

TOWN OF GILL

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



www.gillmass.org

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 11, 2014

Call to Order: The Selectboard meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM.

Members Present: Randy Crochier, John Ward, and Greg Snedeker Members Absent: none
Others Present: Ray Purington, Admin. Assistant; Janet Masucci, David Detmold

Minutes: John made a motion, seconded by Greg, to approve the minutes of 7/14 and 7/28. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Sewer I&I: Nothing to report.

Community Solar: John reported that House bill 4185 died in session, as the Legislature did not act on it before July 31st. As part of a different bill, the cap on solar net metering was raised slightly. Recognizing that this matter needs more discussion, a 17-member task force will be appointed to work on the issues beginning in October, and make recommendations to the Legislature by March 2015.

Safety Complex Roof: Ray reported that the contract has been signed with the FRCOG for services to procure the roof project's architect/designer. The Selectboard discussed the fee to be paid to the designer. Ray explained that it is typical for the fee to be negotiated, based on a predetermined not-to-exceed figure, which is usually 10-11% of the project's estimated cost. The roof replacement and asbestos abatement is estimated to cost \$113,000. John made a motion, seconded by Greg, to set the negotiated designer's fee at an amount not to exceed \$12,000. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Custodian Position: Ray reported that he has hired Steve Connell for the custodian position. It was discussed that since this is Steve's second paid position with the Town (he is also a call firefighter), it may be necessary for the Selectboard to approve his hiring to the second position in order to comply with Ethics and/or Conflict of Interest laws. John made a motion, seconded by Greg, to approve the hiring of Steve Connell for the custodian position. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

MedCare Ambulance Services Agreement: MedCare has still not responded to Gill's concerns with the proposed agreement.

Adoption of Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan: The Selectboard reviewed and discussed the Town's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan that was prepared over the last 4 years with assistance from the FRCOG. The Plan has near-final approval from MEMA and FEMA, and only needs to be adopted by the Selectboard in order to receive final approval. It was pointed out that a section on Public Transportation should be updated, as there are no longer any fixed route FRTA buses stopping in Gill.

Randy commented on the number of "worth doing" action items contained in the plan, that will likely not be implemented unless one of them becomes critical – at which point we would be reacting, not planning ahead. He suggested it may be time to look at clerical help for the Administrative Assistant on a more consistent basis, in order to free up time for larger projects to help move the Town forward. Ray will work on outlining the responsibilities and costs for such a position.

Greg made a motion, seconded by John, to adopt the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan with a corrected Public Transportation section. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Vets District: Ray updated the Selectboard on recent discussions of a merger between the Central Franklin Veterans' Services District (of which Gill is a member) and the Greenfield Area Veterans' Services District. A

recent meeting of the CFVSD's advisory board gave support to further exploration of the merger, with an eye toward bringing the matter to a full district vote in September or October. It is proposed that Greenfield will assume 56% of the budget for the merged district. Town assessments will be based on a 50/50 split between population and EQV. The new district would have an advisory board operating on a one town, one vote model. The main office would be in Greenfield, and there would continue to be staff hours in satellite offices in Shelburne, Montague, Deerfield, and Orange. Assuming all local and state approvals are in place, the new district will begin operations on July 1, 2015.

Montague MassWorks Application: The Selectboard reviewed a request from Montague Town Planner Walter Ramsey for a letter from Gill in support of Montague's 2015 application for funding from the MassWorks Infrastructure Program. Their application is for the creation of a planned industrial park off Turnpike Road. John made a motion, seconded by Greg, to authorize Randy to sign the letter of support. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Gas Pipeline Resolution: The Montague Selectboard's resolution opposing "fracked gas" pipelines was reviewed. There was consensus that the Selectboard would like to consider a similar resolution. Ray will produce a Gill version of the resolution for the August 25th meeting.

Correspondence: The Selectboard read a letter from the Hampshire COG announcing plans to hold a Fall Regional Legislative Summit in November to discuss rural issues, sustainable economic development, tourism, and other relevant western Mass. topics.

