

Minutes of Meeting – February 19, 2020; meeting called to order at 4:00pm. Present: Ed Lane; Marybeth Mitts; Warren Archey. Absent: Neal Maxymillian; Dave Roche.

Announcements: None.

MOTION by MM, seconded by WA to accept the Minutes of January 22. 3/0 vote.

Citizen's Open Forum: Sage Radachowksy, 458 Walker Street stated that he is against the way everything was handled with regarding to the ROR decision. Virginia Schwerin, 458 Walker Street stated her displeasure as well. The Board thanked them for attending the meeting, and suggested that they plan to attend a meeting to be held at 6pm in Lee.

Consent Agenda: A HOLD was placed on the two CDBG related issues. MOTION by MM, seconded by WA to approve the consent agenda as follows: approve a temporary sign request to Spirited for 2/29-3/14 with a renewal from 3/15-29; appoint Debbie Prew to the Housing Authority until 2022. 3/0 vote. MM then briefly explained the CDBG program, and why a hearings officer is necessary for the 2/27 public hearing. MOTION by MM, seconded by WA to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with BRPC and an Interlocal Agreement with the towns of Lee and Clarksburg on a Community Development Block Grant application; appoint Gwen Miller CDBG Hearings Officer. 3/0 vote.

FY21 Water/Sewer Rate Hearing: The TM/CAO read the ad as it appeared in The Berkshire Eagle. MOTION by MM, seconded by WA to open the public hearing. 3/0 vote. The TM/CAO stated that consistent with the growth in the property tax levy, he is recommending a 2.5% increase to the water rates (\$8.02/1000 gallons to \$8.22 /1000 gallons) and a 2.5% increase to the sewer rates (\$12.39/1000 gallons to \$12.70 /1000 gallons); further, that the Board review the rates in six months to determine if a rate change is warranted. MOTION by MM, seconded by WA to close the public hearing. 3/0 vote. MOTION by MM, seconded by WA to approve the TM recommendation, and to increase the water rates 2.5% (\$8.22 /1000 gals.), and sewer rates 2.5% (\$12.70 /1000gals.), and to review the rates again in six months. 3/0 vote.

Special Act Committee Update: The Board had received a copy of the Committee's recommendations to the Special Act at their 2/5 meeting. Chairman Michael King appeared before the Board to answer any questions they might have. He stated that the main changes are that the document is now gender neutral, and that Board of Selectmen be changed to Select Board. He went on to state that it has been thirty years since the Town adopted this Special Act, and the committee worked hard to make sure that the town operates efficiently, but not restrictively. The Board thanked Mr. King and the committee for all their hard work, and agreed to present this at the May 7 Annual Town Meeting for approval by the voters.

BOS Reports: MM stated that she continues to work with the various committees, and that the cultural district committee is looking for a \$5000 match from the town, which will need to be discussed at a future budget meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20pm.

Minutes Taken By: _____ Minutes Accepted By: _____
Mary Ellen Deming Clerk
Director of Administrative Services Board of Selectmen

List of Documents: Temporary sign request, LHA appointment email; water/sewer rate hearing legal notice;