

MINUTES OF THE ALL BOARD MEETING
Town of Charlemont
Monday, March 24, 2014
Federated Church Community Room
Main Street

Page 1 of 3

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 P.M. by Selectboard Chair David Cunningham. Selectboard members in attendance were Vaughn Tower and Beth Bandy. Sign in sheet for other attendees attached.

Selectboard Chair David Cunningham welcomed the attendees and stated that June 23, 2014 and September 22, 2014 are the scheduled date for future All Board Meetings.

Town Hall Sign Procedure

Ms Bandy shared the new procedure to utilize the sign on the lawn of the Town Hall. Custodian Russell Kelly will keep the sign updated with current events. Updates and ideas to post on the sign are to be sent to the Selectmen's office will then pass the information to Mr. Kelley.

Town Administrator Update

Ms Bandy presented a update regarding the creation of a Town Administrator position. Ms Bandy stated that various people/citizens have approached her regarding creating this position and that the Selectmen and the Finance Committee have discussed this subject several times.

Mr. Tower stated that an Administrator would be a great asset to the Town and would help acquire grants and open communication with Departments and the Selectmen.

Ms Bandy stated that currently no one is managing the Town Hall facility. The Selectmen are looking at a hiring guide for such a position.

Mr. Cunningham stated that the Selectmen feel the position would need to be a fulltime position to be effective.

Gisela Walker, Planning Board Chair, stated that she feels the Town can be more proactive with an Administrator.

Ms Bandy reported that approximately two weeks ago DOR came into the office of the Town Hall and conducted a financial review. This review will be published on the Town website once it has been received. The DOR made suggestions on how to compact the Selectmen's agenda.

Mr. Cunningham asked each Board to share news or information with the attendees.

Gisela Walker, Planning Board Chair, stated that 3 Zoning Amendments, Village District, Marijuana and Earth Removal (general bylaw) will be present at the Annual Town Meeting. 2 have been reviewed by Town Counsel. The Planning Board is hoping that all 3 will pass and it would be nice if the Selectmen will endorse all zoning changes.

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Page 2 of 3

Dan Girard, Planning Board member, stated that he has taken the lead with the Marijuana Bylaw. This bylaw has been reviewed by Town Counsel with minor changes. Mr. Girard explained that the bylaw excludes the village area but included the west and east of the village along Route 2, 1/8th of a mile out from Route 2. Home grown hardship growing issues were discussed. Mr. Girard stated that hardship growing must be issued a license through DPH who in turn must notify the Town of the locations that have been issued permits.

Robert Lingle, Board of Health Chair, stated that the Board of Health is currently working on the problems of permits for businesses.

Ruth Cannavo, Conservation Commission member, reported that the Commission is two openings and is looking for new members.

Michael Walsh, EMD, reported that he is personally trying to install a dry hydrant on his property. If successful, Mr. Walsh will try to create a template that can be duplicated by other property owners. Mr. Walsh is also working on a smart meter paper that will enlighten the public regarding the high frequency signals in smart readers that are harmful to users.

Amy Wales, Finance Committee Chair, reported that the Committee is down by 2 members and that the FY 2015 budget is very challenging, with a probable increase in property taxes.

It was announced that the Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 27th, 2014 with a continuation date, if needed, of June 3rd, 2014.

Dana Johnson, Ambulance Director, stated that OEMS has inspected the Ambulance Department and put the Department on notice due to the lack of EMT's that do not respond. The Ambulance Department is in dire need of people. Mr. Johnson stated that the Town has tried to convenience the Mohawk School to create classes but to no avail. Although there are steps possibly being taken to create a bill to subsidize the cost of becoming an EMT, there is the problem of retaining the EMT's once they have become certified. Basically, there are no EMT's available to respond and/or no one wanting to become involved.

Jim Haskell, Charlemont Sewer District, reported that the District is back on line but still suffering from the storm Irene. The District is still waiting for funds from FEMA. The District is currently services 187 customers. Research is being conducted regarding expansion and realistic values to accommodate growth in the Town.

Charlotte Dewey, ZBA Chair, reported that it has been very quiet for the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Mr. Cunningham reported that a Municipal Space Public Hearing is scheduled for April 17th at 7:00

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Page 3 of 3

P.M. at the Hawlemont Elementary School.

Business being concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Kathy Reynolds
Executive Secretary

Approved by:
Charlemont Board of Selectmen

This document is to be considered a draft until approved and signed by the Board of Selectmen

Items viewed during the meeting

Agenda
Minutes from the October 10, 2013 All Board Meeting