

Shutesbury Board of Selectmen

Tuesday December 18, 2012 Meeting Minutes

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

Also Present: Town Administrator Rebecca Torres, Administrative Secretary Leslie Bracebridge recording. Chairman Puleo opened the meeting at 6:30 P.M. at the Shutesbury Town Hall

Appointments

Police Chief Harding:

- Selectmen unanimously voted to sign a resignation Personnel Action Form (PAF) for 12/11/12 for Officer Jeffrey Soto.
- Selectmen unanimously voted to sign a hiring PAF for Officer Jeffrey Soto effective December 18.
- Applications for the Police Officer Academy are progressing.
- Officer Batchelder will be picking up some shifts next month.
- Officer Thomas will be more available.
- Shutesbury Elementary School Safety Committee will meet in a couple of weeks.
 - There have been no special requests for police presence since the Connecticut tragedy.
 - The department goal is to provide support as needed without causing more anxiety.

Topics

1. U28 Health Insurance Agreement between the 5 towns update:

- Town Counsel advises against a final dissolution clause:
 - The language would go back to MGL Chapter 32 B Section 2 with the lead town concept.
 - If you are going to have a paragraph about dissolving, it is best to have a full agreement about dissolving. A funding mechanism needs to be included.
 - If the towns decide to dissolve then the 5 towns can decide what to do.
- Erving and New Salem have signed the agreement, as well as Shutesbury and Leverett.
- The agreement goes to Wendell tomorrow night.
- The agreement also hinges on Leverett making payment for the outstanding portion of their health insurance. Leverett agreed to pay once an agreement is signed. Leverett was waiting to get the amount for the check, but did not get the amount in time for the last warrant round to have the check ready for Wednesday.
- Becky emailed Town Counsel's advice on dissolution clause to all parties.

2. Fire Station Memo from O'Reilly, Talbot & Okun Associates (OTO):

- Becky communicated with Licensed Site Professional Jim Okun regarding the need for like, before and after, comparison figures:
 - John collected measurements on the day of the test.
 - The key is VP-A. VP-A shows measurements before, during and after the injection.
 - The rise during and after is due to the chemical reaction causing heat.
 - The drop is due to the vapor expanding.
 - The chemical reaction continued for 4 days.
 - It shows that there has been a dramatic impact.
 - VP-B and VP-C are ripple effects much farther away from the hottest contamination.
- We now have the baseline of the water tests going forward. Due to dry weather and wells we do not have a pre ISCO water baseline.
- There is a 3 month schedule of retests.
- If they feel it hasn't worked they will repeat the procedure.
- DEP doesn't anticipate a zero outcome.
- Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Brownfields Manager Bernard "Ben" Fish is reviewing the data. Becky will have his report by the next Select Board meeting.

- Selectmen want to know if Ben thinks the injection procedure is performing in the way DEP wants.
 - It's been a year for the extension of the loan. Selectmen will follow-up with DEP Regional Director Eva Tor after talking with Ben Fish.
3. **Update on Regional School District Planning Committee (RSDPC):** No discussion.
 4. **Update on Community Preservation Committee (CPC):**
 - Members of the Community Preservation Committee will attend the Wednesday, December 19 Town Buildings Committee meeting to understand the costs and philosophical options regarding the proposed repairs to the West Cemetery Hearse House. The Cemetery and Historical Commissions have also posted meetings for the same time and place.
 5. **Update Water Resources Committee (WRC) and Lake Wyola Advisory Committee (LWAC):**
 - In the absence of Select Board Liaison to the WRC and LWAC April Stein, no report was given.
 6. **Holiday Schedule:**
 - Many Town Hall staff plan to take Monday, December 24 off using vacation time, some may work.
 - Selectmen approved a sign be put on the door stating that Town Hall is closed on December 24 and again on December 31st.

