

MINUTES OF THE WEEKLY SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Town of Charlemont

April 14, 2009

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The meeting was convened at 7:00 P.M. by Chairman Winston Healy. Also attending the meeting were Jean Brisson and Paul Fantucchio.

1. Brandon Vickery of the Franklin Land Trust presented to the Board a document attesting to the Board's voted acceptance of the Trust's Conservation Restriction for the Academy property. The Board unanimously voted to accept the Restriction and signed the document.
2. The warrants were signed.
3. The minutes were approved and signed.
4. The Board re-voted their decision for the FRCOG #2 fuel and gasoline bids. It was unanimously voted to award #2 fuel to A.R. Sandri at a fixed price of \$2.12 per gallon. It was unanimously voted to award gasoline to A. R. Sandri at a fixed price of \$2.29 per gallon.
5. Mr. Fantucchio reported his research on propane costs for the Town. The Board unanimously voted to purchase FY 2010 propane from H.A. George at \$1.064 per gallon contingent upon Osterman's submitting a higher cost within 2 days. The vote will be nullified if Osterman's comes in with a lower bid within 2 days.
6. The Board reviewed a quote of \$5,900 from Architect Joseph Mattei for services related to the replacement of the Town Hall roof. The Board unanimously voted to accept the quote and the Chair signed the contract.
7. The Board reviewed an offer from Stephen Ferguson to write a Fire Department FEMA Grant for turnout equipment, a thermal imaging device, and training software. The amount that will be applied for will be less than \$40,000 and the Town will be required to provide a 5% match if the grant is approved. The Board unanimously accepted the offer. Ms Brisson will inform Mr. Ferguson of the Board's vote and request he explore funds for additions to fire and historical buildings. Mr. Ferguson will be invited to the April 28 or the first meeting in May to discuss his research.
8. Andrea Santos, Assessor, attended the meeting to discuss several articles for the Annual Town Meeting Warrant that was submitted by the Assessors Office. An article to raise the personal property tax limit to \$5,000 was discussed. A warrant article for the limit will be submitted by the Assessors.
9. Two articles pertaining to excise tax for people in the military were discussed. The Tax Collector Lynn Hathaway informed the Board that the Town already has a deferral/hardship system in place. The Board and Ms Santos agreed that the articles were not necessary.
10. A ballot referendum to stop assessing Farm Animal and Machinery Excise was discussed. A letter from Jonathan Healy, allegedly for the Agricultural Commission, was read. The Board unanimously voted to place the referendum on the ballot.

11. Ms Santos requested a copy of the most recent Animal Inspection book. Erwin Reynolds, Jr., Animal Inspector, stated that the book is the property of the State and the information contained in the book is confidential. Mr. Reynolds, Jr. stated that he does not have the authority to give the Assessors a copy and will not do so in the future.
12. The Executive Secretary was requested to purchase a table top calculator specifically for the Selectmen's meeting.
13. Ms Brisson stated that she would like to explore other options for the accountant position. The Board agreed with Ms Brisson who will report back to the Board.
14. The Board unanimously voted to defer applying for the DOER Energy audit.
15. The Board reviewed a message from the Town of Rowe concerning their share of the cost of a new ambulance.
16. The Board reviewed an invitation to participate in a focus group for a "family forest based" National Forest designation. A copy of the invitation will be forwarded to the Agricultural Commission members.
17. The Board reviewed the full budget worksheet. The Board requested the Executive Secretary to level fund all line items that have not been requested and to fill in the FY 2010 fuel amounts on the budget worksheet. This information will be available to the Board and Finance Committee for their Saturday meeting. The Executive Secretary will also provide warrant articles requesting funding for the meeting on Saturday, April 18th.
18. The Board discussed creating a flier for the Town Meeting with updates on the Town Hall roof, Town dirt roads, and reminding everyone of the Town's 250th anniversary.
19. A copy of the FY 2010 DCS Grant will be forwarded to the Parks & Rec. Commission and the Deerfield River Impact Committee.
20. The Board noted the FRCOG quarterly meeting that will be held on April 30th.
21. The Board received guidelines for the removal of the Town Hall roof.
22. Ms Brisson reported that she has accepted a quote from Superior Fence Contractors to reset the existing Transfer Station gate posts, replace the broken fittings on the gate posts, and to install a new gate that will be topped with barbed wire for \$1,542.20. The project will be completed by Tuesday.
23. Ms Brisson reported that the dial up internet service in the Fire Station will soon be disconnected.
24. Ms Brisson reported that the unlisted telephone line at the Fire Station is so dispatch can tone out emergency services pages. As emergency services are now using hand held radios, the telephone line will be discontinued in about a month.
25. The Board unanimously voted to grant the Executive Secretary May 27th as a vacation day.
26. Business being concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

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Respectfully submitted

Approved by:
Charlemont Board of Selectmen

Kathy A. Reynolds
Executive Secretary

This document is to be considered a draft until approved and signed by the Board of Selectmen.