**Town of Petersham Massachusetts**

**SELECTBOARD MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting-Town Hall Lower Level**

**1 South Main Street**

**Tuesday May 12, 2015 6:00PM**

**Present**: Rick Marsh, Nancy Allen, Henry Woolsey **Absent:** None

**Other Organizations/Representatives present:** Ashley Arsenault-Athol Daily News, Steven C. Boudreau-Administrative Coordinator, Ross France-AFC, Donald Clarkson-AFC, Bob Bellefeuille-AFC, Eric Mandel-AFC, Chuck Berube-AFC, Roy Nilson-Petersham Common.Com, Tim Graves-PHD, Bart Wendell-Moderator, Thomas Cahill-Energy Committee, Jenny Sayers-HCOG Electrical Aggregation Program, Sarah Wells-Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust, Bob Clark-Petersham Conservation Committee.

**Others present**: Garret Knapik, Stephanie Selden, Anne Perkins, Clinton Shaw, Mark Bishop, Claudette Bishop, Christine Eaton.

1. **6:00PM Call to order.** ChairNancy Allen called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.She announced the meeting was being recorded and introduced Jenny Sayers of the Hampshire COG Electrical Aggregation program to make a presentation to the assembled audience.

**Program for Petersham Residents to become informed, ask questions about:**

**Electric Aggregation for Petersham Residents. A Presentation by Jenny Sayers of Hampshire**

**County Council of Governments, Hosted by Petersham Selectboard and Petersham Energy Committee**

**General Information about the program and the presentation from Hampshire County Council of Governments (HCCOG)** The Electric Aggregation Program allows for Petersham residential and small business customers to individually choose to join the Hampshire Council's bundled electricity program and become part of a larger purchasing group so as to benefit from lower electricity prices. The program currently includes **43 communities and** encompasses over **170,000 customers**. Current customers of National Grid are paying for both Delivery Services (from the large power lines all the way to the actual home or commercial building), and Supply Services (which is the actual electricity itself). They are listed separately on your electric bill. In the Municipal Aggregation Program, Hampshire Council arranges the Supply Services only, while National Grid continues all of the Delivery Services. All costs of the program are paid by the Hampshire Council; it has no impact on the town budgets. Customers do not have to join the program if they are not interested and have a legal right to opt-out of the program at any time. For Petersham to join this program, a Town Meeting approval is required. Article 45 on the June 1 Town Meeting Warrant addresses this subject. A number of interested citizens attended the meeting to hear the presentation by Ms. Sayers. Electrical Aggregation Program Information will be distributed and a possible presentation mat be made at the Annual Town Meeting June 1, 2015.

1. **Minutes: Review/Approval of previous meeting Minutes of April 23, 2015.** Rick Marsh motioned, seconded by Henry Woolsey to open for review the minutes of April 23, 2015 for discussion. On a motion made by Rick Marsh, seconded by Henry Woolsey it was voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of April 23, 2015 as amended. **Review/Approval of previous meeting Minutes of April 28, 2015.** Rick Marsh motioned, seconded by Nancy Allen to open for review the minutes of April 28, 2015 for discussion. On a motion made by Rick Marsh, seconded by Nancy Allen it was voted to approve the Minutes of April 28, 2015 as amended. Henry Woolsey abstained from the vote due to absence from meeting. **Review/Approval of previous meeting Minutes of May 6, 2015 Special Meeting.** Rick Marsh motioned, seconded by Henry Woolsey to open for review the minutes of May 6, 2015 Special Meeting for discussion. On a motion made by Rick Marsh, seconded by Henry Woolsey it was voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of May 6, 2015 Special Meeting as amended.
2. **Meetings:**

**7:05 PM Robert Clark, Conservation Commission and Sarah Wells, Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust RE: Feldman Property**

The Selectboard met with Sarah Wells of Mount Grace Conservation Land Trust and Bob Clark of the Petersham Conservation Commission regarding the Feldman Property Landscape Grant Program. Nancy Allen rescued herself from participation in the matter as she is a member of the Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust Board. Ms. Wells described the Feldman Landscape project to the Selectboard and requested the Selectboard to approve and sign the Project Agreement for the Landscape Partnership Grant program for the Feldman property. Bob Clark expressed support and urged the Selectboard to approved and sign the agreement. On a motion made by Henry Woolsey seconded, by Rick Marsh it was voted to approve and sign the project agreement with Mass Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs Division of Conservation Services. Nancy Allen abstained from discussion and vote. Selectboard Members Marsh and Woolsey signed the project agreement for the Selectboard.

