

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

7:00 P.M., MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2015

JULIAN B. THAYER AUDITORIUM, COGINCHAUG REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order and roll call

Laura Francis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led with the pledge of allegiance. Steve Levy and John Szewczyk present.

2. Approval of the agenda

MOTION BY LAURA FRANCIS, SECONDED BY JOHN SZEWCZYK, TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO ADD DDTC REQUEST. ALL AYE

3. Public comment

None

4. Request from the Durham Democratic Town Committee for permission to serve alcohol at fundraiser on October 23, 2015 at the Durham Firehouse

MOTION BY LAURA FRANCIS, SECONDED BY STEVE LEVY, TO GRANT PERMISSION TO THE DDTC TO SERVE ALCOHOL AT FUNDRAISER ON OCTOBER 23, 2015 AT THE DURHAM FIREHOUSE. ALL AYE

5. Approval to adopt proposed amendment to the town's Municipal Solid Waste Management Services Agreement with MIRA

The proposed amendment addresses the responsibility for costs of alternative disposal in the unlikely scenario that the South Meadows facility is unavailable for an extended period of time due to a Force Majeure event. MIRA has procured business interruption insurance to protect MIRA from some of the financial impact of such an interruption in their ability to dispose of waste at the facility. Under the current language of the MSA's, the towns, not MIRA, are responsible for diversion costs during such an interruption. They have created the amendment to clarify the responsibility for additional costs associated with a Force Majeure insurable event. The amendment provides that, to the extent that MIRA's insurance covers additional costs associated with the emergency bypass of waste, the municipality will have no responsibility for such costs. L. Francis noted that the amendment has been reviewed by RiverCOG. S. Levy asked to what extent is this covered and if there was a cap. L. Francis stated that there is no cost to the town and no increase to the insurance policy.

MOTION BY LAURA FRANCIS, SECONDED BY JOHN SZEWCZYK, TO ADOPT AMENDMENT TO THE TOWNS MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH MIRA. ALL AYE

6. Tax refunds

None

7. Approval of Board of Selectmen meeting minutes:

a) Regular meeting September 21, 2015

MOTION BY LAURA FRANCIS, SECONDED BY STEVE LEVY, TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 21, 2015 MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED. ALL AYE

8. Selectmen's comments

L. Francis responded to two questions asked at a prior Selectmen's meeting.

- 1.) All costs associated with the Old Indian Trail system is a 50/50 split. Middlefield handles all of the expenses, Durham reimburses them.
- 2.) There is no requirement for agreements that go beyond the current budget year to be approved by the Board of Finance at this time, but will establish as a best practice.

9. Old/New business

- 1.) The EPA will be holding a celebration day on October 26th, at the Town Hall at noon, for the start of the water line project. It is anticipated that they will be announcing funding of 9M. Last week the State approved a 3M match. The Purchase Agreement with Middletown is underway and communication is being made in the form of a letter with residents whose homes are subject to the groundwater ordinance.
- 2.) Congratulations to the Durham Fair Association and all Durham Emergency Services. The Fair weekend was uneventful in reference to public safety, no youth issues. An after action report will be made available to the Selectmen, John Field Region 2 Coordinator, and members of the Governors Cabinet of the Mass Casualty drill held last spring.
- 3.) The Clean Energy and Sustainability Taskforce teamed up with the RSD13 Echo Club at the Fair. 4.5 tons of composting was collected and delivered offsite.
- 4.) Statewide Emergency Planning and Preparedness Initiative exercise is scheduled for October 21st, and will involve school district this year.
- 5.) Durham was chosen as one of 50 pre-selected towns by Eversource to demonstrate the conversion of current cobra head street lighting to LED. After reviewing a list of eligible lights (12) on Route 68 and (38) on Main Street (from the south end of the town green to Route 147) have been selected for conversion.
- 6.) The Town of Durham is being honored as a high-achieving participant in Clean Energy Communities at an awards ceremony on Wednesday, October 14th at the Oakdale Theatre at 8:00 am.
- 7.) Thank you to Steve Levy, Sargent Derry, RST Morello, Francis Willett, and Kurt Bober for attending the 2015 Community Emergency Response Plan Meeting on September 22nd hosted by Eversource.
- 8.) L. Francis expressed her condolences for the loss of Mary DiMella. She was the Assistant Town Clerk for thirty-two years serving the town honorably.
- 9.) L. Francis attended the COST (Council of Small Towns) compliance workshop on September 29th. The workshop shared information on how to comply with the many new laws adopted in the last session. She attended a workshop that Senator Kennedy put together in conjunction with OPM on funding streams. Deputy Commissioner Tim Sullivan, DECD is interested in meeting with her to discuss Durham.
- 10.) RST report for September. 116 calls for service, 5 criminal investigations, 2 motor vehicle accidents without injuries, 12 motor vehicle infractions, 1 motor vehicle warning. There were 8 criminal investigations. Traffic enforcement was conducted on Pent Road, Higganum Road, Tuttle Road, and New Haven Road.

10. Public Comments

Donia Viola asked when the bid opening was for the storage tank for the Old Indian Trail water system. L. Francis stated that she was not sure, the pre-bid was held on September 29th and anticipated that it would be in November sometime, in Middlefield.

D. Viola noted for the record that she supports a 2nd Trooper for Durham but does not favor using budget monies from fy15-16.

D. Viola asked how many days a week the Activity Center is open for seniors. L. Francis responded that the town was approved for the senior luncheon program two days a week, Monday and Wednesday. Senior drop in days are also Monday and Wednesdays. Other programs that seniors can attend are offered at specific times and days.

F. Willett asked if the First Selectman could get a compilation of the RST stats. L. Francis responded yes, that the State is already doing so.

Chuck Stengel asked if the storage room opposite the Activity Center was the towns and if rent was being paid for the room. L. Francis stated that the storage room is shared with all tenants of the 2nd floor and the town does not pay extra for the room. C. Stengel noted that the room was in disarray and felt the owner should be notified to clean it up. F. Willett noted that the owner has been cited by the towns Fire Marshal for the basement area and is complying. D. Viola questioned the safety of the seniors in the building noting that town officers are entrusted with a job and doing it properly. F. Willett reiterated that the owner is complying and L. Francis responded that she has complete trust in the Fire Marshal.

11. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Moncata