

## Meeting of the Washington Board of Selectmen – September 29, 2014

1. J. Huebner called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Attending for the Board were J. Huebner and Michael Case.
2. After leading the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, J. Huebner made a motion to accept the minutes from September 22, 2014. M. Case seconded and the vote to accept was unanimous.
3. After making a revision to the Monthly Select Board Letter by completing an incomplete draft, J. Huebner made a motion that the Board approve the Letter. M. Case seconded and the Letter was accepted unanimously. J. Nelson emailed the Monthly Letter to Lisa Guthrie for the Tracks along with a request to post a public hearing for Monday, October 20 at 7:30 regarding the petition of Bucksteep LLC for transfer of a Retail Alcoholic Beverages License from Dominick Sacco.
4. Regarding the Administrative Assistants, J. Huebner observed that as J. Hostetter was unable to attend tonight, he had not received her weekly activity report. To his question about opportunities for the Town to apply for a grant under the 2.2 billion dollar Environmental Bond Bill, J. Nelson replied that she continued to speak with the DEP about funds that might be applied to the cost of removing the “mid-stream obstruction” (Eden Glen dam) but could not report any success yet.
5. After discussions with the Tax Collectors about precedent for the policy, the Board had decided to garnish the wages of Town employees who still owed property taxes. Adam Southard of the Highway crew was one of these. J. Huebner asked D. Fish if he had explained this policy to Adam and he replied that he had done so and that Adam understood the process. The Board thanked D. Fish for his paving of the road to the Town Garage and Transfer Station. He added that he had also paved on Lower Valley Road

over the culvert repairs near Depot Brook Beefalo Farm. P. Clark added that he and D. Fish were working on the road and bridge maintenance plan and check list. It is a work in progress. J. Huebner asked D. Fish to meet with the Berkshire Regional Planning team this week when they finish the PASER study of the Town's road conditions. He said that he was planning to do so.

6. J. Huebner reported that the National Park Service will not be holding a meeting at Eden Glen as planned for Wednesday, 10/1. He did not think it would be rescheduled.
7. Lillian Fox asked the Board if they could identify a wild plant she discovered in her garden. She presented a specimen of the plant. They could not assist and suggested she contact the local Master Gardeners' organization.
8. J. Huebner briefly discussed the following items:
  - a. The Board received information from Nat Karns at BRPC on a firm called Skyborne Solar which is looking for municipal customers interested in solar installation. J. Huebner will follow up with them.
  - b. Notice received from WMECO that they will be doing work at the Berkshire Substation in the near future. Washington will likely be affected by outages of up to 30 minutes on Tuesday, Oct. 7 at 4:00 pm and on Saturday, Oct. 11 at 6:00 pm.
  - c. The Board had received information from the Mass. Department of Public Health on the Enterovirus, a highly infectious respiratory ailment generally affecting school children. At least one case has been reported in the state. This information will be posted at Town Hall.
  - d. J. Huebner will attend the Economic Development Conference tomorrow in Chicopee. He will attend a climate change symposium in Springfield on October 3. BCBOHA will hold a dinner on Oct. 28. No one will attend.

- e. Our Berkshire Regional Health Association nurses will hold a FREE flu shot clinic on Monday, October 6 from 4:30 to 7:00 pm at Town Hall. All are welcome.
  - f. Two letters were received from Mass DOT regarding state aid. A payment voucher for \$770.00 for chip seal has been submitted to the state office by Peter Niles of District 1 in Lenox. He has also submitted a payment voucher for \$22,840.18 for materials used by the Town under the Winter Rapid Road Recovery Program.
  - g. A letter was received from Mass Office of Business Development regarding changes to the Economic Incentive Program and Job Creation Projects.
  - h. A brochure was received from BRPC on their GIS survey and Data Services. To be given to the Assessors for their mapping requirements.
  - i. The Board reported receiving a check for \$45 for a roofing permit issued by Paul Greene, Building Inspector.
  - j. Another invitation to the MMA meeting in Franklin, MA received. No one will attend from Washington.
  - k. A Letter from Advanced Adjustment Service, Inc. informing the Town of a damage claim made by a resident, Ms. Cirillo, for a failed hot water tank.
  - l. Notice from the City of Pittsfield informing us of their approval of a special permit for Autozone Northeast, Inc. to waive parking requirements in relation to construction of an auto parts store at 858 Dalton Ave.
  - m. No news from Pittsfield on the 5 acres of cemetery land. Nothing new on Depot Brook at Route 8.
  - n. Historical Commission to consider grant opportunities available in the FY 2015 Mass Historical Commission Survey and Planning Grant Cycle.
9. Richard Loveszy, of Family Unity International, the new owner of Bucksteep, submitted his Petition for Transfer of a Liquor License to the Board. If

approved, the transfer would be from the Sacco family to his organization. He also submitted a Retail Alcoholic Beverage License Application Monetary Transmittal Form and an Application for Retail Alcoholic Beverage License. Included in his application materials was a check for \$200 made out to the ABCC for their filing fee. The Town's permit fee for the license, should it be granted, is \$1,000. The application was prepared by Richard Vinette Of Counsel to Hanon Lerner,PC. Town Clerk Allison Mikaniewicz will prepare the ABCC form 43 for the Town. A public Hearing on the applications is scheduled for Monday, October 20 at 7:30 pm. This information will be published in the Tracks. Public notice will be published in the Berkshire Eagle.

10.The Board opened each of the eight proposals submitted in response to the RFQ for design/engineering studies of 3 Town culverts: Cross Place Road, Lower Valley Road and Lower Sargent Road as scheduled at 7:30 pm. J. Huebner and M. Case read aloud all bid amounts. These were itemized by culvert and included totals. There was a wide price range. See the chart attached as Exhibit A. for those figures by bidder as read by the Board. There was some question about whether the figures were preliminary estimates or final estimates. Horizon Consulting, represented by P. Clark, explained in its summary letter that their bid was a final design for Cross Place and preliminary design for the other two culverts. Sean Connors suggested that clarification on this point be asked of all bidders. J. Huebner said that he will do a spreadsheet of all the data to be sure we are comparing apples to apples. He made a motion to eliminate one bidder's proposal which was very much higher than the others. This company was FST, located in Burlington, MA, M. Case seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The Board asked J. Nelson to do reference checks on the remaining 7 bidders and let FST know that their bid was not accepted.

11.J. Huebner made a motion to adjourn at 8:15. M. Case seconded the motion and the motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

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

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

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

Minutes written by J. Nelson

EXHIBIT A.

Chart of Bids by Company and by Culvert for:

Professional Engineering Services  
Hydraulic Studies and Culvert Designs for the Town's Culverts at Cross Place Road,  
Lower Valley Road and Lower Sargent Road

<b>Company</b>	<b>Cross Place</b>	<b>Lower Valley</b>	<b>Lower Sargent</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
BL Companies	45,000	45,000	45,000	135,000
Foresight	12,550	12,550	12,550	37,650
Gomez & Sullivan	12,000	12,000	12,000	24,000*
Holden Engineering	24,700	24,700	24,700	60,600*
Horizon Engineering	55,000	2,800	2,800	60,600
Hudson Design Corp.	25,200	21,200	22,200	68,600
Milane and McBroom	16,000	14,500	15,000	45,500

\*Gomez & Sullivan bid states that the price for all 3 culverts is indeed \$24,000.

\*Holden Engineering offered an economy-of-scale reduction.

All figures U.S. dollars.