

## Shutesbury Board of Selectmen December 20, 2011 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.

Meeting opened at 6:30 P.M. at the Shutesbury Town Hall

### Appointments

**Police Chief Harding:** Not present.

A **dog hearing** that had been scheduled for tonight has been cancelled as the dog owner has made good progress in working toward improving the causes of the complaints brought against her dogs.

### Topics

**1. Sign DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) technical assistance grant for Evaluating Solid Waste Program /hauler contract:**

Selectmen unanimously voted to sign the contract for Arlene Miller to work with the Town of Shutesbury for a maximum of 50 hours (work to be completed by June 30, 2012) to evaluate current recycling practices and consider emerging new technologies and options to increase the town's rate of recycling.

**2. Select locations for our new Green Communities street signs:**

- a. We received 4 new street signs announcing Shutesbury as a Green Community:
- b. The normal locations to place introductory signs would be at the entrances to a town. In Shutesbury these Green Community signs will be placed on:
  - i. West Pelham Road at the Pelham town line,
  - ii. Leverett Road at the Leverett town line,
  - iii. Prescott Road at the intersection of Route 202, and
  - iv. Lakeview Road at the Leverett town line.

**3. Sign Green Communities Grant documents:**

- a. These were previously voted and signed; now there are some new pages to be re-signed.
- b. The Green Communities money needs to be spent in 1½ years from award.

**4. Fire Station gas clean up – Dean Goodwin and OTO's (O'Reilly, Talbot & Okun) latest chemical oxidation proposal review/discussion:**

- a. Elaine and Becky have an appointment to meet with Dean Goodwin to review OTO's latest chemical oxidation proposal.
- b. Elaine will talk with Shutesbury resident and the research scientist involved in the alternative remediation technologies Derek Lovley. Perhaps Derek can join in the meeting.
- c. OTO has not sent another estimate yet.

**5. Update on Lot O-32:**

- a. A comprehensive update is available in the December 19, 2011 "TA" (Town Administrator's) report. **See report at the end of these minutes.**
- b. Four monitoring wells were installed. A well is not needed at the "swale" where a sheen had been noted.
- c. A wall of the garage was accidentally damaged in the site evaluation. Items of value stored in the garage need to be removed. Warning signs were put up.
- d. A sample was taken of a very thick liquid in a barrel. It was thought to be transmission fluid and/or it could have been a fluid used to clean engine parts.
- e. A monitoring well was installed about 10 feet from the barrel.
- f. Sample results are not yet back.

- g. Weather permitting, monitoring well samples will be taken tomorrow.
- 6. Acceptance of Remote Communication at Public Meetings**
  - a. Selectmen discussed different applications of the option and agreed to put off a decision until the January 3, 2012 meeting.
- 7. Update on Shutesbury Athletic Club (SAC)/ABC licensing process:**
  - a. Becky has been in communication with SAC President Paul Danielovich. She reported that the SAC is working on the things that Fire Chief Tibbetts identified needed to be done before he could sign-off on the occupancy permit.
  - b. The SAC is keeping up with the Crowd Manager log and Club President Danielovich will check in with Chief Tibbetts later this week.
  - c. The Athletic Club may accept the “Big-Belly” trash compactor awarded with the Green Communities Grant. Becky has encouraged them to first read through the owner’s manual before considering setting it up. It is geared to larger communities to save trash hauler travel expenses, the savings is in the reduction in number of trips to empty the trash barrel. Shutesbury will consider trying to give it to a larger community if the SAC decides not to accept it.
- 8. Discuss request by Business Directory creators to link to town website:**
  - a. Leslie requested that whatever authorization vote made tonight to link the local private business compilation website from the town website, the Select Board vote be stated in such a way that it doesn’t set a precedent for other private businesses to request a future link.
  - b. Becky summarized that many towns have an economic development committee.
  - c. In the absence of an economic development committee, a group of Shutesbury volunteers took on this private project of listing local businesses and then created an interactive website where business owners can complete and update their listings. The volunteers have requested a link to their local businesses site from Shutesbury’s “government only” municipal website with a policy not to link to non-governmental sites.
  - d. The listing originally sprang out of the transition community concept to be self-sustaining.
  - e. Resident Penelope Kim took it over using her experience as a former Northampton city planner and treated the compilation as a community development project.
  - f. It is a useful tool.
  - g. How can it be put up and make sure that it is maintained in an appropriate manner?
  - h. One possibility would be to entitle Penelope as Shutesbury’s Economic Development Advisor so that the site could become a municipal site and she could continue to monitor it from inappropriate use.

