

Select Board Regular Meeting
Monday, May 7, 2018 - 7:00 p.m.
Longmeadow High School, Room A15, 535 Bliss Road, Longmeadow, MA

Present: Chair Thomas Lachiusa, William Low, Marie Angelides and Richard Foster. Absent: Mark Gold

Also Present: Stephen Crane, Paul Pasterczyk, Debbie House, Fire Chief John Dearborn, Aiden Bone, Cheryl Cudnik, Rebecca Townsend, Dr. Robert Baevsky, Michael Oumano, Donald Holland, Fred Rosenberg, Ira Smolowitz, Dr. William Harbison, Stephen Gazillo, Christopher Nolan, Dr. Jeffrey Wint, Marcie Kearing, Steven Weiss, Mark Tolosky, Jane Mantolesky, and Teacher Valerie Fritz and four of her students from Center School.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Select Board Chair Thomas Lachiusa.

Citizen Commendation: Fire Chief Dearborn and resident Aiden Bone and his family attended the meeting. The Chief presented a Letter of Commendation and Certificate signed by the Select Board to Mr. Bone for his help with a neighbor who had fallen and was suffering from a serious medical condition on a dark and very cold evening in February. Mr. Bone contacted 911 and stayed on scene to direct emergency responders to the victim. Mr. Bone's actions exemplify the meaning of being a good neighbor and citizen of our community.

Center School Presentation on Plastic Bags: Ms. Valerie Fritz, a teacher at Center School and four of her students (Sophia, Francesca, Luca, and Veronica) did a presentation on the harm plastic bags are doing to our environment. The class read a couple of books on this subject and became interested and did more research. Plastic bag collection boxes are now set up in each classroom. This presentation was also done for the School Committee. The students want to ban plastic bags in Longmeadow. Bags can currently be recycled in Staples, Stop and Shop, and Big Y.

Announcements:

1. The Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 8 at 7:00 p.m. at the high school.
2. Long Meddowe Days will be held on May 19 and 20 on the Town Green.
3. The Story Behind Blackhawk Down will be presented on May 18 at 5:00 p.m. at the high school. Gerry Izzo, US Army Retired will speak about his experience during the battle of Mogadishu taking part in Operation Gothic Serpent in 1993. All donations will go to Knights of Hero's Camp for children of fallen military in the name of Lt. Colonel Morris (Moose) Fontenot, who was a pilot and a Longmeadow resident.

Resident Comments:

1. Marsha Harbison, 217 Farmington Road – Ms. Harbison questioned whether or not the proposed senior center would be taking away park land, and would the old senior center be taken down and park land given back.

Select Board Comments:

1. Mr. Lachiusa noted that singer Brynn Cartelli has brought national attention to the town by competing on the TV show The Voice. She has represented the town well and the town should find some way to recognize her efforts. Mr. Lachiusa would like to establish a Brynn Cartelli Day in the future after the competition is over. Mr. Crane noted that the high school has held viewing parties to watch the show and the elementary schools have had meet and greets.

Annual Board/Committee Interviews:

1. Steven Weiss, 18 Pioneer Drive – Mr. Weiss has been on the Historical Commission for 9 years and is the Historical Commission designee for the Community Preservation Committee and the Building Demolition Committee. He is seeking reappointment to a three year term on the Historical Commission.

