

TOWN OF GILL

M A S S A C H U S E T T S



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SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 20, 2009

Called to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m.

Present

Nancy Griswold, Leland Stevens, Selectboard members; Tracy Rogers, Administrative Assistant.

Payroll and Bill Warrants

The Board approved payroll and bill warrant number 15. Ronnie explained that she will issue five manual checks to pay the election workers because of an accounting error not discovered in time to include them on the warrant. She will put the payments on the next warrant.

Ann joined the meeting.

Review Minutes

The Board unanimously approved minutes as written from the January 5, 2009 meeting.

Tighe & Bond Contract

Tracy reported that the money for Tighe & Bond to conduct the market study and conceptual design work on the Mariamante parcel has finally come through. Tighe & Bond staff e-mailed some revisions they'd like to see in the contract this afternoon, which she forwarded to Town Counsel. Tracy hopes to have the contract ready for the Board to sign on February 2.

Trench Safety Regulations

Ann made a motion to appoint the highway superintendent as the person responsible for administering trench permits. Lee seconded the motion and it was carried by a unanimous vote.

The Board agreed to set the permit fee at \$25.

FY2010 Budget

Tracy asked the Board when they'd like to schedule a kick-off joint meeting with the Finance Committee on the FY2010 budget. The Board recommended February 9 and to try to arrange DOR to conduct a training on the same night.

Nancy suggested holding one extra meeting per month to focus exclusively on the budget. The Board agreed this was a good idea.

Franklin County Technical School Admissions Policy

Tracy read an update from the Tech School stating that they have sent some changes to the admissions policy to the Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education for review. They expect to have a final review of the policy in March and will keep towns updated.

Gill-Montague Bridge

Tracy reported that, according to Maureen Mullaney at the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG), the construction bid opening for the Gill-Montague bridge is scheduled for February 24. Maureen expects work will begin in the early summer.

Sewer Abatement Requests

Tracy presented two abatement requests from Jeff Suprenant, both of which she recommended against granting. The requests were both on the basis of using water to fill Mr. Suprenant's hot tub. Revised sewer regulations, mailed to Mr. Suprenant on May 9, 2008, clearly stated that residents are instructed to contact the Water Commission within 48 hours of filling the pool/spa to report the meter reading before and after filling. The Water Commission is then to apply a reduction to the water bill before it is presented to the tax collector.

Also, one of the requests was dated August 26, 2008, but wasn't submitted until January 20, 2009. It states at the top of the abatement request form that requests "must be in writing to Selectmen by 30 days of bill date."

The Board voted unanimously to deny both abatement requests and to have Tracy send a letter to Mr. Suprenant explaining its reasons.

FY2010 Fuel Oil

Tracy presented buy order paperwork to lock in a price for fuel oil in FY2010 and to authorize Paul Schroeder of the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative as the Town's agent for fixing the price. The Board agreed to both items and Nancy signed the forms.

FY2010 Diesel Bid

Tracy asked the Board if it wanted to participate in the FRCOG's bid for diesel fuel in FY2010. The Board agreed to participate and signed the appropriate paperwork.

Senior Center

Tracy presented a letter from Bunny Caldwell, Director of the Gill-Montague Senior Center, stating that she would retire June 30, 2009.

Report from Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition (MAPHCO)

Tracy shared a report from MAPHCO on their work for the year.

GMRSD Proposal for the FY10 Budget Process

The Board discussed GMRSD's memo on how it intends to include town officials in the budget process for FY2010.

IRS Mileage Rate

Tracy reported that the IRS mileage rate decreased on January 1, 2009 to 55¢ per mile. The Board agreed to make this the new town rate as well.

Deer Crossing Sign

Tracy reported she had a request from a resident at 142 West Gill Road to have a deer crossing sign placed in front of her house. She stated that a deer was killed in front of her house last year and she sees tracks indicating that deer are crossing there again this year. The Board suggested asking the Highway Department if they have any such signs in stock. If it does, one should be placed on West Gill Road and one on Main Road.

Gill Store and Tavern Inaugural Bash

Tracy reported that she received an e-mail invitation to an “inaugural bash” at the Gill Store and Tavern scheduled for Tuesday, January 20. The Store’s special permit clearly states that it be open only Wednesdays through Sundays. Tracy stated that she forwarded the e-mail to the Building Inspector for his enforcement.

Tax Rate

Tracy reported that DOR had certified the tax rate at \$13.02/\$1,000.00. The Board signed the necessary related paperwork.

Purchase Orders

Tracy asked the Board if the limit on purchase orders be raised back to \$500. Because of impending mid-year cuts to state aid, the Board said no at this time.

The Board signed the following purchase orders:

- € Dillon Chevrolet, \$485.91, repair 4x4 switch
- € Interstate Truck Center, \$555.20, replacement fuel tank for truck
- € Riverside Radiator, \$269.90, batteries for loader
- € Steel Shed, \$164.45, steel to repair #10 plow frame
- € Rosner Racecars, \$400.00, labor on welding #10 plow frame
- € Shanahan Supply Co., \$77.25, cement and blocks for building repairs to garage
- € Bob’s Auto Body, \$103.00, inspections on truck and loader

Adjourned

Meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Tracy Rogers, Administrative Assistant.

Ann H. Banash, Selectboard Clerk