten year storm can just be contained with the present culvert. New construction will slow velocity of water and damage for a ten year storm and greater. Our application is due to FEMA Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>. He is getting cost estimate now. Cost is approaching \$750,000. E. Bond asked about the dam. P. Clark will keep it. J. Huebner asked P. Clark to write a damage statement for CSX on Upper Valley Road. P. Clark will get damage pictures from D. Fish.
17. J. Huebner reported that he went to a meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization last week. He learned that towns have to spend transportation money this year or will be re-purposed. He has a copy of the BRTA ten year vision available for Board to read.
18. Town Counsel told the Board that the Town must pay the Verizon pole charges bill of \$6300 approximately. This includes our pole charges and interest. K. Avalle confirmed that there is no

money in the overlay to pay this. D. Spenser will discuss this with K. Avalle. We may have to hold a special town meeting to pay this bill. D. Parnell also reported that the CDC wants to come in next week to demo and discuss the software they have developed. He said that Tax and Assessors have problems with existing CDC software. J. Huebner said that to accommodate the CDC the meeting will start next week at 6:00. Dan, Belinda and Karen should all be here at 5:00 for the demo. After that the CDC reps can go before the Board.

19. J. Huebner briefly commented on the following items:

- a. We have received from Nat Kearnes at BRPC a survey to complete about our internet useage at Town Hall. J. Huebner asked that S. Nelson review this lengthy document and report to the Board.
- b. J. Huebner reported that he will attend a regional economic development meeting at Smith College on Thursday.
- c. Town Counsel reports that the Town can issue 14 full liquor licenses, 5 for beer and wine and license 2 package stores.
- d. We received invitation to join the International League of Cities. Decided not to join.
- e. J. Huebner asked V. Breen if he had scheduled the annual animal inspector meeting.
- f. We received notification that Tom Soules has filed a workmen’s comp claim. J. Huebner asked C. Briggs to complete the paperwork.

20. J. Huebner made a motion to adjourn the Selectmen’s meeting at 7:45 pm to call to order the Board of Health meeting. M. Case seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes written by J. Nelson