2. Board of Health: Dr. Robert Baesky, 134 Tanglewood Drive has been a member of the BOH since 2007 and is seeking reappointment to a three year term. Michael Oumano, 1000 Frank Smith Road has been an associate member for the past year and is seeking reappointment to the one year associate term.
3. Cable Advisory Committee: Donald Holland, 43 Silver Birch Road has been on the committee for several years and is seeking reappointment to a three year term. Fred Rosenberg, 40 Grassy Gutter Road has an electrical engineering background and has been on the committee as an associate member. He is seeking reappointment to a three year term if one is available.
4. Capital Planning Committee: Ira Smolowitz, 196 Meadowlark Drive has been a member of the committee for several years and is seeking reappointment for another three years. He would welcome the opportunity to serve again. He introduced assessment priority of projects and advocated to look at benefits and payback of projects.
5. Community Preservation Committee: Dr. William Harbison, 217 Farmington Road has worked in cardiology for the last 40 years. He is aware of the projects undertaken by the committee and would like a chance to participate. He is seeking an at-large position.
6. Conservation Commission: Stephen Gazillo, 119 Viscount Road has been a member of the Conservation Commission for 12 years and is seeking reappointment to a three year term. Mr. Gazillo feels there is a balance between upholding the Conservation laws and respecting people who want to build in town. Christopher Nolan, 97 Salem Road has lived in town for 30 years and is currently a project planner with an environmental firm. He just earned a certification on invasive species management from UMass. Mr. Nolan would like to offer his services to the Conservation Commission.
Mr. Foster questioned whether recreation such as sports is allowed on Conservation land.
7. Council on Aging: John Bowen, 114 Emerson Road will attend the May 21 interviews.
8. Historic District Commission: Dr. Jeffrey Wint, 930 Longmeadow Street is seeking a three year term on the HDC but would like to serve in any capacity. He has had a long standing interest in historic homes and architecture and has had to go before the HDC in the past seeking approval for home renovations and alterations. Dr. Wint believes it is important to preserve characteristic architecture and its impression in our town while acknowledging the details that will allow their ongoing modern use. Marcie Kearing, 960 Longmeadow Street served on the HDC about 15 years ago, she has some time now and is interested in serving again. Ms. Kearing also taught Longmeadow History at Center School. Mr. Lachiusa questioned whether the two applicants could be impartial to the situation with the Young Mansion and serve without bias. Both replied yes, they could be impartial. Mr. Foster remarked about not having every member living in the district. The committee structure says that 2 or more shall be residents of the district.
9. Tree Committee: Mark Tolosky, 83 Willow Brook Road is an avid outdoorsman and recently retired. He is seeking a position on the Tree Committee. Mr. Tolosky is a friend of Dr. Marinelli who is also on the Tree Committee and suggested that Mr. Tolosky apply. Mr. Tolosky would like to be appointed to the term that expires in 2020.
10. Zoning Board of Appeals: Jane Mantolesky, 88 Meadowlark Drive is an attorney in East Longmeadow and works with land use and zoning cases. She has been a Longmeadow resident for 4 years and would like to be more involved with the town.
Christopher Nolan applied to the Conservation Commission and the ZBA but did not stay for the ZBA interview. The Conservation Commission was noted as his first choice on his application.

Town Manager's Report:

1. Reuse of Greenwood Center – In the event that a new senior center is built, Park and Recreation Director Bari Jarvis created a report regarding the potential reuse of the current building. The primary option would be to consolidate all Parks and Recreation functions to Greenwood including administrative offices, passport services, and some programs. There would also be the opportunity for expanded services such as taking passport photos, more after school programs, and additional classroom space. This could offer revenue and operational gains.
The Select Board received an opinion a while ago from Town Counsel that states that the land at Greenwood is governed by Chapter 54, Section 14, not Article 97 and allows for the Select Board to use

- it for any town departments. There are no restrictions on Greenwood. Wolf Swamp fields are under Article 97. The plan for the new senior center replaces the current baseball diamonds with flex fields. The planned gymnasium can accommodate pickle ball. There will also be an outdoor pickle ball court.
2. WESTCOMM – A discussion with the Fire and Police Chiefs will be on the May 21 agenda. A revised staffing plan, the operating budget and a grant extension request that was submitted to the state are in this meeting packet for review.
 3. Dwight Road DIF Project – The project has been awarded to Gomes Construction who submitted a base bid of \$2,004,549 with two alternates for sidewalks on the north and south sides of Williams Street. The Project Designer is Fuss and O'Neill. The project start date is pending the completion of an intermunicipal agreement with East Longmeadow and procurement of the easements that are on the Town Meeting Warrant.
 4. Streetlights – Eversource has expressed a renewed interest in working with the town on the purchasing and converting of streetlights. Eversource indicated that a phased approach to purchase may now be an option, but the net book value of \$667,000 remains the same.
 5. Tree City USA – The Arbor Day Foundation notified the town that it has once again received the Tree City USA designation. Arbor Day was celebrated last week at Wolf Swamp School with a tree planting sponsored by the Tree Committee.
 6. The recently approved emergency cost recovery fees were put to use for a recent truck rollover incident in Enfield, CT that the Fire Department responded to.
 7. Solarize – A grant application was submitted to MassCEC for the Springfield-Longmeadow Solarize program. The application was prepared by Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and coordinated by resident Steve Marantz.

Old Business:

1. Approved Minutes – *Mr. Foster made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from April 17, 2018 as presented. Mr. Low seconded the motion. The vote was 3 in favor and 0 opposed. Ms. Angelides abstained.*
2. Charter Review Committee Terms Extension Discussion – The Select Board received a legal opinion on whether they had the authority to extend the initial time frame of the terms of the Charter Review Committee in order for them to complete their charge, or does the Select Board need to reappoint the members. Section 4-4 of the Town Charter permits the Select Board to extend the terms. *Ms. Angelides made a motion to extend the terms of the Charter Review Committee members to December 31, 2018. Mr. Low seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*

New Business:

1. CLOSE Community Presentation – cancelled
2. Quarterly Investment Report – Cheryl Cudnik, Town Treasurer gave the Quarterly Report on the Town's cash and investments for the period ending March 31, 2018. Due to the timing of the VERIBANC report, which comes out at the end of May for the quarter ending March 31, 2018, Peoples Bank and UniBank are currently still reported as yellow. We received letters from both banks stating that the yellow rating was due to a one-time year end adjustment to earnings as a direct result of the 2017 Tax Reform Act enacted in December 2017. We will cautiously monitor these accounts until the VERIBANC report is received and take the necessary action required within the Investment Policy should the March 31, 2018 VERIBANC report still have them rated as yellow.

We applied the \$380,000 OPEB funding from FY 2018 general fund operating budget to a new OPEB account with MMDT. At the time of opening, the account MMDT was paying 1.54%, it is currently paying 1.87%. We had an OPEB CD mature with East Boston Savings Bank in the amount of \$819,900. We opened a new 12 month OPEB CD with Belmont Savings Bank in the amount of \$400,000 at a rate of 2.00%. The balance of \$419,900 of the remaining maturing CD was transferred to an OPEB account with MMDT. We closed a low interest bearing Stabilization Account with People's Bank that was paying a rate of .25% in the amount of \$10,409 and moved these funds to an East Boston Savings Bank

Stabilization Fund money market account that is paying a rate of 1.50%. East Boston Savings Bank had previously increased our money market account rate from 1.26% to 1.50%. We looked for a better rate for the Claims Trust Account we held with Easthampton Savings Bank that was only paying a rate of .32%. TD Bank came back with the highest rates. We closed out the existing Claims Trust Account and opened a new account with TD Bank that is paying a rate of 1.20%. TD Bank also increased our existing General Funds Money Market Account rate from .25% to 1.50%. With this increase we moved the general funds at Easthampton Savings Bank to TD Bank. These funds held with TD Bank are fully collateralized. The net decrease of \$1,085,661 in cash and investments for the quarter was a result of large debt service payments totaling \$2,278,850 within the quarter. The ending cash balance for December was \$20,604,466 with interest earnings of \$53,920. This quarter's ending cash balance is \$19,518,805 with interest earnings of \$67,702. Rising interest rates fueled an increase of \$13,782; a 25% increase over last quarter.

3. Audit Correction Report Update – Paul Pasterczyk reviewed the updated Audit Correction Report with the Select Board. He went over several things including the seven reported issues, the corrective measures taken, the means of evaluation, and the status.
4. Moderator Town Meeting Discussion – Moderator Rebecca Townsend thanked the Select Board for providing refreshments at the Forum that she held last Thursday. It was well attended with approximately 40 people in attendance. Ms. Townsend also thanked the school and DPW for their work in preparing for Town Meeting. There are 35 articles on the warrant with 9 of them requiring a 2/3 majority vote. One article may be withdrawn and a citizen petition may be withdrawn. Counters will be available if needed. Recognition of singer and high school student Brynn Cartelli can be done at the beginning of Town Meeting if the Select Board so chose. Mr. Crane added that Article 28 (bylaw amendment-commercial vehicles) needs more work. There will be a motion to dismiss it or take no action on it.

