

**MINUTES OF THE WEEKLY SELECTMEN'S MEETING**  
**Town of Charlemont**

November 3, 2009

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The meeting was convened at 6:00 P.M. by Chairman Jean Brisson. Also attending the meeting were Paul Fantucchio and Winston Healy. The Board unanimously voted that Mr. Healy would be Chairing this meeting.

1. The Board approved and signed two sets of minutes.
2. The Board reviewed a request for permission to contact Town Counsel from Planning Board Co-Chair Gisela Walker. Ms Walker will be asking Counsel for an opinion concerning the how the Berkshire East Windturbine decision should be written. The Board unanimously voted to grant Ms Walker permission to contact Counsel.
3. Upon a request received from Ambulance Director Dana Johnson, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Chris Smithers as a new EMT to the Ambulance Department.
4. The flu clinic reimbursement forms that were submitted by the Council on Aging were deferred to the next Selectmen's meeting.
5. The Board received a request from the FRCOG Emergency Planning Committee requesting written confirmation that Charles Bellows is the Town's Emergency Response Coordinator. Ms Brisson, Chairman, signed the confirmation.
6. Chairman Jean Brisson signed the FY 2009 CDF Special Condition letter.
7. Mr. Healy reported that he attended a mini training at the FRCOG for CEDS grants. At that training he was told that a new fire station and the Town Hall roof were not considered economic development as there would not be increased or continued employment. He therefore recommended that the Town not attend the CEDS training for grants.
8. Upon the arrival of Bree Stegner, the Board unanimously voted to enter into Executive Session to discuss a written complaint. The vote went as follows: Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Healy – yes, Mr. Fantucchio – yes.
9. At the request of Bree Stegner to discuss the complaint in open meeting, the Board voted to concur with Bree's request. The vote to return to open meeting went as follows: Ms Brisson – yes, Mr. Healy – yes, Mr. Fantucchio – yes.
10. It was announced that the meeting was being tape recorded.
11. A written complaint from Mr. Fantucchio was read aloud.
12. Discussion of the complaint ensued. Ms Stegner disputed some of the allegations of the complaint, such as whether she left her keys on the desk when she was absent from her office, and the duration of her absence. There seemed to be agreement that she had been absent from the office for a period of time. She also volunteered that she had left the office to get the mail at the Post Office, an official duty.
13. At one point in the discussion a member of the audience took the floor to make a verbal allegation about a different town employee. This person was ruled out of

- order by the acting Chair and told that the proper procedure was to write any complaint and submit it to the Selectboard so that a legal hearing could be held.
14. Andrea Santos, Assessor, submitted a resignation letter to the Selectmen.
  15. Ms Stegner stated that she had no further comment to make as to the facts of the letter of complaint.
  16. Ms Stegner next expressed her wish to discuss a letter from the Selectmen dated October 27, 2009. Ms Stegner was advised that since discussion of the letter was not on the agenda, the Board would revisit that issue once all action items on the agenda were completed and if time warranted before the next appointment.
  17. The Board received the results of the water test for the McCloud residence. Discussion of the results was deferred until the next meeting.
  18. Discussion of the EECBG grants was moved to the time period when Roland Butzke was schedule for his appointment.
  19. Ms Stegner read a response from her lap top to a letter from the Selectmen that had sought to clarify and state aspects of her job duties concerning mail, telephone messages, and open office hours. Ms Stegner objected to the need for such clarification since she was currently fulfilling most of the duties stated in the letter. She also objected to at least two of the Selectboard's statements. Ms Stegner made a statement alleging the frequency of what she called "harassment". Mr. Healy both questioned and disputed this allegation.
  20. The Board decided that Ms Stegner will be invited to a Board meeting in two weeks to address her job duty concerns.
  21. The Board voted, 2 yes, 1 nay, to address the letter of resignation from Andrea Santos during their next meeting.
  22. The Board met with Roland Butzke, representing Siemens, and Tony Walker to discuss the energy and investment grade audit.
  23. Mr. Healy asked if EECBG funding would apply to work resulting from the audits. Mr. Butzke stated that yes the EECBG might well be and the projects do not need to be shovel ready. Mr. Butzke also suggested the Town look into USDA grant funds.
  24. Mr. Healy was unanimously appointed point of contact person for the EECBG funding and the IGA.
  25. Insulating the Town Hall was discussed.
  26. The Board unanimously voted to sign the Investment Grade Audit.
  27. The Board unanimously voted to appoint Tony Walker to the Energy Committee. The Selectmen will also be on the Committee.
  28. The Board received a request to place recycling information on the Town website. The request was granted.
  29. The Board was informed by the Executive Secretary that she has been assigned the duty of answering a request for information from the Coli's attorney. The Board reviewed and approved a letter to the attorney indicating the town's willingness to comply and requesting additional time to research and copy the

- documents, and giving an estimated cost for said documents. Mr. Fantucchio recused himself from this issue and from all issues covered in items 30-32.
30. The Colis volunteered their time to assist in gathering the information addressed in the request. Mr. Healy referred them to their attorney who sent the request.
  31. Board of Health members Earl Bowen and Erwin Reynolds, Sr., Chair attended the meeting with two requests. The first request was to receive permission from the Board to contact Counsel to seek advice on how to run a meeting when confidential information is presented. Ms Brisson explained that the Town is trying to reduce attorney expenses and advised the Health Board to contact the Attorney General Office or Phoebe Walker of the FRCOG for advice in this matter.
  32. The second request was to receive permission to contact Counsel to seek advice concerning options and enforcement questions concerning the Blue Heron Farm. Mr. Healy, liaison to the Board of Health, stated that he could like to be present during consultation with Counsel. After discussion, it was agreed that Mr. Healy will be available to listen in with Counsel who will be asked if it is proper and legal to allow Mr. Healy to listen in during Counsel discussions with the Board of Health. Under this understanding the Board unanimously voted to grant the Board of Health contact with Counsel.
  33. The Board received a copy of the Fairgrounds Historical Designation. A thank you will be sent to David Cunningham and Carole Hall who were instrumental in achieving this designation. The Colis were thanked verbally in person.
  34. Mr. Fantucchio informed the Board that he will not be attending the Selectmen's meeting on November 10<sup>th</sup>. He requested that any action on his letter of complaint be delayed until his return.
  35. The Board unanimously voted to accept the lowest bidder, Huntley Assoc., for the Burn Dump ISA.
  36. Business being concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

Respectfully transcribed

Approved by:  
Charlemont Board of Selectmen

Kathy A. Reynolds  
Executive Secretary