

Selectmen's minutes of meeting Dec. 14, 2015

Members present: Alice Boyd, John Skrip, Robert O'Brien, Dolores Harasyko

Members absent: Jeffrey Gray

Called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Bobby provided highway department updates. They have been cutting roadsides and cleaning ditches. Alice announced that there is an advisory committee to review the road superintendent applications. We have received three, possibly four. They will meet this Friday night at 7:30 at the Town Hall Annex. John asked about machinery, Bob responded that everything is working. Reviewed the public access to the sand pile. Bob will set that up.

Dolores presented Chapter 90 reimbursement forms. Reviewed and signed.

Jean Atwater Williams unable to be present as she is attending a meeting regarding WiredWest. Alice discussed the situation with WiredWest and MBI. She explained that WiredWest was hit hard by MBI. MBI has over spent on the middle mile installation and are themselves in trouble. They would like to take the work from WiredWest and do it themselves. The cost to subscribe through MBI instead of WiredWest would be at least double with less options. The selectmen continue to support WiredWest .

Jean approved a 10% cut in the Technology Budget. Discussed changing the town's email accounts to gmail.

Andy Snyder and Gary Bottoms in from the Planning Board. Andy presented a review of the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission District Local Technical Assist Program Grant. They have had a lot of help from Berkshire Regional Planning on our bylaws and the master plan. The grant is for future growth in the community and additional help on the strategies of the Master Plan. Alice commended Andy on his work on this grant.

Discussed the town's website. We will be changing over to Virtual Town Hall.

Reviewed technology assessment.

Kathleen Segrin asked about cell tower bylaws. We currently do not have any bylaw regarding this. There is a private party in the process of installing a cell tower.

Motion by John, second by Alice to approve the Berkshire Regional Planning Comm. District Local technical Assist Program Grant.

Jeff reviewed a letter received from Gordan Chapman regarding his property he is renting out. The tenant has collected a lot of junk and junk vehicles. Jeff reviewed the bylaw

with Mr. Chapman. The town cannot do anything about the tenant, they can only go after the property owner. Mr. Chapman will deal with his tenant.

Discussed the increase in the dump sticker fees. There have been several complaints but the sales have been good.

Alice provided an update on the Municipal Energy Aggregation. She has posted the agreement on the town's website.

Selectmen's updates:

Alice is meeting on Dec. 15, 2015 to review the Route 57 Strap Grant.

She is meeting on Dec. 22, 2015 to sign the Community Compac Agreement.

John has been meeting monthly with selectmen from abutting towns on shared services.

They have discussed sharing highway equipment, tax collector, treasurer and legal services. They are working on getting the state to maintain Route 57. The towns would still plow and sand but they are hoping the state will take back the maintenance.

Barbara Cormier asked about the process of changing elected positions or appointed hired positions. Alice reviewed the process, it will include a bylaw change.

Reviewed and signed minutes

Reviewed and signed warrants

Reviewed mail

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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Alice Boyd

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John Skrip