Ms. Angelides made a motion to withdraw Article 28 on the floor of Town Meeting. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.

The amount for Article 2 (snow and ice) will be adjusted and Article 3 (Operational Stabilization Fund) will be adjusted to an offsetting amount per Paul Pasterczyk.

Ms. Townsend noted that Boy Scout Troop 90 will travel to Normandy to clean gravestones.

5. St. Mary's Academy/One Day Liquor License – *Mr. Foster made a motion to approve the One Day Liquor License for applicant Joan MacDonald, Principal of St. Mary's Academy for the Designer Purse Bingo Night Fundraiser to be held on June 9, 2018. Mr. Low seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*
6. St. Mary's Church/One Day Liquor License – *Mr. Foster made a motion to approve the One Day Liquor License for applicant Rev. Christopher Waitekus for St. Mary's Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner to be held on May 16, 2018. Mr. Low seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*
7. Knights of Columbus/One Day Liquor License – *Mr. Foster made a motion to approve the One Day Liquor License for applicant James Jones for the Knights of Columbus Adult Spelling Bee to be held on May 19, 2018. Mr. Low seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*
8. Block Party/Drury Lane – *Mr. Foster made a motion to approve the block party request for Drury Lane on August 25, 2018 with a rain date of August 26, 2018 from noon to 6:00 p.m. Mr. Low seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*
9. Fall Town Meeting Date – *Mr. Low made a motion to hold the Fall Town Meeting on Tuesday, October 16, 2018 as recommended. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*

Subcommittee Reports:

1. Town Manager's Relationship with Longmeadow Preservation Partners – Some citizens that did not want to see a zone change for 734 Longmeadow Street made a lot of accusations on social media that the Town Manager was at fault of giving inside information on how to acquire a zone change to the developers. Mr. Foster and Ms. Angelides reviewed Mr. Crane's emails that pertained to this project and interviewed him. Mr. Foster noted first that Mr. Crane is incapable of changing a vote of Town Meeting, and second, he is Longmeadow's Director of Planning and Community Development. Mr. Crane is a

personal friend of the developers. Mr. Foster and Ms. Angelides found no evidence whatsoever of wrong doing by Mr. Crane, who gave practical information so that residents could move forward with their project, like he would for anyone else. Mr. Crane freely handed over his emails pertaining to this subject. The IT Department also pulled up Mr. Crane's emails for review. Mr. Crane uses his personal cell phone and went out of his way to supply the requested emails for review. 750 emails were reviewed by Mr. Foster and Ms. Angelides. Ms. Angelides went through case law and ethics; the elements were not there. Mr. Foster and Ms. Angelides recommended that the Assistant Town Manager handle and retrieve information requests in the future.

Mr. Foster made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:50 p.m. and enter into executive session, not to reconvene to open session, for the purposes of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation and the Chair hereby declares an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body, and approval of executive session minutes. Mr. Low seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Lachusiusa-yes, Mr. Low-yes, Ms. Angelides-yes, Mr. Foster-yes

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie House

Documents: Agenda – May 7, 2018
Letter and Certificate of Citizen Commendation
Annual Board/Committee Interview Schedule
Applications – 14
Town Manager's Report
Solarize Grant Application
FD Cost Recovery Report
Enfield Tanker Accident Cost Recovery memo
Streetlight Options
Streetlight FAQs
WESTCOMM Grant Extension
WESTCOMM Budget sheet
WESTCOMM Staffing Plan
Moody's Annual Report
Parks & Recreation March report
Prospective Reuse of Greenwood Center
Tree City USA letter
Open Meeting Law-Further Guidance from AGO
Draft Minutes from April 17, 2018
Legal Opinion-Charter Review Committee Terms
Treasurer's Investment Report through March 2018
Audit Correction Report Update
One Day Liquor License Request-St. Mary's Academy
One Day Liquor License Request-St. Mary's Church
One Day Liquor License Request-Knights of Columbus
Block Party Request-Drury Lane
Fall Town Meeting Date email
Springfield Water/Sewer Commission letter dtd 04/19/18