

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**  
**Town of Charlemont**

April 1, 2013  
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The meeting was convened at 7:00 P.M. by Chairman Jean Brisson. Vaughn Tower also attended the meeting with David Cunningham arriving at 8:37 P.M.

1. The payroll warrant was signed.
2. Ms Brisson explained that she had not reviewed the 3/25/13 Selectmen's minutes and she would not be signing them. The 3/18/13 Selectmen's minutes were signed.
3. The Board received a revised 250 Committee donation letter. After review, the Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to approve the letter as submitted.
4. The Executive Secretary explained that during the 3/25/13 Selectmen's meeting, the Board scheduled the next meeting with the Fire Chief for 4/29/13 at 7:15 P.M. Unfortunately, that meeting time slot has already been scheduled. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Tower – yes to re-schedule the meeting with the Fire Chief for 4/29/13 at 8:15 P.M.
5. The Board received and noted an AXIA Mass Broadband 123 meeting.
6. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to place on the Town website a notice of the AXIA Mass Broadband 123 meeting for the general public.
7. The Board noted several correspondences regarding a Charlemont representative for the Hawlemont teacher negotiations.
8. The Board received a letter from a resident from South River Road that requests funds from the Berkshire East Gift account. This letter was tabled until Mr. Cunningham could participate in the discussion.
9. The Executive Secretary reported that scheduling of private water testing surrounding the Old Burn Dump was put on hold due to weather conditions. The scheduling will continue this coming July. July, 2013 will be added to this subject under Old Business of the agenda.
10. Discussion of the Hampshire Council of Governments electricity costs was tabled until Mr. Cunningham could participate in the discussion.
11. The Executive Secretary reported that since the Town Hall furnace has been outfitted with the safety features required by the State Boiler Inspector, the furnace shuts off several times during the day and night. Trips to the cellar several times during the day to restart the furnace are necessary to keep the building at a reasonable temperature. The Board decided to take a field trip to the furnace later in the meeting.
12. The Board received a report from the Executive Secretary regarding the Tech/Voc. Student Transportation meeting she attended.
13. Bob Dean, Manager of the FRCOG, attended the meeting to discuss the accounting services they provide the Town. Mr. Dean stated that he feels the FRCOG provides a good service and asked if the Board feels the service is getting better. Mr. Dean stated that if the Town feels it needs to break the Accounting Service contract with the FRCOG, the FRCOG is willing to amend the contract regarding the necessary notice of removal from the contract. Mr. Dean, referring to the Selectmen's letter dated February 25, 2013, hoped the Town does not have any ill feels towards the program. Mr. Dean also referenced a section of the same letter regarding the Town policy for Town records not being removed from the Town Hall. Mr. Dean stated that this is a challenge for the Town Accountant. Mr. Dean requested a meeting to address challenges of the accountant be held, with the following attending the meeting: Mr. Dean, Accountant, Treasurer, Finance Committee, Secretary to the Boards, Board of Selectmen, and

- Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary will coordinate this meeting.
14. Jeff Murdock of 22 Main Street reported to the Board speeding traffic occurring along Main Street during the early morning and evening hours. This is a safety concern for traffic entering and exiting Main Street as well as pedestrians. Officer in Charge Bellows was in attendance and stated that Mr. Murdock has approached him with this concern. Unfortunately, local patrols during the morning hours are nonexistent and minimal during the evening hours. Ms Brisson explained to Mr. Murdock the gateway traffic calming measures that will be included with the State resurfacing project that will begin soon. Mr. Tower asked the Officer in Charge to place the Town speed sign at the west Town gateway when the weather permits. The Officer in Charge was also request to alert the State Police of this issue. Mr. Murdock was thanked for bringing the speeding issue to the Board.
  15. 122 Main Committee members Daniel Girard, Lawrence Mann, and Ronald Smith attended the meeting to give the second and final report of the Committee to the Board. Also attending the meeting was: Building Inspector Jim Cerone, Fire Chief Ken Hall, FRCOG Health Agent Glen Ayers, Board of Health Chair Robert Lingle, and Police Officer in Charge Jared Bellows. The Committee submitted and read aloud the final Committee report. It was reported that the property owner has made some. The building has not had a certificate of occupancy since 2010 and is not in compliance with the State DEP. Everyone at the meeting agreed that the BOH should proceed with a condemnation order to protect the public. Mr. Ayers will assist the BOH with the condemnation process, beginning with a hearing.
  16. The Committee suggested they remain a Committee, on a hold status. The Selectmen agreed.
  17. The Board opened and read aloud the FY 2014 propane bids received. Town bids were received, one from Osterman Propane at a variable rate of \$.40 markup of the Selkirk, NY cost. The second bid was from George Propane at a fixed price of \$1.745/gallon. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to award the propane bid to George Propane at the fixed price of \$1.745/gallon.
  18. The Board opened and read aloud the FY 2014 Highway equipment bids. The five bids received were from: Jonathan Winfisky, George Rice, West Count Rentals, Tyler, and Dean Structures. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to send the bids to the Highway Superintendent for review and recommendation.
  19. The Board recognized ZBA members Kathryn Eichholz and Charlotte Dewey who attended the meeting to as the Board to appoint a new member to the ZBA. Unfortunately, the potential ZBA member had not arrived so a new member was not appointed. Another meeting with the ZBA was scheduled for Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:45 P.M.
  20. The Board tabled discussion of the Berkshire East gift until the next meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup>.
  21. The Board tabled discussion of the Hampshire Council of Governments electricity service until the next meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup>.
  22. The Executive Secretary reported that the Town Hall furnace safety devices have been installed according to the State Boiler Inspectors report. Since the devices have been installed, the furnace will not continue to run and requires re-starting several times during the day. The Secretary expressed her concern that if the furnace shuts down over night and during the weekend, the temperature in the Town Hall lowers significantly. The Board agreed that the Secretary should not be re-starting the furnace several times during the day. Adams Plumbing & Heating, the company that sold and installed the furnace will be contacted and asked to repair the furnace.
  23. The Executive Secretary reported that the Town Hall Custodian has repaired the walls of holds

in the back hallway of the Town Hall. The Custodian would now like permission to paint the walls. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to give permission as requested.

24. The Board signed a letter to the Tyler Memorial Library Trustees; cc'd to the Librarian, asking them to attend a meeting to discuss hiring of a new Librarian.
25. Ms Brisson stated that when she volunteered to be the representative for a Tech/Voc. Busing Committee she was not aware that the meetings were going to take place during the day when she is unavailable. Ms Brisson feels that the Executive Secretary should be the representative for this Committee. The Board discussed who participated in arranging the Tech busing in the past several years.
26. Ms Brisson reported that the Town Accountant is asking for the Board to remove item #24 of the March 4<sup>th</sup> Selectmen's minutes. The Accountant feels the minutes do not depict what was said and could cause hard feels between Town employees and the Accountant. The Board unanimously voted, Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Cunningham – yes, Mr. Tower – yes, to amend the March 4<sup>th</sup> Selectmen's minutes by completely removing item #24.
27. Ms Brisson requested the Executive Secretary contact the Accountant to receive a copy of the Transfer Station telephone bill.
28. The Executive Secretary was requested to send the Selectmen's budget to the Secretary to the Board and to ask for the first draft of the complete budget.
29. Mr. Cunningham agreed to allow Mr. Tower to work with the Parks and Recreation Commission regarding meetings and obligations.
30. Business being concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 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 reviewed by the Board**

Payroll warrant  
Minutes  
Revised 250 Committee donation letter  
AXIA Mass Broadband 123 meeting notice  
AXIA Mass Broadband 123 public meeting notice

Letter from a South River Road resident requesting Berkshire East gift funds  
Tech/Voc. Student transportation meeting report  
Two FY 2014 propane bids  
Five FY 2014 Highway equipment bids  
Tyler Memorial Library Trustees invitation