Training: The FRCOG's 2014-15 schedule for the Selectboard Essentials Workshop Series was considered, as was the agenda for an upcoming DOR workshop entitled "What's New in Municipal Law?"

Common People Concert Series: This year's concert series concludes with concerts on 8/12 and 8/19. Randy thanked Steve Damon for organizing another year of great performances.

GMRSD Special Municipal Employee: Acting on a request from Superintendent Sullivan, John made two motions, both seconded by Greg, to designate the GMRSD position of part-time Spanish teacher as a Special Municipal Employee, and to approve a MGL 268-20(d) exemption for Jimena Cabezas de Pareja as a Special Municipal Employee. Votes on both motions were unanimous in the affirmative. (A subsequent correspondence from the District withdrew the request, as their attorneys had determined that Town action was not required on the matter.)

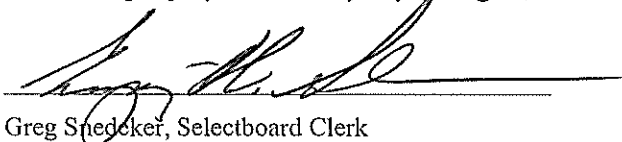
Green Community Grant: There was discussion and consensus about using FRCOG's services to procure the air source heating system for the Riverside Building, and paying for those services using Building Maintenance funds ahead of authorization and reimbursement from the Green Communities grant. John made a motion, seconded by Greg, to hire FRCOG's Andrea Woods to write the proposal and RFP for the Riverside Building heating system at a cost not to exceed \$750. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

David Detmold left the meeting at 6:20 PM.

Warrant: The Board reviewed and signed FY 2015 warrant #4.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant.


Greg Spedeker, Selectboard Clerk

TOWN OF GILL
M A S S A C H U S E T T S



CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION
TOWN OF GILL, MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TOWN OF GILL
HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

WHEREAS, the Town of Gill established a Committee to prepare the Hazard Mitigation plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Gill Hazard Mitigation Plan contains several potential future projects to mitigate potential impacts from natural hazards in the Town of Gill; and

WHEREAS, a duly-noticed public meeting was held by the Town of Gill Board of Selectmen on August 11, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Gill authorizes responsible departments and/or agencies to execute their responsibilities demonstrated in the plan;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Gill Board of Selectmen adopts the Hazard Mitigation Plan in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40.

ADOPTED AND SIGNED this 11th day of August, 2014.

Randy Crochier, Chair

John R. Ward

Greg Snedeker

TOWN OF GILL

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



www.gillmass.org

August 11, 2014

Secretary Gregory Bialecki
Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development
1 Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Town of Montague's Application for FY 2015 MassWorks Infrastructure Program Grant
Funding to construct Turnpike Road Industrial Park

Dear Secretary Bialecki:

The Town of Gill supports the Town of Montague's 2015 application under the MassWorks Infrastructure Program for funding for the creation of a planned green industrial park off Turnpike Road. The 45 acre park in the village of Turners Falls is designed specifically to promote the growth of existing small businesses in Franklin County while maintaining a low environmental impact on the site and community.

As one of the primary employment centers in Franklin County, Montague has the capacity to support more industrial development. A majority of the existing 1,000 manufacturing jobs in Montague are held by people from all over the county. All large firms in Montague have relocated locally from within Franklin County and the Pioneer Valley, providing expanding small businesses an opportunity to grow and remain in Franklin County.

The shortage of industrial space in Franklin County is well documented and has recently become a real challenge for the region. The Town of Montague and surrounding communities have had to turn several expanding businesses away because adequate space was not available. In 2013, Montague sold the last developable lot in the Airport Industrial Park, a planned industrial park that was last expanded in the 1980s.

The regional significance of the Turnpike Road Industrial Park is highlighted in the 2013 Regional Plan for Sustainable Development and the 2014 Regional CEDS which both highlight the proposed park as a priority project in Franklin County.

The park itself will meet the forecasted demand for small-scale light industrial space while ensuring sustainable growth and high quality employment opportunities for the next generation of Franklin County residents.

