

Select Board SPECIAL Meeting  
Monday March 13, 2017, 6:00 p.m.  
High School Meeting Room A15, 535 Bliss Road, Longmeadow

**Present:** Chair Marie Angelides, Mark Gold and Richard Foster. Tom Lachiusa arrived at 6:55 p.m.

**Absent:** William Low

**Also Present:** Town Manager Stephen Crane, CFO Paul Pasterczyk, Debbie House, Liz Bone and Richard Liasse

The special meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Marie Angelides.

**Announcements:**

1. Schools and Town Offices will be closed tomorrow, March 14 due to the predicted snowstorm and high winds. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will open tomorrow at 6:00 a.m. The parking ban will be in effect from 5:00 a.m. March 14 – 5:00 p.m. March 15. People are encouraged to not travel. Trash collection will be delayed one day.

**Resident Comments:**

1. Liz Bone, 34 Elizabeth Circle – Ms. Bone is a member of the School Committee and the Energy Task Force. She encouraged the Select Board to move forward with the thermal imaging program and feels it will be very beneficial to residents. Thermal imaging has been used for over 30 years and can provide valuable information to residents by locating insulation voids, air leaks, thermal bypass, thermal bridges, moisture and leaks in hydronic tubing and slab concrete. Cold weather is needed for the thermal imaging. Ms. Bone had thermal imaging done on her home through MassSave and with the installation of a new furnace and some insulation she is now saving \$400/month on her electrical bills.
2. Richard Liasse, 608 Frank Smith Road – Mr. Liasse suggested a program where residents could make donations to an LCTV fund to provide high school sports coverage of homes games.

**Select Board Comments:**

1. Ms. Angelides expressed her support of the thermal imaging program as a way for residents to save money on their electric bills. This month's Beacon also has an article on thermal imaging. The Select Board would have to vote on this program. Ms. Angelides has requested the thermal imaging be done on two town buildings but has not heard back yet. Thermal imaging will be put on the agenda for March 20<sup>th</sup>. The Grinspoon Foundation will provide this free energy audit. Mr. Foster noted that thermal imaging has a multitude of uses, not just heat.

**Annual Town Meeting Warrant Discussion:**

1. IT Capital Account article – This account with annual contributions would be set up to fund future IT needs. Mr. Gold noted that there was an IT steering committee set up to review capital needs and nothing was achieved. Mr. Foster agreed. Mr. Crane added that he spoke with the new Superintendent and the Finance Directors for schools and town and all agreed to review the MOU.  
*Mr. Gold made a motion to remove Article 18 - IT Capital Fund from the warrant until formation of an IT Steering Committee and better definition of a long range plan. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was 3-0. Mr. Lachiusa had not arrived yet and Mr. Low was absent.*
2. *Mr. Gold made a motion to approve Article 19 - Operational Stabilization Fund for inclusion in the warrant with an amount to be sorted out after budget discussions and that will be our remaining free cash. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was 3-0. Mr. Lachiusa had not arrived yet and Mr. Low was absent.*
3. Storm Water Utility placeholder – a draft storm water utility bylaw was sent to the Select Board. There was some discussion on just funding the MS4 and the General Fund would pick up the extra cost for FY18. Mr. Gold questioned whether this subject warrants a separate Town Meeting of its own. Mr.

03/13/17 Regular Meeting  
04/03/17 Approved

Foster was not sure if enough residents would be interested enough to come to a separate Town Meeting. Mr. Crane noted that it is a matter of choice as to how to proceed and the bylaw allows the Select Board to set the fee. Mr. Foster added that the Select Board said it will just charge for the MS4. Mr. Gold noted that there are some outfalls that need to be taken care of. Without the Storm Water Utility program major projects would have to be funded through appropriations.

*Mr. Foster made a motion to suspend the meeting at 7:00 p.m. to reconvene after the Budget Forum Mr. Gold seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0.*

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*Mr. Foster made a motion to reconvene the Select Board meeting at 8:50 p.m. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0.*

**ATM Warrant Discussion continued:**

Atty. Schneider joined the discussion.

*Mr. Foster made a motion to put the Storm Water Utility article on the warrant with limitations of MS4.*

*Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion.*

Discussion – Mr. Foster questioned if this is the right time for this with other issues going on. Mr. Crane added that the Select Board can always lay it on the table at Town Meeting. Mr. Gold asked what bureaucracy would manage this. DPW would be the frontline with the Select Board establishing policies. *The vote was 3-1 with Mr. Gold opposed.*

**FY18 Budget** – *Mr. Foster made a motion to accept the FY18 budget as presented by the Town Manager. Mr. Gold seconded the motion.*

Discussion – There was some discussion regarding the Town Manager’s request for a stipend for an Assistant Town Manager. Mr. Foster supports the concept but not the implementation plan. He feels there is a need for a permanent position. Mr. Gold is concerned that department heads do not have extra time to assist the Town Manager and something would have to give. Mr. Crane agreed to create roles and responsibilities for an Assistant Town Manager for the Select Board for next year.

*The vote was 4-0.*

The Annual Town Meeting warrant discussion will be finished and signed on Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup>.

The special Select Board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled.

*Mr. Lachiusa made a motion to adjourn the special meeting at 9:15 p.m. and move into executive session for the purposes of potential litigation and acquisition of property not to reconvene to open session. Mr. Foster seconded the motion.*

*Roll call vote: Ms. Angelides – yes, Mr. Lachiusa – yes, Mr. Gold – yes, Mr. Foster – yes. Mr. Low was absent.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie House