

Shutesbury Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes March 25, 2014

Members present: Members Al Springer and April Stein.

Members Absent: Chairwoman Elaine Puleo.

Remote participation: None.

Staff present: Town Administrator Rebecca Torres, Administrative Secretary Leslie Bracebridge.

Press present: None.

Member April Stein opened the meeting at 6:30 P.M. at the Shutesbury Town Hall.

Appointments

Police Chief Harding:

1. Chief Harding and Sergeant Masiuk have interviewed 3 police officer candidates and would like to move forward with Select Board review of 2.
 - Matthew Weller:
 - i. Currently works in Whately.
 - ii. Went to police officer school in Maine, which will give him a waiver from Massachusetts Police Officer Academy for a year.
 - iii. Works as a detective on Smith campus.
 - Female applicant: Works in Orange, has worked in New Salem. Has boating experience.
 - Interviews with the Select Board will be held April 8 starting at 6:30 PM.
 - Becky will contact a few residents to come in for added input.
 - References will be researched before the public interviews.
2. **At 7:13 PM a motion was made and seconded to go into executive session for reason number 3: to discuss strategy with respect to litigation when an open meeting could have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair declares so, and not to resume open meeting: Springer – Aye, Stein – Aye.**

Topics

1. Knotweed Event Planning:

- Becky will communicate with the student who may be able to help the town with knotweed control.
- Funding will be needed if there is support for the chemical treatment method suggested by Meryl Mandell and Liz Lacy last fall.

2. **Broadband Committee update:** Becky will meet with people interested in the Broadband Committee on Saturday March 29, 2014 at 9:30 AM.

Select Board Action Items

1. Selectmen unanimously voted to approve the March 11, 2013 meeting minutes as written.
2. Selectmen signed payroll warrants totaling \$90,440.29.
3. Selectmen signed vendor warrants totaling \$76,104.35.

Topics the Chairman Could Not Reasonably Have Anticipated

1. The first draft of the annual town meeting warrant will be available at the next Select Board meeting. By then the Capital Plan Committee will have met. Requests have been made for many items including: a fire truck, a highway truck, a police cruiser, and tree removal at the cemetery.
2. We might have more information about regionalization at the next meeting.
 - At some point the agreement will be re-written, to be available in the fall.
 - The next meeting date of the Regional Agreement Working Group has not been posted yet.

List of Documents and Other Exhibits Used at the Meeting:

1. March 11, 2014 meeting minutes.
2. Chart showing average home values and single family tax bills for 2011 and 2014 for the towns of: Amherst, Leverett, Montague, New Salem, Pelham, Shutesbury, and Wendell.
3. March 3, 2014 letter from the Department of Conservation and Recreation regarding the 2014 Watershed Management's Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) program.
4. Amherst-Pelham Regional School District Certification of Prior Fiscal Year Financial Data and Assessment Notice.
5. March 14, 2014 Memorandum from Sean Mangano, Amherst-Pelham Regional School District Assistant Director of Finance FY 2015 Debt Assessment Notice.

The Select Board **adjourned at 7:46 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Bracebridge
Administrative Secretary