**Becky will invite the group of people who compiled the local business website and the members of the Web Committee to be present for further Select Board discussion on Jan. 3.**

#### Select Board Action Items

1. **Selectmen unanimously voted to sign the DEP technical assistance grant; see #1 in topics above.**
2. **Selectmen signed additional Green Communities contract forms previously voted upon.**
3. **Selectmen signed vendor warrants totaling \$84,978.52.**
4. **Selectmen signed payroll warrants totaling \$132,324.84.**
5. **There were no minutes ready for Select Board approval.**
6. **Selectmen unanimously voted to sign the Federal Emergency Management Agency Project Application Grant Report for reimbursement for clean-up resulting from the August 2011 Tropical Storm Irene:** A total cost of \$1,349.32 was eligible for reimbursement and the federal share of that cost is \$1,011.99.

#### Topics the Chairman Could Not Reasonably Have Anticipated

1. Becky, Elaine and Al attended the Monday, December 19 Regional School District Planning Committee meeting in Amherst. The Committee is developing a grant proposal for assistance in analyzing the potential costs of regionalization K-12 and an outer ring school region.
  - a. Elaine reported that Alyssa told her that the first 2012 4-town Regional meeting of the Selectmen, Finance and School Committees will be at the Middle School Library on Saturday, January 7, 2012. Becky was unable to confirm the meeting on the APRS website or the Town of Amherst website. She is following up with Maria Gyrek.
  - b. One of Leverett's representatives is not interested in pursuing the new regionalization proposal.
2. The first 2012 meeting of the annual Amherst-Pelham Regional Schools 4-towns meetings of the Selectmen, Finance and School Committees will be at the Middle School Library on Saturday, January 7, 2012. **-UNCONFIRMED**
3. Selectmen will meet briefly on Tuesday, December 27 at 6:30 PM to approve and sign off on the Shutesbury Athletic Club annual liquor license if the occupancy permit is available.

The Select Board **adjourned at 7:50 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Bracebridge  
Administrative Secretary

December 19, 2011 Town Administrator's report concerning Lot O-32:

**LICENSED SITE PROFESSIONAL HIRED TO FOLLOW UP ON QUESTIONS REGARDING PROPOSED LIBRARY SITE** Alan Weiss, LSP, walked the site on Monday, 12.12.11, to evaluate the site and the best plan of action to fulfill the request from the Selectboard for an assessment. He put together a scope of work last Tuesday. Tuesday night the Library Board of Trustees voted to spend the remaining new library planning grant money on the assessment of the site, as requested by the Selectboard.

On Wednesday Ron Picard, from Oil Recovery, came out to take a sample from a drum on the site. The sample was sent to a lab and will take 7 days to process the results. On Thursday Shutesbury Highway Superintendent, Tim Hunting, drove the backhoe to the site. Alan Weiss directed exploration of a pipe leading from the floor drain in the old garage. The pipe was an old Orangeburg pipe. The crew followed the pipe out to the property line where it ended in a pile of rocks under the ground. Alan took soil samples and a water sample. Alan Weiss stated our work is ongoing and nothing obvious has been observed at this point. All samples were sent to the lab for testing. Results will be ready in a week or two.

Monitoring wells were installed on Friday at 4 locations on the site, behind the garage, to the west of the garage, to the east of the garage and at the location of the #2 fuel oil tank near the old house that was removed. Water samples will be taken this week and sent to the lab for testing. Again, during the drilling of the 11' monitoring wells with a Geoprobe unit, a remotely controlled drill, Alan Weiss noted nothing obvious, visual or olfactory nor based on my screening meter results has been found so far.



**WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE** Mike Ross appointed as a new member.

**Volunteers Needed:**

On the Personnel Board, Conservation Commission and Recreation Committee

**Becky Torres, Shutesbury Town Administrator,**

[townadmin@shutesbury.org](mailto:townadmin@shutesbury.org) 259-1214

**BACKGROUND ON PROPOSED LIBRARY SITE ASSESSMENT:**

**QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROPOSED SITE FOR THE NEW LIBRARY WERE RAISED** during the public comment portion of a Selectboard's Tuesday night meeting. Michael Hootstein filed a letter with the Selectboard after he read it aloud. The Selectboard is having the allegations made in the letter reviewed by experts, and the Water Resources Committee. Our local Water Resources committee reviewed reports on lot O-32 and walked the property. Michael Hootstein based his complaints on, an environmental transaction screen report prepared in the summer of 2010, as part of the site review of the proposed library site. This public document was reviewed in the MBLC grant application and is on file at the library and the town hall. An environmental transaction screen is a review of possible environmental conditions that might exist at a site.

Last Tuesday the Water Resources Committee met. Jim Okun, a licensed site professional, joined the meeting to answer questions regarding the fire station site, technical reports and DEP regulations and practices. At the end of the meeting the Water Resources Committee made a list of recommendations that were agreed to by the Selectboard. The recommendations were to check for contamination at the drain from the garage, under a drum, and in a swale where a WRC member noted a sheen. Other members noted sheens are often organic. The Library Director noted that the new library planning grant balance could be used as a source for the assessment work that was recommended. The Selectboard followed up voting to hire an LSP and request the Library Trustee fund the work.

