

Shutesbury Board of Selectmen June 29, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Members present: Chairwoman Elaine Puleo and members Al Springer and April Stein.

Also Present: Town Administrator Rebecca Torres, Administrative Secretary Leslie Bracebridge recording.

Chairman Puleo opened the meeting at 8:15 A.M. at the Shutesbury Town Hall

Topics

1. Sign Police Union Contract:

- A motion was made and seconded to approve and sign the Police Union Contract:
 - Review of page 12, concerning 1 % step raises, and 2 % Cost of Living Allowances (COLA).
 - Article 5 paragraph 52: Definition of temporary seasonal employee.
 - Clarification that not turning in used equipment referred to clothes not guns.
 - Quinn Bill: The contract does not state that the town will pay the state's portion of the bill.
 - We currently have no officers that would qualify for the benefit.
 - If the bill is revoked, the town pays nothing.

Selectmen unanimously voted to sign the police Union Contract for the years FY13 through FY 15

Topics the Chairman Could Not Reasonably Have Anticipated

1. **May 28, 2012 request from Altru Energy LLC on behalf of W.D. Cows** for the town to allow use of Shutesbury's name be the meter host on the interconnection application to National Grid be for 2 proposed solar farms in Shutesbury ("with the ability to change it at any point for any reason, with no detriment or liability to the town."):
 - Proposed sites on West Pelham Road and Pratt Corner Road.
 - Every town in Massachusetts gets 10 municipal credits. This project would use 6 of the 10 (megawatt) credits. (The town would likely never need 10 credits; 1 megawatt is the equivalent to a big turbine which could power the whole town.)
 - This could generate \$36,000/year for Shutesbury, which could go into a fund to fund the town's own renewable energy self-sufficiency project.

Selectmen unanimously voted to be named as the meter host for Altru Energy LLC for the proposed Cows' solar energy sites on Pratt Corner and West Pelham Roads in Shutesbury as detailed above.

2. Elaine requested that Tuesday's (July 3, 2012) agenda includes an **offer from the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) to provide \$15,000** to the Regional School District Planning Committee to fund research as to the financial feasibility of a proposed regional school district:
 - FRCOG requires that a request for the funding come from the Select Board of one of the towns. Shutesbury has provided the initiative's leadership from the start, so Shutesbury should make the request.
 - This would be partial funding of the amount needed. Other possible sources are:
 - Amherst-Pelham Regional school distribution,
 - Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, and the
 - Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Commission.
3. **The next meeting of the Regional School District Planning Committee will be on July 11 at 7 PM** at the Crocker Elementary School at 7 PM. This should be posted as a Select Board meeting.

The Select Board **adjourned at 8:45 A.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Bracebridge, Administrative Secretary