Town of Petersham Massachusetts
SELECTBOARD MINUTES
Town Hall Main Floor
1 South Main Street
May 12, 2020 6:00 PM

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

Organizations/Representatives present:

Present by phone: All members of the Advisory Finance Committee (AFC), Roy Nilson – Petersham Common, Greg Vine – Athol Daily News

Others Present: Jim Murphy (by phone), Stephanie Selden (in person)

1. 6:00 PM Call to order.

Chair Nancy Allen called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM at Town Hall main floor and stated the meeting was being recorded.

2. Public Hearing

Chair Nancy Allen opened the Public Hearing at 6:00 PM to review the request from Matrix Design Group for installation of a single utility pole on Hardwick Road for the purpose of town broadband network connection. Such Hearing pursuant to MGL Chapter 166, Section 22.

Proposed pole location: West side of Hardwick Road between Street addresses 96 & 134 Hardwick Road.

Henry moved approval of the pole installation
Rick seconded
Motion passed unanimously

Nancy closed the Public Hearing at 6:21 PM.

3, Regular Meeting 6:30 PM

Meeting with AFC to continue review of FY21 budgets and related information regarding schedule, warrants, etc.

All present offered AFC Chair Ross their best wishes as he will be exploring other opportunities in Florida. Rich Cavanaugh will now be the AFC Chair.

Mahar budget now shows a decrease of $4693 (negative 0.52 %) from previous year.
Reserve Fund Article $30,000 proposed.

The 1/12 Budget procedure will be submitted to Town Accountant so that she may file the necessary paperwork with the Department of Local Services. Noted that the Town does not have to proceed with the 1/12 process after the paperwork has been filed. This method will be considered as well, having the Operating Budget in June and the balance at a Special Town Meeting in the Fall.

4. New Business

The Local Election will be scheduled for June 22, 2020 from 10:00 AM until 8:00 PM per the Town Clerk. Voting will be held on the Town Hall main floor.

The Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Planning Grant will be continued until August 7, 2020 at 4:00 PM or until all funding has been allocated. Henry will review the Grant opportunity.

The Town Hall lift is expected on site May 18, 2020. A Grant extension is available but not necessary at this time.

A Business Permit was received from Winterwood Business Solutions dba The Parcel Team located at 19 North Main Street, Petersham requesting license for Amazon Delivery Service Provider.

Henry Motioned approval of the above permit subject to approval signatures of all licensing authorities. Permit to expire May 12, 2023.
Rick seconded
Motion passed unanimously

5. Correspondence

Treasurers Cash Book
Arbor Day publication
Department of Local Services Newsletter
All Department expenditure report
Animal Control log for month of April 2020
Planning Grant information
Request from resident that a Virtual Town meeting be considered
Letter regarding forestry work

6. Questions from Public and Press

Noted that two Transfer Station Attendants were on duty Saturday May 9. This was necessary because of the COVID-19 situation and the resulting action of the Board of Health requiring that face masks be worn while at the Transfer Station. Further noted that six residents had no masks and of the six, four refused a mask when offered and were particularly vocal in their refusal to comply.

7. Minutes

Henry moved to open the minutes of April 28, 2020
Rick seconded
Motion passed unanimously

Henry moved to accept the minutes of April 28, 2020 as amended
Rick seconded
Motion passed unanimously

8. Next Meeting

The next Selectboard meeting date Tuesday May 26. 2020, 6:30 PM Town Hall upper level, and at the call of the Chair as needed.

9. Adjournment.

Rick moved to adjourn at 8:30 PM
Henry seconded
Motion passed unanimously

Respectfully submitted

Rick Marsh, Clerk