Select Board
Minutes
Tuesday, June 5, 2018 at 7:00pm
Town Hall Meeting Room, 13 Ayer Road, Harvard, MA

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Chair Lucy Wallace in the Town Hall Meeting Room. Selectmen Ken Swanton, Kara Minar and Stu Sklar were in attendance as well as Town Administrator Tim Bragan.

National Grid Pole Hearing - 69 Whitney Road
Design Engineer Kim Tavallaimola from National Grid explained they need to install two new poles to address low hanging wires. She confirmed the DPW Director instructed them to move poles back 4 feet from edge of pavement.

Abutter questions
John Green, 69 Whitney Road, is the property owner for this request. He explained the lines started sagging after the Halloween storm of 2010. They have been trying to get this rectified since then and he is happy this is finally being taken care of. He asked to have pole 20-1 replaced as it is splintered and damaged. He asked if trees in the area would be pruned or taken down. Tavallaimola said some tree trimming will be necessary and National Grid will take care of it. She also confirmed Green will be notified when the work is to be done and when any power interruptions will occur.

On a Swanton/Sklar motion, the board voted to close the hearing.

On a Minar/Swanton motion, the board voted unanimously to approve National Grid to install 2 SO POLES on Whitney Road beginning at a point approximately 620 feet southeast of the centerline of the intersection of Littleton Road.

Wallace informed Tavallaimola about a dead tree on Cruft Lane. Minar asked National Grid take a look at a pole on the roadway into the high school.

Community Choice Aggregation
Energy Advisory Committee (HEAT) Chair Brian Smith distributed a summary of the community choice aggregation broker selection process. The broker assists the town in deciding whether to move forward towards a CCA Program by providing expertise and guidance on the issues and implementation of the program. Smith confirmed the Energy Advisory Committee has voted unanimously to select Colonial Power Group. HEAT conducted reference checks and subsequent interviews prior to voting in favor of their proposal. On a von Loesecke/Minar motion, the board voted unanimously to approve selection of Colonial Power Group as aggregator and authorize chair to sign contract when prepared.

Citizen proposal for a Tick Borne Disease Prevention Committee
Residents Tim Schmoyer, Adam Rypinski and Mark Buell came forward to propose a citizen-led effort to make a positive contribution to prevention of tick-borne diseases. They are proposing establishment of a committee that will focus efforts on education and sharing information with the public. As part of their effort an integrated pest management plan would be implemented and include five elements; risk assessment/biology, pest surveillance, control, monitoring/sustainability and adaptive management.

These elements can be implemented in four ways; education/communication, personal protection, landscaping pest control and bio-control measures. The Select Board complimented the group on their efforts and asked them to work with the Board of Health to determine next steps. Minar recommended the Conservation Commission as well.

Park & Recreation Commission appointment
Wallace introduced Harbormaster Robert O'Shea for appointment to the vacant seat on the Park & Recreation Commission. O'Shea has witnessed struggles of the commission when it comes to reconciliation of their finances. He is volunteering to help organize this process to make it easier for everyone involved. O'Shea is not convinced a revolving fund is the correct approach considering recent changes made at the annual town meeting. He also commented on the concept of Park & Rec programs being self-funded. O'Shea supports the idea and understands the need for a paid staff person such as a Rec Director to facilitate operations of the commission in the future. On a Sklar motion, the board voted unanimously to appoint Bob O'Shea to the Park & Rec Commission with a term expiring on June 30, 2019.

Town Administrator Report
Bragan reported the Finance Director is renewing the Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs) and they will be closed on June 22, 2018 and he is also working on the Ban for the School Project which will be done in mid-July.

Bragan reported the HR Director/Assistant Town Administrator worked with the School Department, DPW, Police and Fire to manage costs for Worker's Compensation Insurance and with all of them working together they were successful in managing the Town's costs. We were facing an unexpected increase and instead the costs stayed where we had originally planned.