The Town of Gill supports Montague's application to construct an industrial park at this location as a project of regional importance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Randy Crochier', written over a large, sweeping flourish that extends to the left.

Randy Crochier, Chair
Gill Selectboard

Cc: Walter Ramsay, Montague Town Planner

PROJECT INFORMATION	
PROJECT NO.	115/065
DATE	11/15/06
DRAWN BY	
CHECKED BY	
DATE	
DATE	

REGULATORY INFORMATION	
PERCENT (%)	34.7
DISTURBED AREA (SF)	1442461
TOTAL AREA BETWEEN 100 FOOT & 750 FOOT BUFFERS (SF)	41157065

FUSS & O'NEILL
1507 EAST 20TH AVENUE
DENVER, CO 80202
TEL: 303.733.8800
WWW.FUSS-ON.COM

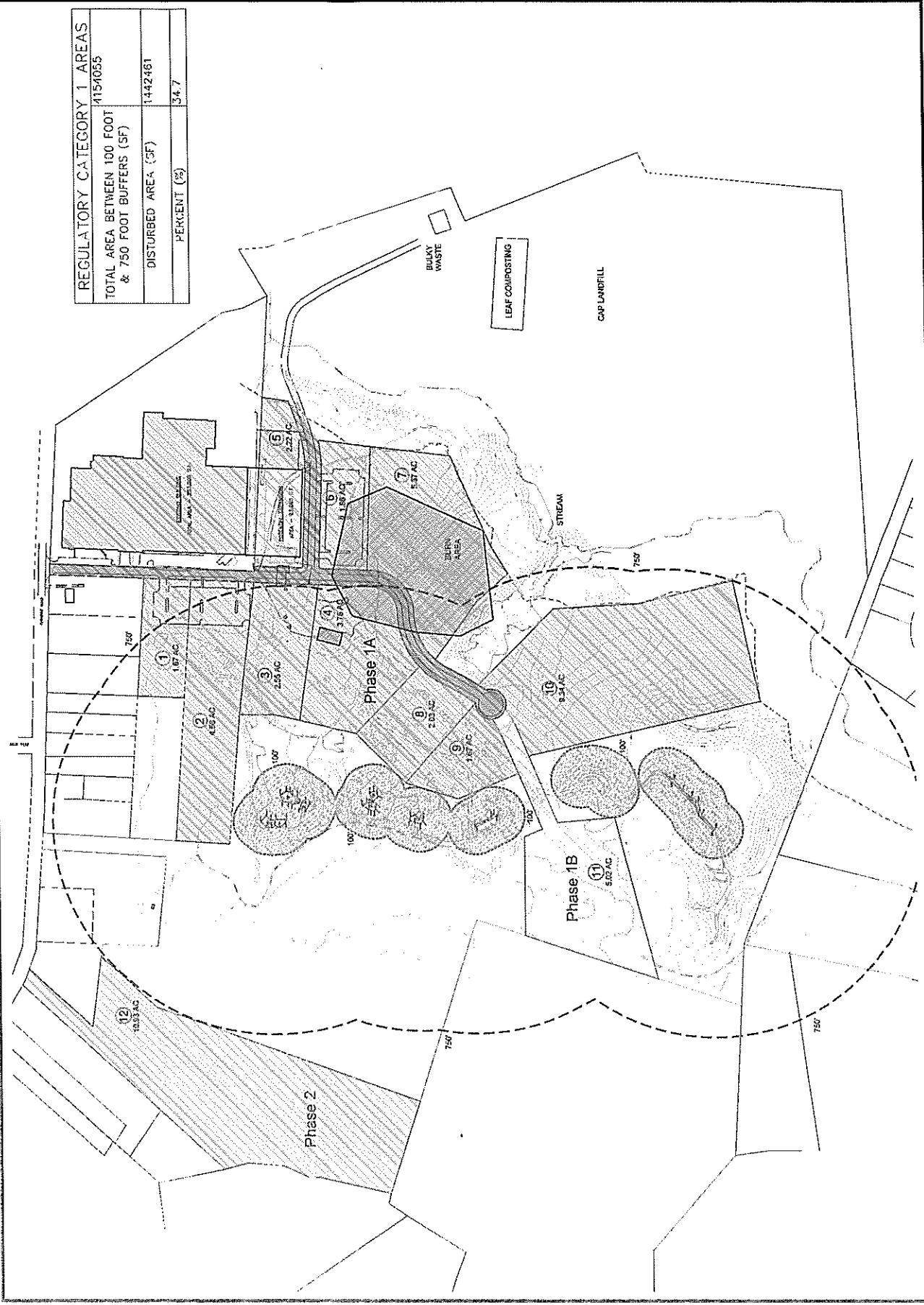


CONSULTANTS
DATE 11/15/06

CONFIDENTIAL PLAN

PROJECT NO. 115/065
DATE 11/15/06

MP 3



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Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard

From: Walter Ramsey - Montague Planner [planner@montague-ma.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2014 5:10 PM
To: Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard
Subject: RE: Montague Massworks- letter of support
Attachments: Conceptual Master Plan - 2013-07-24.pdf

Ray,

Great! Here is a concept plan that is of a sharable size. It would be great to have a letter of support by August 18. Many thanks

Walter

From: Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard [mailto:administrator@gillmass.org]
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2014 4:59 PM
To: Walter Ramsey - Montague Planner
Subject: RE: Montague Massworks- letter of support

Hi Walter,

I expect our Selectboard will be happy to support the application. When do you need the letter?

If you have any preliminary blueprints of the park that can be shared, that would be helpful.

Ray

From: Walter Ramsey - Montague Planner [mailto:planner@montague-ma.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2014 1:56 PM
To: Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard
Subject: Montague Massworks- letter of support

Hello Ray and the Gill Selectboard

I hope you are well. I am writing ask for the Town of Gill's support for Montague's application for a 2015 MassWorks grant to construct a small 45 acre industrial park off Turnpike Road in Turners Falls. The land is owned by the Town, zoned for industrial development, and is a designated 43D Priority Development Site. The roadway for the park would be ¼ mile extension of Sandy Lane with infrastructure. It would house 300+ jobs and up to 6 parcels. The grant application asks for neighboring communities to weigh-in on projects of regional significance.

