



Town of Bernardston Board of Selectmen

MEETING MINUTES: November 16, 2011

Select Board Members Present:
Robert R. Raymond, Chairman
Stanley D. Garland
Virginia M. Budness

Others Present:
Jane Dutcher, Finance Committee

The Chairman opened the meeting at 6.02pm.

Warrants

The payroll warrant is approved for \$39,423.28. Motion by Virginia, second by Stan. Motion carried.

The vendor warrant is approved for \$43,482.01. Motion by Virginia, second by Stan. Motion carried.

Minutes

- Regular Meeting November 2, 2011. Motion by Stan. Second by Bob. Motion carried.
- Special Meeting, November 2, 2011. Motion by Stan. Second by Bob. Motion carried.

Calendar & Announcements

Bob read aloud the following:

- Council on Aging, Friday, Nov 18th, 12.15pm at the Senior Center
- 250th Anniversary Committee, Monday, Nov 21, 6pm at the Town Hall
- Planning Board, Tuesday, Nov 22nd, 6.30pm at Town Hall
- Recreation Committee, Tuesday, Nov 22nd, 6.30pm at Town Hall

Permits

Occupancy permit – Bernardston Vet’s Club, 16 Hartwell St.

New Business

Land School Rd/Deane Rd – Bob read aloud a letter from Charles and Susan Tormanen, 105 South St, reinforcing their desire to lease or purchase land located between School Rd and Deane Rd for the purpose of cultivating the same to support their summer farm stand. The Tormanen’s had received a letter from the Board stating the land in question was mostly wetland. The Board had learned from the Conservation Commission of the wetland determination. The Tormanen’s went to a Conservation Commission on Thursday October 20th to seek further clarification. State DEP wetland representative Mark Stinson said there was not a majority of wetlands on the property and land could be used as long as the 100’ foot buffer zone rule was observed. Bob suggested contracting with John Lapore to delineate the wetlands on the property and also that of Cushman

BOS Minutes 11/16/11 (cont.)

Park. Bob stated he would follow up with John. Motion by Virginia to authorize Bob to contact John Lapore regarding wetland delineation at 2 properties in the Town, second by Stan. Motion carried.

Town Clerk – Town Clerk Judy Knight submitted her resignation effective January 1, 2012. Judy is moving out of Bernardston. Virginia stated she would like a letter of thanks for Judy's dedicated service to the Town sent to her when the resignation date draws closer.

Town Hall Alarm System – Bob asked the idea of fire alarming the Town Hall be revisited. A Town Meeting article was passed over last April because of an underestimated cost for a commercial building. Hugh Campbell will pursue some quotes to get an idea of the costs from some vendors and report back to the Board accordingly.

FY13 Departmental Budgets – The Board will be asking for departmental budgets by December 30th. Budgets should be submitted based on reasonableness. Wage or salary line items should remain without increases at this stage. Motion by Stan, second by Virginia. Motion carried.

Town Hall Clock – Bob said the motor in the Town Hall clock has stopped operating. It is WWII vintage installed in 1945. Costs to replace the same range from \$392 to \$460 with an additional \$20 for shipping. Motion by Stan to authorize Bob to purchase a new motor for the Town Hall Clock, second by Virginia. Motion carried.

Fall Town Spirits Transfer Station Bags – Bob said that FTS has approached him about selling transfer stations bags. Bags are purchased in bulk at a cost of \$450 and sold netting the store a \$50 profit. Virginia said that bags are now sold at the Country Corner and that is sufficient.

School Committee Appointment – The Town Moderator provided notice to the Board he had appointed James Ruder, 712 Brattleboro Rd to fill the unexpired term of Jonathan Raymond through November 2012. Bob expressed concern that a more public process to find a successor was not conducted. Stan asked if Mr. Ruder was affiliated with the school. Bob asked that Mr. Ruder visit with the Board at the next available meeting.

Police Chief Correspondence – Chief Jim Palmeri submitted memorandums to the Board as follows:

- a. Payroll and bill schedule increases;
- b. Purchase of a Brimar crosswalk product from the Police Donation account.

Also provided was a FAQ and proposed assessment for the Town to join the County Dog Control program. Services through June 30, 2012 would be at a cost of \$150 and an estimated assessment for FY13 is \$900.

250th Anniversary Calendars – are now available at a cost of \$10 each from Town Hall, The Country Corner, and Fall Town Spirits.

Request for Leave – Motion by Virginia to approve leave requests from Highway Department personnel, second by Bob. Motion carried.

BOS Minutes 11/16/11 (cont.)

Old Business

MassWorks Grant – The Town has been informed of its successful grant application for 2 projects; School Rd reconstruction and the South St, Bernardston Rd, West Mountain Rd intersection. The latter is to assist Kringle Candle with their commercial venture in Bernardston. Total award is \$674,993. The trees that line School Road will require a hearing as they may have to be removed to accommodate plans to widen the road and reconstruct the sidewalk. This is something that should be addressed by the engineers as soon as practical.

BES Lease – Town Counsel had returned suggested language to replace Section 2 of the current lease between the Town and BES which in part would allow for a series of 5-year leases subject to notice provisions by both the school and the Town. Motion by Bob to send the proposed language to PVRSD, second by Virginia. Motion carried.

BES Heating System – Bob said he talked with PVRSD Supt Dayle Doiron regarding the burner unit at BES. George Milton, a resident who is in the HVAC industry, said he can obtain a Carlin unit for approx. \$4,000. Installation is likely to be in the \$1,200-\$1,500 range. Virginia asked if George was an official representative of the Town. Bob said George has the knowledge to obtain what is needed for the heating system. Stan asked about the pumps. Bob said these were not involved. Bob said the goal would be to install the burner over the Christmas break. Three quotes would need to be obtained to satisfy the procurement laws for purchase under \$10,000. Motion by Bob to proceed and purchase a burner subject to the lowest qualified quote, second by Stan. Motion carried.

Liquor License Renewals – Six of 8 license renewals have been returned. Bob read aloud all 6. Motion to approve all by Virginia, second by Stan. Motion carried. Crumpin-Fox and The Farm Table renewals will be submitted by no later than November 30th.

Administrative Assistant Report

FEMA – Hugh Campbell reported that Project Worksheets for 3 separate projects related to the Tropical Storm Irene event have been submitted in the amounts of \$13,545, \$2,435 and \$9,247 for a total of \$25,227 of which 75% is reimbursement subject to FEMA approval. Work at Cushman Park is on hold pending receipt of cost estimates to replace a 200' culvert that drains into Scott Swamp at the eastern edge of the park. Stan pondered if the entire brook through the park should be covered and water directed through the same via an underground pipe.

Adjourn With no further business to be discussed, Bob made a motion to declare the meeting adjourned at 6.52pm. Stan seconded. Motion carried.

Attest: Hugh Campbell, Administrative Assistant

_____, Chairman _____, Member
_____, Member
Robert R. Raymond Stanley D. Garland Virginia M. Budness