

Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING – APRIL 23, 2013

Present: Patricia D. Carlino, Chair, Gordon Bailey and David J. Consolati, Board of Selectmen & Robert L. Nason, Town Administrator

Chairman, Patricia D. Carlino, called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

1. May 9, 2013 Special (FY2013) and Annual (FY2014) Town Meeting Warrants.

During their review of the May 9th Annual Town Meeting Warrant, the Select Board members discussed the following Articles:

Article 12 - Community Health Program – Letter of Dec. 19, 2012 requesting the Town to appropriate for FY14, the amount of \$5,000.00 for their services. Mr. Nason had suggested to their director that he reduce his request to \$1,000.00, the amount supported by the Finance Committee, and he did. Patty Carlino said she would support the appropriation of \$1,000.00 for the 1st year.

Article 24 – Road Repair and Paving – Mr. Nason reported that the Town's FY2014 allocation of Chapter 90 State Aid for local transportation work could increase by 50% or to nearly \$450,000.00, if the Governor's proposed bond bill is enacted. Rather than reduce the Town's \$200,000.00 appropriation in anticipation of the proposed \$148,588 Chapter 90 increase, the members agreed to recommend that the Town's appropriation of \$200,000.00, together with whatever FY2014 Chapter 90 Aid that is provided, be allocated to Town Road Repair and Paving.

Tom Casey (Berkshire Record) asked Mr. Nason if he had heard from the Governor about the transportation plan. Mr. Nason responded that he hopes the legislature will make Chapter 90 funds available.

Article 30 – Upper Reservoir Boundary Survey – The Finance Committee does not recommend approval. The Capital Outlay Committee recommends approval provided that permanent markers rather than iron rods are installed.

Article 32 – Water Distribution System Improvements Debt Service & Article 33 – Water Tank Cleaning and Painting Project Debt Services – Patty Carlino asked for clarification as both Articles were appropriating the same amount of \$65,250.

Article 44 – Berkshire Brownfields Program – Mr. Nason commented that the Director will be at the meeting to respond to any questions. At this time we have three properties in the Brownfields Program; Eagle Mill, 25 School Street and the former Bull's Eye Pub.

Article 48 – Personal Property Tax Agreement for Solar Arrays – The Town is looking to enter into an agreement for payments-in-lieu-of-taxes (PILOT) pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 59, Section 38H(b) and Chapter 164, Section 1. The value of the arrays has to be assessed.

The Board members voted unanimously to accept the Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting as presented.

During their review of the May 9th Special Town Meeting Warrant, Mr. Nason presented to the Board the Classification and Compensation Plan. The Classification Plan provided for salary/wage ranges for positions clustered by classification, and it is used for hiring new employees. The ranges, which were last adjusted in FY 2008, have been increased by 1.5%. That adjustment is slightly less than the 1.7% adjustment accorded retirees on January 1, 2013. The Compensation Plan recommended by the members of the Personnel Board and incorporated in the Fiscal Year 2014 budget requests increases each of the 12 compensation steps by 1.5% and provides a 1.5% increase for those who are not scheduled to receive a step increase.

The Board members voted unanimously to accept the Warrant for the Special Town Meeting as presented.

2. Drinking Water Treatment Plant Bypass Piping Project

Recalling that the members had rescinded the award of this work to LB Corp., Mr. Nason spoke with town counsel, Jeremia Pollard, who recommended that the members reject all bids.

The Board members voted unanimously to reject all bids on the Drinking Water Treatment Plant Bypass Piping Project.

Dick Lindsay (Berkshire Eagle) asked why we were rejecting the bids for the Drinking Water Treatment Plant Bypass Piping Project and Mr. Bailey stated that we didn't have the money to cover the \$90,000 and a patch that will last 5-15 years can be done at a cost of \$2,500.00.

Mr. Nason wanted to alert the Board Members of a mistake in the annual report in the Town Administrator – Board of Selectmen report where he wrote we would be producing 3,000 megawatts of electricity and it should read 3 megawatts. He also mentioned that he also spelled Lynn Browne's name incorrectly in his report.

Upon a roll call, as follows, the regular meeting was adjourned at 5:05 PM to commence in EXECUTIVE SESSION for the purpose of discussing litigation strategy and the purchase of real property, because deliberating during an open session would have a detrimental effect:

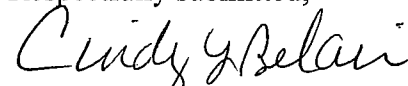
AYES

David Consolati
Patricia Carlino
Gordon Bailey

NAYS

None

Respectfully submitted,



Cindy L. Belair, Selectmen's Secretary

Notice of Website Posting Sent to:

Board of Selectmen
Town Administrator
Town Clerk
Town Collector
Planning Board

Board of Assessors
Board of Health
Conservation Commission
Police Chief
Building Inspector

Dept. of Public Works
Town Treasurer
Town Reps. District Chairmen
Superintendent of Schools
Town Accountant