

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MINUTES NOVEMBER 10, 2014
APPROVED**

Present: Anna Eliot, Vice Chair; Stuart M. Schulman, Clerk; John G. Petropoulos, Member

Absent: Josh A. Degen, Chair; Peter S. Cunningham, Member

Also Present: Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager; Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Ms. Eliot called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Schulman reminded residents that there was a pipeline summit at Monty Tech in Fitchburg on December 1st at 8:00am adding that various state politicians would be present.

Mr. Petropoulos said that the Veterans Day ceremony would be held on Tuesday at 11am on Sawyer Common.

Mr. Haddad said that the Kinder Morgan open houses had been postponed due to new information that had been provided to FERC. More information would follow when available.

Ms. Eliot presented a proclamation to the Groton Garden Club for their donation of the 1960 framed planting maps that were hanging in the 2nd floor of Town Hall. Ms. Penny Hommeyer thanked the Board and added that they would also like to present the Board with a newspaper article that was to be hung with the plans that explained what they represented. Ms. Collette said that she has the pleasure of seeing how many people stop by to admire the maps adding that the plantings shaped how many decisions were made today.

TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

1. Mr. Haddad said that he would bring back the collective bargaining agreements to the Board at their next meeting when a full Board was present. Mr. Petropoulos said that he was looking for various accumulations of sick time and asked if it was possible to obtain a matrix of all contracts.
2. Mr. Haddad said that he had updated the Open Meeting Law policy to make it clearer about who it pertained to (those that had not already attended one of the sessions). He said that he would bring it back to their next meeting for adoption.
3. Mr. Haddad said that he amended the policy that outlines the procedure for the Board to receive reports from the advisory committees once a year. Mr. Petropoulos said that it made sense to schedule some in person and some as written reports and suggested that in person reports be scheduled throughout the year to spread out the impact of the reporting over the course of the year. Mr. Haddad said that once they received the written reports they could decide who they wanted to have into a meeting.
Mr. Schulman moved to adopt policy 14-04 as written. Mr. Petropoulos seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
4. Mr. Haddad said that he had drafted the Charge for the Municipal Building Committee and asked the Board if it provided enough detail. Ms. Eliot said that the first paragraph seemed like they were determining use before making decisions on the building. Mr. Haddad said that he misunderstood and would correct it. Mr. Haddad said that he, Mr. Petropoulos and Ms. Eliot sat down with the Superintendent and School Committee Chair to discuss the future. He said that it was a good meeting adding that their concerns were stability and cost. He said that they were willing to entertain a 1 year extension which would bring them through August 2016. Mr. Haddad said that this gave them a year to decide what was best for them. Mr. Schulman said that he had no objection adding that it seemed safe for everyone. Mr. Petropoulos said that if they went out with an RFP, they would have to include the lease until 2016 which was the only downside. Ms. Eliot said that they did that the last time too. Mr. Haddad said that they didn't want to leave them in limbo adding it was time to make a determination. Mr. Schulman asked if they wanted the space renovated. Mr. Haddad said that for the short term they were willing to live with it. Ms. Eliot said that they

didn't want people to think they were trying to kick the school department out. Mr. Petropoulos said that it was all about keeping them there but preserving their options. Discussion ensued about the timeframe in which the Committee would have time to assess the building and the needs. Mr. Greg Sheldon said that he thought 6 months was not enough time adding that he also thought a 11 member Board was what the makeup of the Committee should be. Mr. Petropoulos said that he thought that was too many. Mr. Haddad said that a 7 members Board was preferable. Ms. Eliot said that the meetings would be public and invited the public to attend.

5. Mr. Haddad said that he notified the Moderator, School Committee and Finance Committee of the Selectmen's vote to establish the Charter Review Committee and asked them to let him know who their designees were. He said that he hoped to have this back on the agenda on November 24th.

LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Petropoulos said that it was wonderful to see Blood Farm back up and running.

MINUTES

Mr. Petropoulos moved to approve the minutes from September 15, 2014 as amended. Mr. Schulman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Petropoulos moved to approve the minutes of September 22, 2014. Mr. Schulman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schulman moved to adjourn at 7:40pm. Mr. Petropoulos seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Approved: _____

Stuart Schulman, Clerk

respectfully *submitted*,
Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Date Approved: 12/8/14