Lenox Town Hall

Selectmen's Minutes 03/23/2016

Minutes of Meeting – March 23, 2016; meeting called to order at 7:00pm. Present: Ed Lane; Channing Gibson; Dave Roche; Ken Fowler; Warren Archey.

EL announced that there will be a kardy kiwi management session on 3/29 from 6-8pm at the Library, and that they are looking for volunteers to assist with this project.

MOTION by CG, seconded by DR to accept the Minutes of March 9. 4/0 vote with WA abstaining.

Citizen's Open Forum: Ellen Jacobsen spoke about a Fix-It Event to be held at the Community Center on 4/23 from 1-4.

Consent Agenda: CG asked that a Hold be placed on the HVA Membership and the Undermountain Farm CR. MOTION by CG, seconded by KF to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: approve a Seasonal A/A License Renewal to Saranak; accept monetary donations to the Fire Department; appoint David Neubert to the Finance Committee. 5/0 vote. CG stated that the minimum contribution to become a member of the HVA is \$35, but he would like to do better. He suggested \$200. MOTION by CG, seconded by DR to become a member of the Housatonic Valley Association at a cost of \$200. 5/0 vote. CG thanked Berkshire Natural Resources Council for the great job they did in finalizing the Conservation Restriction on the Undermountain Farm property. MOTION by CG, seconded by DR to approve of the Conservation Restriction for Undermountain Farm. 5/0 vote.

Follow-up FY2017 Budget Discussion: The TM stated that there will be changes to Article 4, and presented the Board with an updated copy. Currently, the proposed budget is down \$13,000. He will work to finalize the budget figures and warrant for the April 6 meeting.

Downtown Wireless Access Discussion: Kameron Spaulding was unable to attend the meeting, but the TM suggested that the Board approve of wiring the downtown area so that we can offer free WiFi over approximately the 2.5 downtown blocks, Lilac and Triangle Parks and possibly Orebed Park. MOTION by CG, seconded by DR to authorize the TM to approve an agreement with the Chamber of Commerce to make free WiFi available in the downtown area at a cost not to exceed \$10,000. 5/0 vote.

Tax Increment Financing/Special Tax Agreement Policy/Procedures: The Board continued their discussion on the TIF/STA policy. An updated draft was provided to the Board, incorporating changes made at their March 4 and 9 meeting. Gwen Miller went through the various changes made to the draft policy. After some discussion, EL suggested that the newest version be given to the Planning Board, ZBA and Finance Committee for their review and input. CG reminded the Board that we still have an application pending before the Board that cannot be voted on until this document is completed.

Tennessee Pipeline: CG stated that this is his personal feeling, and that he feels Kinder-Morgan is greedy and uncaring, and not a good neighbor, and that he is looking forward to a change from what is occurring in Sandisfield currently.

Rest of River: GE responded to EPA with a lengthy rebuttal as to the terms of the proposed Housatonic River cleanup. It is most likely heading to litigation as both formal and informal mediation appears to have failed.

Solar Project: No public update.

BOS Reports: KF stated that the Planning Board continues their work reviewing the proposed by-law changes for the ATM. They will be holding an information meeting on 4/12 at 6pm and a public hearing on 4/19 at 6pm. CG stated that the CPC will begin its' work once the elections are over in May. EL stated that additional lighting will be installed in the rear bank lot and that power will be installed in Lilac Park. The DPW is finalizing the bid documents for the Henry Avenue pump station, so we may have an exact figure for Town Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

Mary Ellen Deming Director of Administrative Services

Clerk Board of Selectmen