A draft letter of support is attached. I'd be happy to share more information about the park, if you or anyone is interested. Thanks for any assistance you can provide.

Also, the National Park Service Battlefield Grant was awarded. There will be more information to follow shortly.

Regards,

Walter

Walter Ramsey, AICP

RESOLUTION TO BAN "FRACKED GAS" PIPELINES AND TO CHAMPION SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Whereas a proposed High-Pressure Pipeline carrying natural gas obtained through hydraulic fracturing may come through Montague or neighboring communities, bringing said fuel en route to Dracut, Massachusetts to be used for electricity generation;

Whereas said pipeline goes against current Massachusetts commitments to renewable energies and combating global climate change;

Whereas said pipeline would destroy unknowable amounts of forest, conservation land and farmland;


Whereas a high-pressure gas pipeline, by its nature, carries the potential for leak, rupture or devastating explosion causing untold damage to property and lives;

Whereas the cost of said pipeline would require Massachusetts citizens to pay a utility bill tariff as well as environmental costs not required by law for Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C. ("TGP", a subsidiary of Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P.), making ratepayers bear financial risk for the endeavors of a private corporation;


Whereas, we the Selectman, speaking for the citizens of Montague Massachusetts, choose not to participate in such encumbrances to the life, vibrancy, economic stability, and general well being to our neighbors in New York and elsewhere, wherever hydraulic fracturing is occurring and the pressurized pipeline is running;

Now, therefore, be it Resolved, that the Selectman of Montague, Massachusetts:

1. Oppose said pipeline, and any new pipeline carrying natural gas obtained through hydraulic fracturing, within the borders of our Commonwealth:
2. Hereby instruct our state and federal legislators and executive branch officials to enact legislation and take such other actions as are necessary to disallow such projects that go against our commitments to life, the environment, our economic well being and our bodily safety, and, instead, to legislate more stringent energy efficiency and further exploration of and subsidies for renewable energy sources.