**7:20 PM Robert Clark, Conservation Commission RE: Rte. 122 Box Culvert Condition and Rte. 122 Tree Cutting update**

Robert Clark met with the Selectboard to discuss the deteriorating condition of the box culvert under Route 122 over East Branch of Fever Brook. He presented photos of the culvert and stated that he notified PHD Supt Graves and MassDOT responsible district representatives about the culvert condition. Selectboard noted that Route 122 was a state road and the state had jurisdiction over the culvert. Bob Clark also briefed the Selectboard on the poor roadside conditions of the winter season tree cutting activities along Route 122 by MassDOT Contractor and urged the MassDOT representatives to come and clean up the left over high cut stumps and left over wood cut remnants. The Selectboard thanked Bob for his efforts with the tree cutting and clean up follow up along Route 122 with MassDOT.

**7:30 PM Joint Meeting with Advisory Finance Committee and Moderator RE: Review Motions and AFC Recommendations for Town Meeting Warrants.**

The Selectboard met with the AFC Members and Moderator Bart Wendell to review proposed motions for the June 1, 2015 STM & ATM. Nancy Allen read aloud each article and lead the group discussion about each STM & ATM article as modifications and edits were made to each STM & ATM article as needed. Motions makers for each STM & ATM were suggested and assigned to be confirmed and notified as needed.

1. **New Business:**

**RE: Discussion Vote to Approve & Sign for Posting - Annual Town & Special Town Meeting Warrants**

Henry Woolsey motioned, seconded by Rick Marsh, and it was voted unanimously to approve and sign the Special Town Meeting Warrant for June 1, 2015 as amended. Each Selectboard member signed the Special Town Meeting Warrant. Henry Woolsey motioned, seconded by Rick Marsh, and it was voted unanimously to approve and sign the Annual Town Meeting Warrant for June 1, 2015 as amended. Each Selectboard member signed the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

**RE: Discussion Proposed FY16 School Budgets Status - Mahar RSD and Petersham Center School**

The AFC and Selectboard reviewed the amended RC Mahar RSD FY2016 Budget Request, the PCS FY2016 Budget Request and the Monty Tech RSD FY2016 Budget Requests. The AFC noted they will support and recommend the requested amounts from each school department for FY2016 at the Annual Town Meeting.

**RE: Discussion Approval RFTR Snow & Ice Deficit Amount $521.94 from Highway Dept. for FY2015**

Rick Marsh motioned, seconded by Henry Woolsey and it was voted unanimously to approve and sign a reserve fund transfer request (RFTR) in the amount of $521.94 to the Snow Removal Account. The AFC with a quorum present also voted unanimously to approve and sign the RFTR in the amount of $521.94.

**RE: Discussion Award of FY2016 Various Materials and Highways Services Bids**

The Selectboard met with AC Boudreau and PHD Supt Graves to discuss the award of FY2016 Various Highway Materials & Services Bids.

The Selectboard reviewed the **FY2016 Bid for Stone Seal & 10% Asphalt Rubber Surface Treatment**. Two bids were received by the deadline from All States Asphalt of Sunderland, MA and Comer Contracting Inc of Farmington, CT. On a motion made by Henry Woolsey, seconded by Rick Marsh it was voted unanimously to award the bid to All States Asphalt for **Stone Seal & 10% Asphalt Rubber Surface Treatment** as the lowest most responsible bidder in the amount of $136,372.26 for items 1, 2 and 3 contingent upon meeting all bid requirements.

The Selectboard placed on hold until a future Selectboard meeting the bid for **FY2016 Highway Bid** **Bituminous Concrete Type I-1 Road Paving Resurfacing and Related Work** for further review.

The Selectboard placed on hold until a future Selectboard meeting the bid for **FY2016 Highway Bid- Crack (Cape) Seal** for further review.

The Selectboard reviewed the **FY2016 Highway Bid for Road Reclamation**. Two bids were received by the deadline from Murray Paving & Road Reclamation of Holliston, MA and All States Asphalt of Sunderland, MA. The bid totals from each vendor were identically the same amounts at $36,270.00. The representative from All States Asphalt – Jim Byrne and Murray Paving – Steve Johnson agreed to a coin toss to break the tie and award the bid. AC Boudreau tossed the coin and it was heads. All States Asphalt won the coin toss. On a motion made by Henry Woolsey, seconded by Rick Marsh it was voted unanimously to award the bid **Road Reclamation** to All States Asphalt as the lowest most responsible bidder in the amount of $36,270.00 for items 1 and 2 Road Reclamation contingent upon meeting all bid requirements.

**RE: Discussion Nichewaug Inn Project - RFP Evaluation Committee Public Info Meeting dates;**

**Demolition Specifications Status**

**RFP Evaluation Committee Public Info Meeting Dates**: Nancy Allen announced the public information session would be held by the Nichewaug Inn Evaluation Committee (NIEC) on May 19, 2015 at 7pm Town Hall and that earlier that same day an inspection of the Inn would be conducted by the NIEC and other town officials for the proposed re-development teams.

**Demolition Specifications Status**: Nancy Allen noted that a proposed asbestos abatement and demolition project schedule and central register bid release date were still being worked on by Paul Lieneck of HLS & Terracon and herself and that she hopes it would be worked out successfully within the next few weeks.

