

Minutes of Meeting –January 3, 2024; meeting called to order at 6:00pm.

Present: Ed Lane; Dave Roche; Neal Maxymillian; Marybeth Mitts

Absent: Max Scherff

Announcements from the Chair: EL asked DR to make announcement regarding the passing of Susan McNinch former Select Board member.

MOTION to accept the minutes of December 20 by DR, seconded by NM vote 4/0

Citizen's Open Forum:

Consent Agenda

- Donations acceptance request, Lenox Community Center
- One-Day W/M License Request, Canyon Ranch, January 26, 4-10pm HOLD
- One-Day W/M License Request, Canyon Ranch, January 27, 4-10pm HOLD
- One-Day W/M License Request, Robin Lane, January 27, 5-7pm HOLD

MOTION to approve Consent Agenda as presented by DR, seconded by MM vote 4/0

DR asked Mindi Morin, representative present for Canyon Ranch, why the resort does not have an annual Liquor License. Morin explained they may look into an annual license in the future.

MOTION to approve the One-Day W/M Licenses for Canyon Ranch by DR, seconded by MM 4/0 vote

MOTION to approve the One-Day W/M license for Robin Lane by NM, seconded by NM 3/0 vote EL abstained.

PUBLIC HEARING FY24 regional CDBG application including housing rehabilitation serving residents of Lenox and Lee

MOTION to open the public hearing by NM, 4/0 vote

Down Lemon introduced the program and the huge interest in communities like and including Lenox. MM spoke to the opportunities the grant affords to improve health and safety with housing rehabilitation. Flyers have been posted at library community center, first floor of town hall, and will be posted in post offices in Lenox and Lenox Dale, it is also available on the Hosing Trust site and can be submitted to the Land Use department. DL and the Board discussed other places that the preapplication flyer could be posted. Dawn Lemon suggested a separate page for the program. MM will be going to community center and library to present the program to the community. EL asked about the full application process DL explained that the first application is a preapplication and is handled on a first come first served basis. Kate McNaulty Vaughn, 10 Post Road – talked to older people staying in their homes and the improvement of housing stock being a benefit to the Town as well as the individual resident.

MOTION to close the public hearing by DR, seconded by NM

MOTION to submit an FY23 regional CDBG grant for housing rehabilitation and to authorize the Town Manager or Designee to sign the grant application and associated forms by DR, seconded by NM 4/0 vote

Town Manager presented the Preliminary FY2025 Budget. During the presentation there was some discussion of the school budget, MM going to be attending budget hearings in the next couple weeks, NM asked for more granularity as it is a large number. DR talked about the effect of retiree and new hire benefits on long term budgeting. The Board discussed salary and inflation in the current economy. TM continued the presentation. The Board discussed the Tax Levy and new business coming online with the new car dealerships on Pittsfield Rd. NM discussed financial transparency goal and making sure the information about the budget is available and available early. TM Board members can go to their liaison assignments and meet with

department heads. Toward the end of the month numbers will be available to add more granularity and adjust according to the information, in February for schools. As the calendar carries on there will be more updates and discussion.

MOTION to adjourn by DR, seconded by NM vote 4/0 7:08pm