

TOWN OF GILL

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



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SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 4, 2010

Called to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. in the first floor meeting area of Town Hall.

Present

Ann Banash, Nancy Griswold, and John Ward, Selectboard members; Ray Purington, Interim Administrative Assistant

Others Present

Tupper Brown, Claire Chang, and Joe Lafleur, Energy Commission; Paul Nowill; Timmie Smith; David Detmold; Jessica Bergman, SmartPower

SmartPower Presentation

Jessica Bergman, Outreach Coordinator for SmartPower, gave a presentation explaining the Western Mass Saves program, which is funded by WMECO, and features an interactive website designed to teach residents how to save money, manage energy use, and help the environment. The program also has websites designed to interest high school and college students.

SmartPower is a non-profit marketing company that promotes energy efficiency. The Western Mass Saves program is available at no cost to the town, and currently has 8-10 other towns enrolled. The program does not promote any specific products or services, and the websites do not have pop-up advertisements.

To enroll, the Town must sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which Jessica will provide. The Energy Commission will review the MOU at their next meeting, and will make a recommendation to the Selectboard at a future meeting.

The meeting then moved upstairs and reconvened at 5:10 p.m. Nowill, Smith, Brown, Lafleur, and Bergman left the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Nancy, seconded by John, to approve the minutes from 12/21. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Management Consultant

Ray reported that Sandy Stapczynski and Carol Arnold of Human Resources Services will meet with Police, Fire, and Highway Department employees and Town Hall employees on January 6th from 2:30-4:00 p.m. in the Fire Department training room. The

meeting will be an introduction to HRS and an explanation of the consulting project they are doing for the Town. There will be time set aside for employees to ask questions.

2010 Motor Vehicle License

The Board signed a renewal of a motor vehicle license for Robert Higgins of Atlantic Wholesale.

Financial Audit

Ray reported that he will be contacting Scanlon & Associates to discuss a schedule for the FY09 financial audit and to arrange for the contract to be signed.

Elevator Inspection

Ann signed the agreement with Garaventa Lift to conduct and coordinate the state's annual inspection of the Town Hall elevator and lift. The state fee is \$400, and Garaventa will charge \$710. The Board had previously approved the \$710 purchase order in November.

BHA Ambulance Agreement

Ray reported that Town Counsel is still reviewing the proposed 3-year no-cost contract between BHA and the Town.

Air Compressor

Ray reported that the air compressor at the Highway Department failed on 12/21. The motor was repaired on 12/22 by Applied Dynamics.

Dock Application

Ray reported on a letter from Michael Ruggeri notifying the Board he has applied to DEP to construct and maintain a proposed pier/dock at 12W Horserace View Road. His letter is informational only, and requires no action by the Board. DEP and the Conservation Commission will be involved in the process.

Quintus Allen Fund

Nancy and John signed a letter acknowledging the receipt of \$1,421.00 as the Town's 2009 distribution from the Quintus Allen Fund. Ann abstained from signing.

Comcast Fee Changes

Ray reported on a letter received from Comcast notifying the Board of price adjustments to subscribers that will go into effect February 1, 2010. Subscribers will receive notice of these changes in their January billing statements. All five changes are to one-time charges, and four of the five changes are decreases.

Franklin County Solid Waste Management District

Ray reported that Leverett has asked to join the FCSWMD. Gill voters will be able to weigh in on this at the Annual Town Meeting in May. Ray also reported that Gill's FY11 assessment from the district will increase from \$3,175 to \$3,227. The increase may be slightly less if enough towns approve Leverett's membership.

"Stretch" Building Code Seminar

Ray reported on an invitation to a January 21st seminar about the new "Stretch" Building Code. Claire explained that the "Stretch" code contains more energy efficient standards

for building construction, and if adopted by the Town, would allow the Town to score higher on certain energy grants. John and Claire will attend the seminar and report back.

Mariamante Radar Results

Ray reported that Doug Harris would like to arrange a meeting where Doria Kutrubes (Radar Solutions International) can present the preliminary results of the ground penetrating radar study conducted at the Mariamante property in October. The Board chose several possible dates, and asked Ray to work with Doug to set up the meeting.

Ray summarized a letter from Joe Graveline to the Public Record Division, on which the Selectboard was carbon-copied. In his letter Graveline asks the PRD to review and overturn the decision made by the Massachusetts Historical Commission that Gill's copies of the Phase I and Phase II Mariamante study reports are not public documents. An electronic copy of Graveline's 9-page letter will be given to each Board member.

MEMA Contract

The Board voted to sign a contract with the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) in the amount of \$7,500.00. Because parts of Gill lie within the 10-mile radius of the nuclear plant in Vernon, Vermont, funding is made available so that the Town's emergency preparedness personnel can perform or participate in certain training exercises, drills, tests, and other activities,

Gill-Montague Bridge Meeting

The Board asked Ray to attend a January 6th meeting being organized by SPS New England, the contractor that will be doing the reconstruction of the G-M Bridge. The contractor wants to discuss lane closures and traffic options that could shorten the duration of the project by two years. Town and public safety officials from Gill, Montague, and Greenfield have been invited to attend.

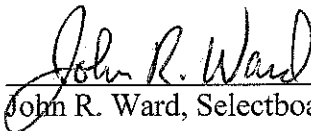
Warrant #14

The Board reviewed and signed Warrant #14.

Adjourned

Meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by John Ward



John R. Ward, Selectboard Clerk