Select Board Action Items

1. **Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Agreement –sign:**
 - Selectmen reviewed an agreement for Participation in the Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Program by and Between the Town of Shutesbury and the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority page by page.
 - On page 2 Section 3.2 Selectmen recalled previously agreeing and re-agreed that all proceeds from the loans be returned for re-use by the program and therefore did not check a box in Section 3.2.
 - On page 12, Appendix A Section 1, Selectmen recalled previously agreeing and re-agreed to authorize the Franklin County Regional Housing Authority (HRA) to consider awards that exceed the limits as long as waivers are obtained from DHCD, to decline balance deferred payment loans with 50 % of the principle forgiven over a 15-year period, and the remainder due and payable when the property is sold or transferred and to allow the HRA to consider requests for loan forgiveness in cases of extreme hardship.

Selectmen unanimously voted to approve the agreement for Participation in the Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Program by and between the Town of Shutesbury and the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority with the provisions agreed upon above.

2. **Interconnection Agreement for the photovoltaic solar at the Fire Station - sign:**
 - This agreement, needing a Select Board signature, is required on systems over 10 kilowatts in order to get the net-meter installed.
 - The electric bill at the fire station went from 600 kilowatts to 1700 kilowatts because the net meter was not installed, so everything being produced was being added to the bill rather than being taken off. The invoice will be taken care of and the panels have been disconnected in the mean time. It will take 4 to 6 weeks for the agreement to begin.

Selectmen unanimously voted to sign an Interconnection Service Agreement with National Grid.

3. **(Solar Renewable Energy Credits) SREC Contract with Aggregator Hampshire Power – sign:**
 - SREC's once worth \$535 apiece have dropped to a current value of \$225/SREC due to a glut in the Massachusetts market predicted to continue for at least 12-18months.
 - The federal incentive ends 12/31/2012.
 - The laws keep changing.
 - Shutesbury can opt out of this aggregation contract after a year if it is desirable to do so.

Selectmen unanimously voted to accept the Hampshire Council of Governments SREC Aggregator contract.

- Shutesbury no longer gets benefit from residents signing up for Green Energy. Regardless, it is a good thing to do as it supports green energy.
- 4. (Personnel Action Forms) PAF's for police department and Highway Department:**
- **See PAF votes for Police Department under appointments above.**
 - **Selectmen unanimously voted to sign a PAF for Chuck Moore for a Seasonal Snow Plow Operator position in the Highway Department.**
- 5. Selectmen signed Payroll Warrants totaling \$83,849.76.**
- 6. Selectmen signed Vendor Warrants totaling \$129,557.60.**

Topics the Chairman Could Not Reasonably Have Anticipated

- 1. Letter from 187 Leverett Road resident Penelope Kim:**
- A storm water run-off retention basin on Ms. Kim's property needs regular checking by the Conservation Commission.
 - Becky followed-up in 2009 and will again. If it needs additional care the town will work on it.
- 2. School Lunch menu:** Take-out lunches (or in-house meals) are available for town residents who place an order by 10 AM at the cost of \$3 per meal.
- The School lunch program needs support outside of the children's lunches to run in the black.
 - The new chef started with \$100 worth of inventory.
 - The new chef prepares up to 100 meals/day.
 - A lot of days only 80 people participate in the program.
 - 10 extra community meals every day would bring in \$600/month.
 - Is there a way to merge this program with Meals on Wheels? Could the volunteers drive meals to Seniors? Is there a way to get information to seniors to join the program for lunch each day?
 - Becky has talked with the Council on Aging about having a second Tuesday meal, buying school lunches. Seniors have declined to go to the school.
 - How about a volunteer to deliver meals up here? The council did not want to do it previously because it had to be on a Tuesday and in the previous year Tuesdays were breakfast for lunch days which did not appeal to them. Becky has made them aware of the option; it will happen when seniors are ready.
 - Last May Becky tried to put together an adult program for people in their 60's and 70's, who do not believe they are seniors. It is still possible to develop an adult program. They could use the school conference room. It could be combined with a Book Club. Elaine looks forward to doing this when she retires.
 - Seniors used to have programs and a group of people who did activities together.
 - Call in by 10 AM.
 - The Council on Aging potluck Christmas dinner was a success.
- 3. Why did the Shutesbury Athletic Club (SAC) get a continuation from the previous hearing?:**
- SAC President Paul Danielovich is following up with the Department of Revenue.
- 4. The next Select Board meeting will be Wednesday January 2nd at 8 AM.**

The Select Board **adjourned at 7:45 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Bracebridge
Administrative Secretary

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