

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Town of Charlemont

December 17, 2012
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The meeting was convened at 7:00 P.M. by Chairman Jean Brisson. David Cunningham and Vaughn Tower also attended the meeting.

1. A moment of silence was held for the Connecticut shooting victims and their families.
2. The warrants were signed.
3. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to approve and sign the November 26, 2012 minutes.
4. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to approve and sign 2013 liquor and yearly licenses for Valley View Farm and Berkshire East.
5. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to approve and sign a 2013 auto amusement license for Mohawk Park.
6. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to approve a sign a thank you letter to Winston Healy for gifting funds for two accounts.
7. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to approve and sign a thank you letter to PJ Herbert for his service on the Police Department.
8. Mr. Cunningham reported that he spoke with the Highway Superintendent regarding the Traffic Calming recommendations to MassDOT. The Superintendent has concerns regarding Town liability and responsibility for clearing and maintaining the sidewalks in Town. Mr. Cunningham will contact Karen Bloom, Chair of the Traffic Calming Committee to inform her that the Town is not satisfied with accepting responsibility for repairing of the sidewalks.
9. The request for support from the Community Software Consortium was deferred until the January 7th meeting.
10. Mr. Cunningham reported that the Highway Department intends to paint white lines on South River Road and 8A North in the spring. Some guardrails on 8A North will also be repaired/replaced.
11. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson -yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to hold the All Board Meeting scheduled for January 17th at 7:00 P.M. at the Mohawk Park Restaurant and to served light refreshments during the meeting, not to exceed \$200.
12. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, not to be the co-holder of the Healy Trust APR.
13. Stephen Ferguson reported that the EEPG Grant has been finalized and submitted a 20 year payment schedule to begin May of 2013. Mr. Ferguson also reported that he will be submitting for payment the Towns share of the retainer.
14. Mr. Ferguson received approval to move forward with the Community Development Block Grant.
15. The Board received an e-mail from the Hawlemont School Committee Chair Beth Bandy. The message stated that the Rowe Elementary School will be parking in the Charlemont Inn parking lot and asks if the Town would like to be named as additionally insured on the Rowe Insurance. The Board also received an e-mail from the Town insurance representative that suggests the Town accept the additional coverage. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to request the Town be named as additionally insured in the Hawlemont/Rowe MOU and by the Rowe School insurance.
16. The Board received two ABCC end of the year reports. One report asks for the estimated

residents living in the Town as of July, 2013. The Town Clerk recommended the estimated number of residents should be 1270. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to accept the recommendation of 1270 resident and signed the report.

17. The second report asks for the number and name of liquor license renewals not renewed. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, that all licenses were renewed and signed the report.
18. The Board received an insurance proposal for FY 2014 and FY 2015 from MIIA Interlocking Insurance Company. The proposal is for a 0 (zero) insurance rate increase in FY 2014 and not more than a 2.5% insurance rate increase for FY 2015. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to accept and sign the proposal.
19. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to draft a letter to School Superintendent Buoniconti expressing the Board's appreciation for his expeditious efforts reevaluating school security after the Connecticut school tragedy.
20. The Board met with the Fire Department personnel to appoint interested members to the Fire Department through June 30, 2013. The Fire Chief submitted a list of names to be appointed. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to appoint all on the list to the Charlemont Fire Department through June 30, 2013.
21. At 7:40 P.M. the Board asked Fire Chief Kenneth Hall if he would like to enter into Executive Session to discuss his job performance and conduct. Mr. Hall stated that he would like this discussion to be held in an open public meeting. At this time, the meeting was handed over to Mr. Tower, Liaison to the Fire Department. Mr. Tower read a statement informing the public that this or any discussions and decisions is not a personal attack and are made by the Board of Selectmen. The Selectmen were not aware of the condition of the Fire Department until a letter from the Fire Chief was received that stated the Fire Department is in chaos.
22. Fire Chief Hall stated that inter-communication is not working, although there has been a slight improvement.
23. At 7:50 P.M. the Board asked Assistant Fire Chief Shane Furlon if he would like to enter into Executive Session to discuss his job performance and conduct. Mr. Furlon waved his right to an executive session. Asst. Fire Chief Furlon stated that the first half of the 2012 State Fire Reports are complete and the second half will be sent to the State by the end of the New Year.
24. Chief Hall reported that all firemen have been certified with Fire Fighter 1 except 3 new firemen.
25. Ms Brisson asked the Chief is he would like to be re-appointed for six months as Chief. Chief Hall stated that he would like to see the firemen complete the Fire Fighter 2 training but does not care for the in house fighting.
26. Lack of respect for the Fire Chief was discussed. The Chief was reminded that a fireman can not be appointed due to causing chaos or lack of respect.
27. The Fire Chief was not sure if he will be able to get the Department operable within 6 months.
28. Fire Department Chain of Command and building repairs were discussed.
29. Ms Brisson stated that the Selectmen will or will not re-appoint the Fire Chief and/or Assistant Fire Chief.
30. Stated conditions of the Fire Chiefs re-appointment were:
 - All fire fighters certified with the Fire Fighter 2 training
 - Monthly vehicle reports received
 - Monthly gear reports received

Monthly inventory reports received
Fire Station/systems check reports received

31. Delegation of the above reports was discussed.
32. The Fire Chief stated that he will do his best to bring the Department forward.
33. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to appoint Ken Hall Fire Chief for 6 months.
34. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to appoint Michael Walsh as Assistant Fire Chief for 6 months.
35. Shane Furlon was invited to attend the next Selectmen's meeting if he wished to discuss the appointments.
36. The Board met with Bob Dean from the FRCOG to discuss accounting services/issues. Finance Committee members Richard Filoramo, Any Wales, and Toby Gould also attended the meeting.
37. The Board distributed a list of issues the Town has found with the FRCOG accounting service.
38. Mr. Dean apologized for what has been going on with the FRCOG accounting services. The FRCOG accounting services are trying to hire additional accountants. Mr. Dean stated that he wants to be informed of any issues the Town finds and asked the Town to work with the FRCOG. Mr. Dean also stated that if the Town finds it wants to terminate the accounting services contract with the FRCOG, he will work with the Town regarding the length of time the Town will need to provide notice.
39. The Board thanked Mr. Dean for attending the meeting.
40. The future of the Fire Department was discussed.
41. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to designate the EMD position as a special town employee on the condition that Mr. Walsh accept the Assistant Fire Chief position.
42. The Executive Secretary requested the use of vacation days from February 11 through February 15 which was granted.
43. Business being concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Approved by:
Charlemont Board of Selectmen

Kathy A. Reynolds
Executive Secretary

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

List of documents viewed by the Board

Warrants
Minutes of November 26, 2012
2013 liquor and yearly licenses
Thank you letter to Winston Healy for his gifts
Community Software Consortium request for support
EEPG 20 year payment schedule

E-mail from the Hawlemont School Committee Chair regarding school parking
ABCC year end reports
Insurance proposal from MIA
List of Fire fighters to be re-appointed
Statement regarding the Fire Chief & Asst. Chief meetings
List of accounting services/issues