

TOWN OF GILL

MASSACHUSETTS



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SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 1, 2010

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:31pm.

Present: John Ward, Randy Crochier, and Ann Banash, Selectboard members; Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant.

Others Present: Timmie Smith, Paul Nowill, Tupper Brown

The Board reviewed a letter from the Mass. Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to the Gill-Montague Regional School Committee concerning the recently approved FY11 budget and the end of DESE's fiscal control of the district. The Board received a copy of a December 7th meeting notice for the Mohawk Trail East Scenic Byway Advisory Committee. The Board was given a copy of MGL Chapter 164 Section 34B, which deals with the replacement of existing utility poles and requires that old poles be removed with 90 days of installation of the new pole. It was suggested that a copy of this statute be sent to Verizon.

6:40pm Dick French, Chris Polatin (Co-chair, Conservation Commission), and Deanne Brochu (Notary Public) joined the meeting.

Approval of Conservation Restriction: In a follow-up to the November 22nd Board meeting, Dick French explained a Conservation Restriction that he has donated and that has been accepted by the Town's Conservation Commission. The CR is for 25-30 acres of land on Ben Hale Road. Dick and Emily Samuels would continue to own and pay taxes on the land. Randy made a motion, seconded by Ann, to approve the Conservation Commission's acceptance of the Conservation Restriction and to sign the CR document. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative. The CR document was signed and notarized.

6:50pm Dick French, Chris Polatin, and Deanne Brochu (Notary Public) left the meeting.

Warrant for 12/20 Special Town Meeting: The Board and guests discussed the proposed warrant for the 12/20 Special Town Meeting, and the process by which the need for a meeting was decided and announced. In the future there will be a greater attempt to give more advance notice to the Finance Committee before setting a date for an STM.

Timmie explained that she feels it is important the town establish separate education stabilization funds for the Gill-Montague Regional School District and the Franklin County Regional School District.

Ray was asked to find out if a special purpose stabilization fund must be funded at the same time it is established by voters. (Answer, from Terry Williams at the DOR, is no. Ch. 40 Sec 5B deals with stabilization funds and makes no requirement that they must be funded.)

Timmie suggested that perhaps there should be an article on the warrant to provide additional funding toward starting and completing the project of building office walls in Town Hall.

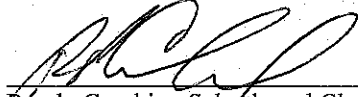
7:15pm Timmie Smith, Paul Nowill, and Tupper Brown left the meeting.

The Board discussed the five articles on the proposed warrant. Ray was asked to prepare several budget scenarios for the funding of Articles 2, 3, and 4, and distribute the information ahead of the 12/6 joint meeting with the Finance Committee. The Board declined to add an article to provide additional funding for office walls, citing insufficient information at this time.

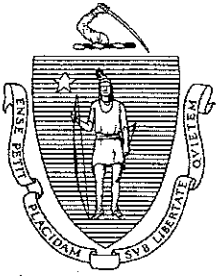
Ann made a motion, seconded by Randy, to sign the Special Town Meeting warrant as written. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant.



Randy Crochier, Selectboard Clerk



Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

75 Pleasant Street, Malden, Massachusetts 02148-4906

Telephone: (781) 338-3000
TTY: N.E.T. Relay 1-800-439-2370

Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D.
Commissioner

November 23, 2010

Emily Monosson, Chair
Gill-Montague Regional School Committee
35 Crocker Avenue
Turners Falls, MA, 01376

Dear Ms. Monosson:

I was pleased to hear that your FY11 budget was recently approved at a district-wide meeting. I recognize the hard work and the compromise of the district officials, school committee and local municipal officials that precipitated this vote. Under the provisions of M.G.L. chapter 71, section 16B, and 603 CMR 41.07(5), local approval of your district budget ends my fiscal control of the Gill-Montague Regional School District.

I assure you, however, that my staff and I remain committed to continuing our involvement with district and town officials to ensure that the school district has the resources it needs to provide effective programs and services and to ensure that these programs and services are offered in a cost effective manner. We look forward to the results of the program and fiscal review of the district's operations currently being conducted by this Department, and we will continue to work with the district to assist in implementing the recommendations that may result from that review.

My best wishes for continued success in all of your district endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mitch D. Chester".

Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education

c: Carl M. Ladd, Superintendent
Gill Board of Selectmen
Montague Board of Selectmen
Jeff Wulfson
Christine Lynch

FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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Executive Director • Linda Dunlavy



MEETING NOTICE

Meeting of the Mohawk Trail East Scenic Byway Advisory Committee to Discuss the Western Massachusetts Scenic Byway Marketing Project

Byway Towns: Greenfield, Gill, Erving, Montague, Wendell, Orange and Athol

Tuesday, December 7, 2010

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Selectboard Meeting Room

Orange Town Hall

6 Prospect Street, Orange, Massachusetts

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

1. **Welcome and Introductions** - (4:00 p.m.)
2. **Overview of the upcoming Western Massachusetts Scenic Byway Marketing Project** – Elizabeth Giannini, Senior Transportation Planner, FRCOG (4:05 p.m.)
3. **Review and Discussion of Byway “Highlights” Material Compiled for Western Massachusetts Byway Website** – Elizabeth Giannini, Senior Transportation Planner, FRCOG (4:20 p.m.)
4. **Adjourn** (5:00 p.m.)

For further information please contact Elizabeth Giannini, Senior Transportation Planner, FRCOG at 413-774-1194 ext 104 or giannini@frcog.org.

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PART I ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT (Chapters 1 through 182)
TITLE XXII CORPORATIONS
CHAPTER 164 MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY
Section 34B Replacement of existing poles

Section 34B. A distribution company or a telephone company engaging in the removal of an existing pole and the installation of a new pole in place thereof shall complete the transfer of wires, all repairs, and the removal of the existing pole from the site within 90 days from the date of installation of the new pole; provided, however, that for any approved commercial or industrial construction project, the completion of which is expected to take longer than one year, said company shall be required to remove such pole within six months from the date of installation of the new pole. The owner of such pole shall notify all other users of the starting date of such removal and installation work at least 48 hours prior to the commencement of such work, and said owner shall require all other users to remove their wiring and other attachments from the poles in a timely manner.

Copy to VZ