

## Shutesbury Board of Selectmen June 6, 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 6:30 P.M. at the Shutesbury Town Hall.** The meeting was recessed at 7 PM for the duration of a special town meeting and then the Select Board meeting resumed at 7:08 PM.

### Appointments

#### **Police Chief Harding:**

- Presented the Select Board with a letter to be distributed at this weekend's Lake Wyola Association meeting and which will also be distributed with the June 20 town-wide mailing.

#### **Selectmen unanimously voted to co-sign the letter concerning 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations.**

- April recognized with appreciation the seriousness of police officer safety when in the line of duty.
- The Bulky Waste Day went smoothly:
  - It rained hard and was very wet for officers that directed traffic and Bulky Waste Day community volunteers.
  - From time to time, there is a suggestion to use the school parking lot for the event, but the haulers are unable to clear the dumpsters away before school starts on the following Monday morning.

### Topics

#### 1. **Appointments:**

- **Lake Wyola Advisory Committee (LWAC), 1 member from Conservation Commission and 3 alternates:** At the resourceful request of the Conservation Commission, **Selectmen unanimously voted to appoint Barry Field as the lead Conservation Commission representative on the Lake Wyola Advisory Committee, and members Penny Jaques, Gail Fleischaker and Darcy Connor as alternates to the lead representative.**
- **Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) alternate member:**
  - A motion was made and seconded to appoint Jeff Lacy as an alternate member of the ZBA.
  - Should an applicant who is denied a project by the Planning Board then be denied that project by a Planning Board member who also serves on the Zoning Board of Appeals?
    - Some ZBA special permits are simply applying bylaws, such as an accessory apartment.
    - Some ZBA decisions are because the bylaws do not allow something that a property owner wants to do, so the property owner appeals to the ZBA.
      - This may turn up with an added deck or re-builds where setbacks are limited as in the Lake Wyola area, or for other properties that are not in compliance with the current zoning.
      - A public meeting is held and input is taken by the ZBA from abutters.
      - After public input, the ZBA determines if the proposed project meets certain guidelines, and then the ZBA sets reasonable conditions on projects.
      - Some ZBA decisions do involve judgment on the part of the voting members.
    - Moderator Penelope Kim, who was once employed in Northampton in a planning capacity offered that the roles of the Planning Board and the ZBA or different.
    - Leslie who as Town Clerk receives applications and works closely with the applicants and the ZBA through the timing of hearings and decisions and who as Town Clerk works closely with the Planning board in bylaw creation through its acceptance by the Attorney General's office, offered a simplified explanation that the Planning Board is responsible for creating bylaws and the ZBA hears appeals to bylaws.

- **The Select Board unanimously voted to appoint Jeff Lacy as an alternate member to the Zoning Board of Appeals** and will see how the dual role works out.
2. **Fire Station Remediation – update of Oxidation Remediation/timetable:**
- The ground water level at the Fire Station is at the depth of 4 feet preferred for oxidation remediation.
  - Assuming there are no drastic changes in the ground water level, the procedure will take place starting at 7 AM on Thursday, June 14.
  - Selectmen request a video recording be made of the procedure for officials who will not be able to be present.
3. **Committee Reports**
- **Water Resources Committee:**
    - Water level survey results are the property of Mount Holyoke College and of the specific property owners. Property owners can share their information if they choose to, but the town cannot. If a town committee discusses specific information it becomes public information.
    - The Water Resources Committee is creating a schematic cycle of the evaporation, transpiration and general flow of water in order to better understand Shutesbury’s ground water re-charge.
  - **Personnel Board:**
    - The next Personnel Board meeting is a work meeting for the annual Personnel Action Forms.
    - Ralph is developing a computer program to make the annual PAF process easier.
    - There is still a vacancy on the Personnel Board.
  - **School Committee:** The results of the School Committee reorganization are:
    - **Clif Read is the new School Committee Chairman.**
    - **Michael DeChiara is the School Committee Vice-Chairman and Representative to the Amherst-Pelham Regional School Committee.**
    - **Clif Read in his capacity as Chairman of the School Committee and members Mare Fox and Emily Bloch are Shutesbury’s Union 28 Committee representatives.**
  - **Regional School District Planning Committee:**
    - Elaine was not able to attend the previous meeting, but was elected Vice-Chair of the committee. As Vice-Chair Elaine will serve on all of the sub-committees, as will Chairman Andy Steinberg.
    - Chairman Steinberg received praise for his organizational and listening skills.
    - Other Shutesbury members Rebecca Torres and Michael DeChiara will select sub-committees on which they will serve.
    - The Committee will next meet in late June or early July.
    - Now that the Committee is properly formed and with the start of the new fiscal year on July 1, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has requested a deletion of a criteria for those towns above foundation funding for a Massachusetts Community Innovation Challenge Grants (CIC) and also that funds for education CIC grants be in a separate line to be managed by the DESE. If these things happen, there will be a better opportunity for the Regional School District Planning Committee to access a CIC grant.
    - Everyone on the Regional School District Planning Committee is organized and moving forward.
    - The timeline targets a vote in the fall of 2013.
    - Chairman Steinberg received praise for his organizational and listening skills.
    - How will the work and research be saved from people just coming and saying, “No”?
      - As many as possible open forums are planned in each of the towns.
      - All minutes will be online.
      - One committee will build a public relations plan that includes clear communication.

### **Select Board Action Items**

#### **1. See appointments above for vote.**

2. **Selectmen signed vendor warrants totaling \$44,955.31.**
3. **Selectmen signed payroll warrants totaling \$82,075.78.**
4. **Sign Police Contract:** Becky received an email that there is one requested amendment to the contract, so no contract is available and ready for tonight. It is expected to be ready by the next meeting.
5. **Review minutes of May 23 and May 31, 2012:**
  - **Selectmen unanimously voted to approve the May 23, 2012 minutes with an additional statement** added from April Stein to reflect her sentiment that “It would be a great loss to the community if the new library is not built.”
  - **Selectmen unanimously voted to approve the May 31, 2012 as written.**

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

1. **The Lot O-32 and surrounding properties water test results are back and were emailed to the Select Board members today:**
  - Of significance are the elevated salt levels of various wells, the highest reading being at the Highway Department. Becky has a call in to Consultant Alan Weiss to see what the salt levels mean.
  - April reported Board of Health Chairman Elliott’s summary of what salt limits are for drinking water:
    - There is no health limit for the amount of salt in drinking water.
    - If an individual is on a salt restricted diet, that individual may choose to drink bottled water.
    - There is an aesthetic (dietary) limit of salt in drinking water of 80 parts per million.
2. **The next Select Board meetings are June 19, and July 3.** (Wednesday, July 4 is a holiday.)
3. **Selectmen will meet on July 10 instead of July 17. April and Al will sign warrants on the evening of July 17 or in the morning of July 18.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Bracebridge  
Administrative Secretary