

Select Board Regular Meeting
Monday, October 1, 2018 - 7:00 p.m.
Longmeadow High School, Room A15, 535 Bliss Road, Longmeadow, MA

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

Also Present: Town Manager Stephen Crane, Paul Pasterczyk, Jackie Sullivan, Mario Mazza, Andrew Krar, Curt Freedman, Michelle Marantz, Michael Kane, Dave Mueller, David Marinelli and Steve Savaria

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Select Board Chair Mark Gold.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Announcements:

1. Early Voting begins on October 22, 2018 and ends on November 2, 2018 the hours will be 8:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. There will be two late night hours Tuesday, October 23 and Tuesday, October 30th the hours will be 8:15a.m. – 8:00 p.m., and one Saturday, October 27th 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Early Voting will be at the Community House, 735 Longmeadow Street. Information is available on the town website.
2. Flu clinics will be held starting on Wednesday, October 3, 2018 and ending on November 5, 2018. Please check the website for dates and times. The clinic will take place at Greenwood Center, Council on Aging.
3. The town will begin fire hydrant flushing Monday – Friday beginning on October 9, 2018 from 7:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. The schedule is on the town’s website. Please call the DPW with any questions or concerns.
4. Public Safety Day will be on Saturday, October 13, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Longmeadow Fire Department. The Friends group will be collecting donations and there will be a ceremony at 11:00 a.m.
5. The Longmeadow Police Department will be hosting a free R.A.D. self-defense course for women. Please call the Longmeadow Police Department to register by October 19, 2018. It is a two-week course Tuesdays, October 23 and October 30th and Thursdays, October 25th and November 1st from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Center School.
6. The Charlie Mike 5k run/walk will be held on Saturday, November 3, 2018. Proceeds will benefit three veterans’ groups. Contact the Veterans Agent to register or you can register at Fleet Feet.

Resident Comments:

1. Curt Freedman of 24 Ridge Road spoke regarding the recent experiences in the northeastern Massachusetts communities of Lawrence, Andover and North Andover. As a forensic engineer who specializes in explosions and fires from natural gas and propane fuels, and a registered professional engineer, member of the National Society of Professional Engineers, and Senior member of the National Academy of Forensic Engineers, he feels he has a fundamental ethical obligation to “Hold paramount, public safety, health and welfare.”
2. Michele Marantz of 117 Rugby Road, speaking as chair of the Longmeadow Pipeline Awareness Group, gave a three-minute speech in regards to concerns about the safety and health risks posed by Columbia Gas’s reliability project that calls for construction of a Shaker Road pipeline and metering station on Longmeadow Country Club property. For the past five months the members have researched the health and safety risks. The group is urging local and state officials to join them in requesting mandated open hearings in Western Mass as part of this study so that concerns can be addressed and questions can be answered. A few of the questions they feel need to be addressed are; where are the studies and data that would justify the construction of a Longmeadow Metering station and pipeline? Why would a metering station be proposed for a residential neighborhood that includes a nearby elementary school? If Town gas fluctuations are a concern, why not upgrade the existing metering station in East Longmeadow to enhance the flow of gas? What role could pipeline repair work play in stabilizing gas flow and providing adequate gas to our region? Who is paying for current pipeline repair work, the company or the rate

payer? The group is turning to the Select Board for help. The Longmeadow Pipeline Awareness Group realizes finding answers to these questions is a daunting task, but they thoroughly support the Board's efforts to do so. The group also stands ready to help the Select Board achieve the transparency and accountability that needs to be part of Longmeadow's future dealings with Tennessee Gas Pipeline and Columbia Gas.

Select Board Comments:

1. Ms. Angelides announced that on Saturday, September 29, 2018 she participated in the "Clean the Connecticut River Campaign". All up and down the Connecticut River, towns got together to clean up the river bank. Ms. Angelides' group got went down to the Conservation area and cleaned up a lot of bottles, her main concern was as they were leaving they noticed a substantial amount of oil drums and empty pesticides containers in the Conservation area, not on the plant farm lands, which she believes is being left by commercial groups. The DPW has agreed to come and remove them but Ms. Angelides feels a letter of complaint should be sent out, though we are leasing out the farm land we should not allow garbage to be left behind, it is very disappointing. Stephen Crane will take care of it.
3. Mr. Gold made a few comments regarding Ms. Marantz concerns. He heard on the news that a State Representative from Western Mass called for Public Hearings in Western Mass relative to the Columbia Gas/Tennessee Pipeline project. The Select Board discussed this at an earlier meeting and are preparing to write a letter to the DPU asking for public hearings on this matter.

