

MINUTES OF THE WEEKLY SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Town of Charlemont

March 1, 2010

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The meeting was convened at 7:00 P.M. by Chairman Jean Brisson. Winston Healy also attended the meeting.

1. The warrants were signed.
2. The 3 Town Landfill minutes were approved and signed.
3. A letter to the Conservation Commission, Board of Health, and Planning Board requesting a representative to be on the Hazard Mitigation Plan update team was approved and signed.
4. Three letters to resident concerning violating the snow bylaw were signed.
5. A letter giving notice of an executive session was signed.
6. A financial disclosure form was signed.
7. Two Chapter 90 reimbursement forms were signed.
8. The Board unanimously voted to waive the Town Hall building permit fee.
9. The Board reviewed a letter from the Building Inspector citing two building code violations in the Town Hall. The Board unanimously voted to have the Executive Secretary contact an electrician to request a cost estimate to correct the violation.
10. The Board unanimously voted to approve payment of a Kopelman & Paige bill.
11. Mr. Healy explained that Brookfield Power will install a sign at the Fife Brook in and out and the Zoar picnic area. Brookfield Power is also working with the FRCOG consultant to create a sign for the Shun Pike area. Zoar Outdoor and Crabapple Whitewater have offered to donate a high water warning sign which will hopefully be placed near the entrance to Zoar Road when the Deerfield River water is dangerous. This sign will need to be approved by the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Healy will research any Town sign bylaws and check with Town counsel for any liability the Town might incur by posting the sign.
12. Mr. Healy will draft a letter to Berkshire East asking them to rebuild the boundary marker that is toppled over. The Board agreed to walk the recently voted boundary line between Charlemont and Hawley when the weather allows.
13. The Board reviewed and unanimously voted to sign a letter supporting a FRCOG technical assistance grant.
14. A letter from the Mass Broadband Institute sent a request for a letter supporting their efforts to bring broadband to rural areas. The letter will be e-mailed to Ms Brisson and Mr. Healy.
15. The Board received a letter from Charlotte Dewey who requested the Charlemont Inn's liquor license be extended for 30 more days. The Board unanimously voted to grant the extension providing the Town receive no less than \$100 towards the Inn's over due real estate taxes.
16. The FRCOG sent a letter asking if a Traffic Calming Committee has been formed. The Executive Secretary will confirm that the Committee has been formed and is awaiting the direction of the FRCOG.

17. At 7:30 P.M. Simon Dean, Assessor and Special Town Employee came to the meeting to update the Board on the repairs to the Assessor's office floor. Mr. Dean stated that the project is complete with the exception of a rotted loli column that is in need of replacement. The Board unanimously voted to allow Mr. Dean to replace the column.
18. Mr. Dean explained that in order to adequately create enough room in the Assessor's office for the fire proof cabinet, the wooden cabinetry unit and several wooden tables need to be removed. The meeting took a field trip into the Assessor's office and the cellar to view the discussed items. The Board unanimously voted to allow Mr. Dean to remove the wooden cabinetry unit and several wooden tables.
19. The Board discussed with Mr. Dean and Ms Sarah Reynolds the need for their secretary to have access to the fax machine. The Board unanimously voted to issue the Assessor's secretary a key to the front office for faxing purposes.
20. The Board reviewed the draft Fire House report. The report was unanimously voted as approved. Mr. Healy will consult with Joseph Mattie for correctness before the report is printed. The report will have a cover and will be distributed to the Fire Chief and the Ambulance Director first. Thirty copies will be equally displayed in the Town Hall, Avery's General Store and the Charlemont Post Office.
21. Mr. Healy informed the Board that the Police Department has donated a thermal imager to the Fire Chief.
22. The Board reviewed the comments from the Attorney General concerning the bylaws voted during the May 2009 annual town meeting. It was suggested that the Town consult counsel for legal corrections for one of the bylaws. The Board unanimously voted to send that bylaw to counsel for his opinion.
23. The Board unanimously voted to place an article on the annual town meeting warrant submitted by Mohawk to provide funds for Hawlemont preschool. A copy of the request will be forwarded to the Finance Committee.
24. The Board received an e-mail from Crab Apple Whitewater requesting the Town continue to fund community policing for river patrols. The letter will be forwarded to the Finance Committee.
25. The Board discussed and unanimously voted to place on their capital request to the Finance Committee the amount of \$1,000 to purchase file cabinets for the meeting room.
26. Mr. Healy informed the Board that prior contracts with two employees allowed the employees to sell their accumulated sick leave to the Town upon their retirement. To honor the contracts and bring all employees into the new personnel policy, Mr. Healy spoke with each employee, who agreed that they would sell part of their accumulated sick time, at current rate of pay, and keep some. Mr. Healy suggested placing an article on the annual town meeting warrant to buy accumulated sick time in the amount of \$4,819. The Board unanimously

- agreed with Mr. Healy's suggestion. The Finance Committee will be notified of the article.
27. The Board reviewed a notice of a Technical assistance grant award and a Municipal sub-grant award.
 28. The Board received a notice from Kopelman & Paige that they are representing the Town of Heath in creating an MOU for the use/purchase of an ambulance. As Kopelman & Paige also represent the Town of Charlemont, per ethics laws, the Town of Charlemont must vote to allow Counsel to represent both Towns in this matter. The Board unanimously voted to allow dual representation.
 29. The notice from the FRCOG of a Long Range Regional Transportation Plan meeting will be forwarded to Theodore Willard, Gordon Hathaway, Charles Bellows and the members of the Traffic Calming Committee.
 30. A copy of the transportation survey from the FRCOG will be forwarded to Gordon Hathaway and Theodore Willard.
 31. The Board unanimously voted not to retain lawyer services from Moriarty & Assoc.
 32. The Board discussed cuts in services at Mohawk.
 33. The Board discussed possible future needs for the Town Clerk.
 34. The duties and responsibilities of the ethics commission representative were discussed and confirmed.
 35. The MEMA IDA report forms and information concerning the February snow storm will be forwarded to the Highway Superintendent.
 36. Business being concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Approved by:
Charlemont Board of Selectmen

Kathy A. Reynolds
Executive Secretary