

**Minutes**  
**APRIL 23, 2015**  
**Board of Selectmen**  
**7:00 P.M.**  
**Goodnow Town Hall**

7:00pm - Calling meeting to order.

**Attendance:** Select Board - Beth Bandy and Dave Cunningham, Town Administrator (TA) - Peg Dean.  
Public – Hawley Select Board member - Bob MacLean

**Acting Chair:** Beth Bandy

Broad discussion about budget process being held up by justifiable requests for increases. Select Board in support of a conversation after ATM about what vehicle could be used for collecting tourism fees, consider contacting counsel. **Request from Select Board to add to agenda for first meeting after ATM. Will want to do research in advance, send request what to research in advance.**

**The Select Board voted to address budget line adjustments prior to moving on to agenda:** Line 33 (3 above #) Town Hall Building Maintenance, can this be decreased? What were the bulk of the maintenance costs? Boiler issues? Can we anticipate add'l maintenance costs? They discussed that because they're getting a dehumidifier that may resolve some of the issues in the basement. Decided to decrease by \$2000. Line 33 (1 above #) Town Hall Telephone/Comp – signing on to state contracted rates which are supposed to yield significant savings. Does that include internet? Reduce by \$1200. Line 41 - increase insurance to \$ 75,600 for all own employees to include TA position. Included an add'l \$4900 for insurance. Need to verify with Kathy. Do you approve inserting whatever number she gives if different than \$75,691? Yes. Line 83 - review waste budget. Appears to be high compared to actual. Can it be decreased? Comes in \$10k over every year. With request for salary increase of approx. \$2 X 16/per week = \$1792 increase for the year. Motion to accept Russell's salary increase. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Yes – unanimous. Consider reducing Transfer Station budget by \$5000. Get FCSWD Jan Ameen's guidance before reducing hauling

In regards to capital items, can we replace 2000 Mack Truck using Chap 90 funds? Select Board initially stated no, but public input fom Bob MacLean and Rich Filoramo stated yes can use Chap 90 for truck. Select Board approved yes, can use Chap 90. Peg Please verify with Gordon that he wants to use Chap 90.

# Minutes for APRIL 23, 2015

## Board of Selectmen

7:30 P.M.

### Goodnow Town Hall

Meeting called to order at 7:35

**Attendance:** Select Board - Beth Bandy and Dave Cunningham, Town Administrator (TA) - Peg Dean.  
Public - Hawley Select Board member - Bob MacLean and John Sears, Bruce Lessels, Zoar, Jon Schaefer, Berkshire East, Rich Filaromo, Charlemont Fin Com, Karen Hogness, Avery's  
**Acting Chair:** Beth Bandy

Beth Bandy announced that the Ambulance license in jeopardy. Wanted to meet with local recreation businesses to discuss ambulance services. She discussed how OEMS came in last year, asked for a plan to improve service and response. The Task Force has been meeting over the past year, a technical review was completed, and recommendations are being made, but according to OEMS in an email last month, efforts to date may not be enough to keep license.

Dave Cunningham shared that he spoke w Phil at OEMS, and that Phil is expecting a plan prior to his inspection in May. The town has looked at different options: hiring our own, farming it out, having none.

John Sears has 2 people being paid to train, and 2 to certify. Zoar and Berkshire East will put feelers out - anyone interested in responding for Charlemont will email TA. Karen Hogness recommends a policy that pays for trainings and certifications through the Town. Jon Schaefer offering use of the ski area if can get a trainer. It was suggested to contact Cold River - as a business owners in town who could respond or have employees who could respond.

Beth Bandy stated that the crisis is lack of EMTs, and that is what will shut us down, not that we shouldn't be considering profitability.

Business owners left at approx. 8pm.

Select Boards reviewed the "critical state" letter to go to residents, and voted to accept edited version of letter. Dave Cunningham made a motion to accept the edited letter, Beth Bandy 2<sup>nd</sup>d motion, YES - unanimous. Select Boards asked TA why Rowe not be participating in meetings. Sue Gleason stated unable to attend last meeting, and will attend 5/6 meeting, but otherwise don't know. TA suggested someone else try reaching out to Rowe.

Rich Filaromo suggested that we may need to consider at least one FT EMT.

Beth Bandy suggested inviting legislators to participate in to 5/6 meeting, and robo call residents in advance.

Discussed sending another email to Rowe asking if they can at least do a robo call even not enough time for a letter to residents?

Discussed projects to do before the 6<sup>th</sup>. Get realistic projections of what it would cost to fund a FT EMT. Get press release off to the paper, contact tomorrow, Ginny Ray, email letter, suggesting she may want to include in the paper.

Towns of Hawley and Charlemont will send their letter out individually. Will do robo call before.

Discussed how the Town of Charlemont has tried other avenues through the state and Paul Mark, such as needing only 1 EMT on board. Legislation has been drafted, waiting for it to get to floor.

For recruiting – we should have flyers around town, brochures about training.

Hawley Select Board members John Sears, Bob MacLean, and Charlemont Fin Com member Rich Filaromo left at approx. 8:40.

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Resumed earlier agenda:

Touching on using Taxation to pay MLP fees while Rich Filaromo still in attendance. Rich contacted DOR's legal whose suggesting Town get its own atty's opinion on matter. Re: Using Taxation to pay MLP fees. Select Board is support of contacting town atty.

Select Board approved Ron Smith from the Finance Committee to the Accountant Search Committee. Beth Bandy made motion to approve. Yes – unanimous.

Select Board approved Treasurer contacting a Financial Advisor to interview. Beth made a motion. Dave 2<sup>nd</sup>'d. Yes – unanimous. Clarified we are not taking any other action than interviewing for future purposes of advising financing Wired West. Lynn has scheduled our first appt w UniBank Tues 4/28 at 12 noon.

Select Board reviewed other budget items. Verizon State Contract Rates, savings of approx. \$1200 for year. Accept contract. Beth made motion to reduce budget by \$1200, Dave 2<sup>nd</sup>'d it. Yes – unanimous.

Reviewed Transfer Station salaries. TA recommending Russell's salary be changed from \$13.36 to \$15.35 + COLA increase. His Assistant currently makes the same as him, \$13.36. Beth made the motion to approve salary increase, Dave 2<sup>nd</sup>'d it. Yes – unanimous.

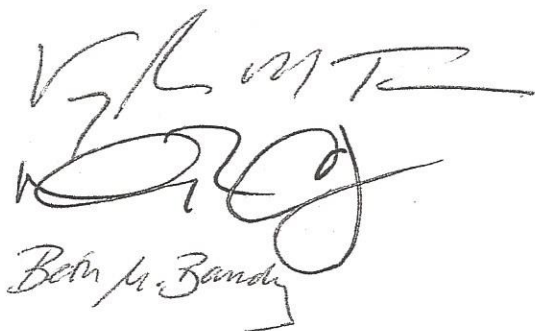
Discussed contacting Town Council in regards to position descriptions. No motion made. Select Board do not feel it is necessary. Re: Using Taxation to pay MLP fees

Various:

Highlighted other Budget issues. TA mentioned that Emerg Mgmt Director Michael Walsh agreed to remove sand bags from budget and will try to locate for free.

Respectfully submitted,

Peg Dean, Town Administrator



Beth M. Bandy