Old Business:

1. Approved Minutes – Mr. Foster made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the September 4, 2018 joint meeting with the School Committee as presented. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion. *The vote was 5 in favor, 0 opposed.*
2. Approved Minutes - Mr. Foster made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the September 4, 2018 Regular Select Board meeting as presented. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion. *The vote was 4 in favor, 0 opposed, Ms. Angelides abstained*
3. Approved Minutes -Mr. Foster made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the September 17, 2018 Regular Select Board meeting as presented. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion. *The vote was 5 in favor 0 opposed.*
4. Columbia Gas Moratorium action, the Select Board invited representatives from Columbia Gas to come to the meeting and speak. Michael Kane, Director of Government Affairs and Dave Mueller, Manager of Engineering were present representing Columbia Gas and answering any questions the Select Board had. Mr. Gold stated that their proposal was that only emergency work would be conducted in Longmeadow until corrective action has taken place and the government understood the cause of the explosions in Merrimack Valley. Mr. Foster would like to hear what the status is from Columbia Gas at this point. Mr. Lowe questioned if this was intended to prevent Columbia Gas from replacing old leaking pipes? Mr. Gold stated that repairs would be allowed if it is essentially for new construction. Ms. Angelides' concern is that this moratorium could cause a hardship for families in Longmeadow. Mr. Lachiusa supports Ms. Angelides' statements. Mr. Foster is conflicted does not see much difference between new installation and repairs he stated that we do not know what happened in Merrimack Valley and is confused as to what the benefit would be. Mr. Gold said his reason behind the moratorium is that he believes there was an error made. Mr. Kane from Columbia gas apologized that Steve Bryant president of Columbia Gas could not be at this meeting he is on scene in Lawrence managing this tragedy that happened. Since this subject is an ongoing investigation with the National Transportation Safety Board they are currently prohibited by federal law from discussing the investigation in related matters. Mr. Foster asked if there was any difference between a repair and putting in new service, the answer from Columbia Gas representative was there is not a tremendous difference, it depends on the repair. Asked if there were any other communities that imposed a moratorium, the answer was no. Mr. Gold moved that they defer any more action on the moratorium until they hear again from Columbia Gas. Mr. Crane believes they do have some time to sort things out. Mr. Gold would like everyone to differentiate the two gas companies that Longmeadow deals with they are Kinder Morgan and Columbia Gas.

5. Finalizing Change Order Authorization policy has been deferred to the next meeting.
6. Bliss Park article 97 discussion, at the May 2017 Town Meeting there was a citizen's petition that directed the Town to file with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds that Bliss Park and Laurel Park be Chapter 97. The Atty. General's office takes no action on Article 97 because the town voted down the placing of the Senior Center at the Bliss Park location. Save Our Parks Group would like something recorded with Hampden County deeds, Mr. Crane was advised about an SJC ruling Virginia B. Smith decision they were advised by town counsel at the time once that decision was remanded that it was article 97 and that they did not have to do anything in terms of filing a confirmatory deed because that decision set the case law for the land. Mr. Crane noted that it is thousands of dollars to do it and the board would have to decide if it is worth it since it is something already set by law. The Select Board will investigate this further and find out the cost of filing a deed if it is something that the Save Our Parks Group would like to pursue.

New Business:

1. Mr. Foster made a motion to approve a block party application for Greenacre Avenue on October 7, 2018 with a rain date of October 10, 2018. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion. *The vote was 5 in favor, 0 opposed.*
2. Mr. Foster made a motion to approve a block party application for Farmington Road on October 21, 2018 (no rain date). Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion. *The vote was 5 in favor, 0 opposed.*
3. Mr. Foster made a motion to approve a Halloween block party application for Greenacre Avenue (no rain date). Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion. *The vote was 5 in favor, 0 opposed.*
4. Mr. Foster made a motion to approve a street closure for Center School Road Race. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lachiusa. *The vote was 5 in favor, 0 opposed.*
5. Mr. Low made a motion to sign the State Election warrant. The motion was seconded by Mr. Foster. *The vote was 5 in favor, 0 opposed.*
6. Tree Committee presentation was given by David Marinelli chair of the Tree Committee. Mr. Marinelli informed the Select Board that they are purely an advisory board with no budget. He also noted that Ash trees will be gone within 5 years if we do nothing to treat them there are about 60 Ash trees, this is a challenge. Mr. Marinelli stated his minimum, median and stretch goals. Mr. Marinelli also wrote a grant last year to the Department of Recreation, it is a matching grant. They were awarded the grant in the spring of 2018 the grant is for \$11,000.00 and targets the Longmeadow Street corridor. Mr. Gold noted that tonight is not the night to come up with a definitive response but rather a chance to hear comments, and as they move toward the budget it gives the Town Manager and DPW a guidance as to where we want to see funding for trees. Ms. Angelides questioned if it would save money if they planted seedlings on the agricultural land in the conservation area? Mr. Marinelli said he does not believe it would. Mr. Low asked why they are losing so many trees, Mr. Marinelli indicated that some of it comes from poor choices that were made in the past, perhaps not having an arborist involved and some of it is because they do not have the resources, man power and not enough money. Mr. Crane told the Board he offered the position of Tree Warden to David Marinelli and he is hoping he accepts it. Mr. Gold suggested that the Select Board get to see the cost and that they need to understand the impact of the Tree Committee budget. Mr. Gold suggested that Mr. Marinelli send some of his ideas and the cost of doing them to the Select Board.
7. Mr. Gold skipped the FY20 Budget Assumptions and moved on to DPW Rt. 5 project.
8. Andrew Krar introduced the Route 5 "L" project, it is a TIP (Transportation Improvement Program) project for the 2023 year they engaged Fuss & O'Neill. Project Manager, Professional Engineer Steve Savaria spoke on behalf of Fuss & O'Neill and presented plans. Mr. Gold questioned will there be public input into the design? Mr. Savaria stated that MASS DOT will have a design public hearing. Mr. Gold reiterated that the people of Longmeadow should have a say in the plans. Mr. Foster stated we have to work with TIP projects if we want TIP money. Mr. Crane stated that the public should be educated as to why this is what's going to be required of us if we do this project. Ms. Angelides stated the most important thing is transparency. Mr. Savaria mentioned that MASS DOT is not yet involved.
9. Mario Mazza presented a spreadsheet of projects that are being worked on and ones that have been completed. Mr. Crane commended Mr. Mazza personally for taking the time to make sure the Greenwood