**RE: Discussion Letter of Support to MassDOT for Petersham/Athol Rte. 32 Bikeway**

Nancy Allen presented to the Selectboard a draft letter of support to MassDOT District 2 Albert Stegemann for a proposed bike path from Athol to Petersham for Selectboard consideration and approval. Henry Woolsey motioned, seconded by Rick Marsh and it was voted unanimously to approve and sign the letter of support for the bike path as presented by Nancy Allen.

**RE: Discussion Chapter 90 Project Request Approval**

Selectboard considered a request from PHD Supt Tim Graves for a Chapter 90 Project Request for West Street in the amount of $82,000.00. Rick Marsh motioned, seconded by Henry Woolsey and voted unanimously to approve and sign the Chapter 90 Project Request for West Street in the amount of $82,000.00.

**RE: Discussion Cultural Council Signage Request Approval**

Henry Woolsey motioned, seconded by Rick Marsh and voted unanimously to approve the Cultural Council May 2015 Event signage request with the caveat that the sandwich sign may be moved from the common to in front if town hall to accommodate Memorial Day Activities.

1. **Correspondence Review**

Nancy Allen read aloud the correspondence folder items. The Selectboard made note of the 5/12/2015 fyi email from Mark Bishop regarding the encroachment of a historic private barn on to East Street.

1. **Questions from Public and Press**

Roy Nilson asked for a copy of the April 23, 2015 Selectboard Minutes. AC Bourdeau asked that he request them by email and he will provide an email copy. Roy Nilson inquired about tree removal by the MassDOT contractor along Route 32 near the Athol /Petersham Line. Selectboard members with sadness noted that lost of trees and that the state had jurisdiction over the right of way for tree removal along state highways.

1. **Next Meetings**

The next Selectboard meeting was confirmed for Monday 5/18/2015 at 7:00PM Town Hall Lower Level and Wednesday May 27, 2015 at 6:00PM Lower Town Hall with AFC RE: FY2016 Town Budget Public Information Session.

1. **Adjournment.**

Rick Marsh motioned for adjournment, seconded by Henry Woolsey, and it was voted unanimously to approve the motion to adjourn at 9:50PM.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Rick Marsh, Clerk**

**Meeting Documents:** The following documents were provided and or reviewed by Selectboard members during the meeting and were located in individual meeting folders and or Selectboard Correspondence Folder located on meeting table:

Copy of Selectboard 5/12/2015 Agenda

Copy of signed RFTR RE: Snow & Ice Deficit $521.94 dated 5/12/2015

Copy of Cash Book Petersham Treasurer dated April 2015

Copy of PCS FY2016 Budget Request Version IV revised budget dated 5/12/2015

Copy of RC Mahar RSD FY2016 Budget revised dated 5/6/2015

Copy of letter from Attorney J. Flick RE: ZBA Special permit- Quabbin Retreat Mailing labels dated 5/12/2015

Copy of email from ZBA Chair M. Reynolds RE: Signed approve Quabbin Retreat Special permit received 5/12/2015

Copy of MassDOT Bridge Report dated 5/1/2015 RE: Browns Pond Bridge

Copy of Agreement to Proceed Contract with MassDOT RE: GVR One Lane Temp Bridge dated 5/7/2015

Copy Petersham Green Communities Final Report to MassDOER received 5/6/2015

Copy of letter to MassDOER from N. Allen RE: Green Communities Grant program thank you dated 5/1/2015

Copy of letter to Oscar Epstein MassDOT RE: 3 signed original copies of GVR Bridge Standard Contract form dated 4/30/2015

Copy of letter from D. Swartz of SMART RE: New Pets Safety MGL dated March 2015

Copy of email notice from Whitewater RE: April 2015 Water Quality Report Town Hall well dated 5/1/2015

Copy email RE: Congressman Jim McGovern RE: Office Hours dated 5/8/2015

Copies of various emails and letter from Fire Chief Robinson RE: Access to Nichewaug Inn and Inspection Tour May 19, 2015

Copy of email from S. Wells Mount Grace requesting meeting with Selectboard RE: Feldman Property Landscape Grant Contract dated 4/15/2015

Copy of email from Bob Clark RE: Rte 122 Culvert Condition and Tree Cutting Conditions Route 122 dated 5/1/2015

Copy of draft STM & ATM warrants with suggested motions as of 5/11/2015

Copy of draft AFC Report FY2016 Budget Report received 5/12/2015

Copy of Cultural Council email request for May 2015 Event signage dated 5/3/2015

Copy of FY2016 Highway Bids Materials and Supplies Various Minutes dated 5/6/2015

Copy of email from Athol Planning Dept RE: Requesting Letter of Support proposed Athol/Petersham Bike path and copy of letter of support approved by Petersham Selectboard dated 5/12/2015