Bragan along with Select Board Member Sklar, Finance Chair Ludwig, Joe Reynolds of the Park and Recreation Committee, Bob O'Shea (Harbor Master), Assistant Town Administrator, Finance Director, and the Treasurer Collector met last week to work on an issue regarding the beach program and by working together we were able to find a solution to a number of issues at hand. He thanked all involved.

Bragan and Assistant the Town Administrator will be sending you additional material from other communities on the permanent building committee idea. They expect to be able to move forward with a vote by the June 19th meeting.

Bragan is awaiting feedback on the Marijuana licensing materials so he can put a draft together for the board to act on.

Bragan announced Officer Matt Callahan, Harvard's newest police officer, will attend the June the 19th meeting so the Select Board can meet him.

Minutes
On a Sklar/von Loesecke motion, the board voted unanimously to approve minutes of 4/24, 5/1 and 5/15.

Harvard General Store licenses & conditions
On a Minar/Sklar motion, the board voted unanimously to approve the on premise liquor license for Harvard General Store with conditions and findings.

On a Swanton/Minar motion, the board voted unanimously to issue off-premise license once fee is paid.

On a Swanton/Minar motion, the board voted unanimously to issue on premise license once fee is paid.

On a Sklar/Swanton motion, the board voted unanimously to prorate the on premise wine & malt license fee to $1020.00.

Harvard – Devens Jurisdiction Committee
On a Swanton/Minar motion, the board voted unanimously to change membership of the Harvard – Devens Jurisdiction Committee from 7 to 9.

Wallace gave a brief background on the interview process. She reiterated Erin McBee will serve as Planning Board member, Wallace and Minar as the Select Board members and it was agreed applicant Victor Normand would also serve on the committee. There are five positions still left to fill.

On a Von Loesecke/Minar motion, the board voted unanimously to appoint SusanMary Redinger to the committee.

On a Minar/von Loesecke motion, the board voted unanimously to appoint Heather Knowles to the committee. (4-1 Sklar – Nay)

On a Swanton/Minar motion, the board voted unanimously to appoint George Glazier.

On a Minar/von Loesecke motion, the board voted unanimously to appoint Paul Green.

On a Von Loesecke/Swanton motion, the board voted to appoint Tim Myllykangas (4-1 Sklar – Nay)

On a Minar/Swanton motion, the board voted unanimously to appoint Erin McBee, Lucy Wallace, Kara Minar, Victor Normand, SusanMary Redinger, Heather Knowles, George Glazier, Paul Green and Tim Myllykangas.

Board Re-organization
On a Sklar/Swanton motion, the board voted unanimously to nominate Minar for Clerk.

On a Minar/Swanton motion, the board voted unanimously to nominate von Loesecke for Vice-Chair.

On a Minar/Swanton motion, the board voted unanimously to nominate Lucy Wallace for Chair.

Select Board Reports
Von Loesecke reported the School Building Committee is moving forward into the design phase which includes the envelope, site plan and interiors. She said they meet on Thursday afternoons at 3:30 either at Town Hall or Bromfield School.

Sklar reported Cable Committee Chair Bill Johnson had the control panel simplified in the Town Hall Meeting room.

Swanton reported the Old Library Accessibility Committee will attend a hearing before the Historical Commission tomorrow night.

Swanton said the Transfer Station Committee will give an update on the SMART program at the next meeting.

Minar asked for an update on when the new speed signs will be erected. Bragan expects soon.

Wallace said the Council on Aging is working on RFP for phase two of the Hildreth House expansion. She asked when the new standing building committee will be constituted. Bragan and Sobalvarro are working on this for the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

Documents referenced:
National Grid pole hearing request – dated May 2018
Community Aggregation summary – dated 6.5.2018
Citizen proposal for a Tick Borne Disease Prevention Committee – dated 5.30.2018
General Store Conditions – dated 5.8.2018