Park pool project is being taken care of. Mr. Gold asked how often the report can be updated Mr. Mazza said he can do it monthly.

10. Paul Pasterczyk gave his report on the FY 20 Budget assumptions. Mr. Gold voiced concerns that the revenue is going up 2% from the State, 2% plus new growth from taxes and our expenses are going up 3% in salaries, 7 ½ % in benefits and another ½ a percent between OPEB and Capital contributions he feels this is a non-winning situation. Mr. Crane is optimistic going into this budget process. Mr. Pasterczyk asked if there were any instructions for him to modify anything, Mr. Gold said none at this time, this is a good starting point.

Mr. Crane informed the Board that he would like to cancel executive session given the late time and the fact that he cannot access his drive which has the documents needed for executive session on it.

Mr. Gold announced that he invited the Finance Committee and the School Committee to join the meeting on October 29, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Town Manager's Report:

Mr. Crane noted that the Board has the printed reports, absent in this report is the update on street lights at the time of publishing there was a couple of unknowns he has since nailed some of that down. Mr. Crane and Mr. Pasterczyk had a conversation with the MAPC and got some great feedback as to how best to proceed. Need to have some conversations with some of the vendors. Mr. Crane has a meeting scheduled with West Springfield and Agawam to update them on some of the information they have found and gage their feelings on regionalizing this project. It is moving forward; the regional opportunity could be significant. In regard to the asbestos issue they had a very productive meeting with the representatives from the Governor's office and DEP. Still appears that the local landfill option is the best. DEP has been very supportive. They did get the \$2 million grant for West Comm for FY19 that project will continue to move forward, they have hired the technology consultant. Showing some progress on the isolation project partnering with other entities. Glenmeadow is writing a grant and hiring someone to coordinate volunteers to reach out to seniors who are isolated.

They had a meeting with East Longmeadow and Pioneer Valley Planning Commission about Public Health District. The files on the 1-91 viaduct long range plans are very large that is why Mr. Crane did not attach them however the files are available on the S drive to look at. Lena Vellturo the director of Veterans Service and Mr. Crane will be on TV a couple times next week to promote the Charlie/Mike 5k Race.

Mr. Foster commented on how good the Town Manager's report was and there is a lot of very good information, is it shared anywhere else like the town website? Mr. Foster feels the report should be shared as it is very informative.

The next regular Select Board meeting will be on October 15, 2018.

Mr. Low made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:40 p.m. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Sullivan

Documents: Agenda – October 1, 2018
Early Voting Schedule, Flu Clinic Schedule, Hydrant Flushing Schedule, Public Safety
Day flyer, RAD flyer, Charlie Mike 5K flyer
Michelle Marantz comments
Curt Freedman comments
Town Manager's Report memo
Board of Health August report
Mass Clean Energy Center RFP dtd 9/27/18
Draft Minutes – joint 9/4/18, regular 9/4/18, regular 9/17/18
Columbia Gas Letter to M. Gold
Draft Letter to DPU
Block Party Applications – 10/7/18, 10/21/18, 10/31/18

Street Closure Application – 10/27/18

November Election Warrant

Longmeadow Tree Presentation – Dave Marinelli

FY2020 Budget Assumptions – Paul Pasterczyk

FY2020 Budget Overview - PP

Estimated Additional FY19 Sources - PP

Handout by Mario Mazza (Director of Public Works) FY18 Capital Projects Status as of October 1, 2018

Town Hall Pavement Reconstruction Concept Plan

Plans for Route 5 “L” Project – Steve Savaria

Minutes: Audit Committee 7/18/18, Historical Commission 6/20/18, Park Board 8/28/18,
Planning Board Public Hearing 8/1/18, Planning Board regular meeting 8/1/18

Correspondence: Mark Lantzakis email, Mark Gold response email, Frances Cress email,
Cynthia Campbell email