

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

November 10, 2009

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The meeting was convened at 7:00 P.M. by Chairman Jean Brisson. Also attending the meeting was Winston Healy. It was announced that the meeting was being tape recorded.

1. The warrants were signed.
2. The minutes were approved and signed.
3. The Board unanimously voted to approve and sign the 2010 Community Development Strategy.
4. The Board unanimously voted to subscribe to the West County Independent news paper for two years.
5. As the Board members had not heard from Assessor Andrea Santos with a change of heart, it was unanimously voted to accept her resignation as an Assessor effective November 3, 2009. A letter thanking Ms Santos for her service will be drafted.
6. The Board unanimously voted to give employees three additional paid holiday days off. The days give were Friday, November 27th, Thursday, December 24th, and Thursday, December 31st.
7. The Board received copies of requests to pay ½ year salaries to the Board of Assessors. The Board will approve payment of the requests on the same pay schedule as the other Boards. The Board deferred on the amounts to be paid to the newly resigned Assessors.
8. Assessor Carol Rice submitted to the Board a letter from the Assessor's Secretary Bree Stegner confirming her resignation. Mr. Healy stated that this resignation is troubling as it puts the Assessors office in a difficult position. Mr. Healy also stated that he concluded the secretary can not be swayed as the Town has already received an unemployment form for the secretary.
9. The Board unanimously voted to regretfully accept the resignation of Bree Stegner from the position of Assessor's Secretary.
10. The Board unanimously voted to support the Board of Assessors in any way possible.
11. Assessor Carol Rice submitted her resignation from the Board of Assessors along with her keys relating to the position. Ms Rice stated that the job is interfering with her health and that it is time to resign. The Board will defer acting on the resignation until next week.
12. At 7:15 P.M. the Board opened the one bid for a new ambulance. The bid was from Specialty Vehicles, Inc. for \$168,400. The bid was referred to the Ambulance Director for his review and recommendation to be given to the Selectmen at 7:15 P.M. on November 17th.
13. The Ambulance Director will also have a total cost for the new ambulance on November 17th.

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14. The Board received a request for a meeting with MassHighway to discuss the fire alarm system at the Bissell Bridge. Mr. Healy's telephone number will be given to MassHighway so a meeting can be arranged.
15. The Board unanimously voted to deem null and void two letters, one in response to the Selectmen's letter of Oct. 27th to the Assessor's Secretary and one in response to the written complaint concerning the Assessor's Secretary, due to the resignations. The letters will be kept on file.
16. It was agreed not to participate in land conservation assistance from the HCI at this time due to the economy.
17. An e-mailed letter of concern for the Selectmen allowing the Board of Health to use Council was reviewed. Mr. Healy will draft a letter in reply.
18. After a brief overview of the recent activities at the McCloud property, Mr. Healy recommended a 3 Town Landfill meeting be called within the next three weeks to review any remaining options available. A summary of the meeting with DEP that was held on November 6, 2009 was received and will be sent to the Selectmen of Heath and Hawley.
19. The Executive Secretary will contact Dan Hall, DEP; to obtain a list of capable people who will be able to maintain the filtration system at the McCloud residence on a monthly basis.
20. Mr. Healy reported that the Town would be required to complete a number of things to be eligible for the EECBG grants. Stephen Ferguson has been contacted and he has agreed try to complete the applications within the short time frame allowed.
21. The Board discussed what they might be able to do to assist the remaining Assessor. DOR will be contacted and Assessor Sarah Reynolds will be asked for a list of needs. Office support will be given.
22. The Board unanimously voted to update the Assessor's webpage on the Town website and post in the Town Hall that the office will be temporarily closed. Security passwords will be changed.
23. Assessors' needs will be placed under action of next weeks agenda.
24. Business being concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

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.