Christopher M. Boutwell, Sr.


Mark E. Fairbrother


Michael M. Nelson

Rec'd 7/29/14



HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL
OF GOVERNMENTS

July 25, 2014

Board of Selectmen
Town of Gill
325 Main Road
Gill, MA 01354

Dear Board Members,

Like many of our colleagues in Berkshire, Franklin, and Hampden counties, the Hampshire Council of Governments (Council) is a strong advocate for western Massachusetts offering programs that provide green energy, save taxpayer money, keep investments local, and contribute to a healthy, sustainable environment that benefits the entire region. The Council has reached out to the legislative delegation representing western Mass to coordinate a Fall Regional Legislative Summit in November after the elections to work with communities to create a regional legislative agenda. The program focus will be on rural issues, sustainable economic development, tourism, and other topics we can identify as being particularly relevant to western Mass.

We hope that you will take this opportunity to join with us to create a comprehensive and vigorous regional legislative agenda. We will work to keep you informed as the summit plans come together.

Thank you; we look forward to seeing you there.

Respectfully,

William R. Barnett, Chairman
Hampshire Council of Governments

Davio A. Danielson, Chairman
HCOG Legislative, Charter & Code Committee



Selectboard Essentials Workshop Series for 2014-2015

Supported by State Local Technical Assistance Funds

COST: Workshops are provided by the Franklin Regional Council of Governments, free of cost, to Franklin County Selectboard Members

LOCATION: All workshops will be held in the First Floor Meeting Room of the John W. Oliver Transit Center (12 Olive Street, Greenfield)

1 SELECTBOARD ESSENTIALS PRIMER: THE WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY & HOW OF BEING A SELECTBOARD MEMBER

Presenter: Bob Dean, Former Chair, Buckland Select Board; Sheila Litchfield, Chair, Heath Select Board

8/28/14 (Thurs.)

7:00pm-9:00pm

2 BRINGING PEOPLE TO THE TABLE: ACHIEVING THE BENEFITS OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Presenter: John Goodrich, MA Office of Public Collaboration

9/17/14 (Wed.)

7:00pm-9:00pm

3 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING IN FRANKLIN COUNTY AND HOW IT AFFECTS YOUR TOWN

Presenters: Arthur Jameson, DHCD; Robin Sherman, FCRHRA; FRCOG Staff

10/16/14 (Thurs.)

7:00pm-9:00pm

4 OPEB: WHAT SELECT BOARDS NEED TO KNOW

Presenters: Pat Squillante, Melanson Heath & Company, PC; Mark Abrahams, CPA

11/13/14 (Thurs.)

7:00pm-9:00pm

5 PROMISING IDEAS FOR ACHIEVING TRANSPARENCY & COOPERATION IN SCHOOL BUDGETING

Presenters: Joe Judd, Mohawk LRPC; Doug Slaughter, Amherst Joint Capital Planning ; Chris Desjardins, Hadley School Business Manager

12/11/14 (Thurs.)

7:00pm-9:00pm

*Snow Date: 12/17/14

PLEASE SEE PAGE 2 FOR ADDITIONAL WORKSHOPS



Franklin Regional
Council of Governments



For more information and to register please call:
(413)774-3167 (ext. 100) or email admin@frcog.org

Selectboard Essentials Workshop Series for 2014-2015

COST: Workshops are provided by the Franklin Regional Council of Governments, free of cost, to Franklin County Selectboard Members

LOCATION: All workshops will be held in the First Floor Meeting Room of the John W. Oliver Transit Center (12 Olive Street, Greenfield)

6 YOU ARE THE BOSS: PERSONNEL LEGAL GUIDANCE FOR SELECTBOARDS

Classification and compensation plans, performance evaluations, job descriptions and the difference between appointed and elected staff.

Presenter: Michelle Randazzo, Kopelman and Paige

2/19/15* (Thurs.)

7:00pm-9:00pm

*Snow Date: 2/25/15

7 HOW DO WE KNOW HOW WE ARE DOING? PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT FOR SMALL

TOWNS

Presenter: Mike Ward, Collins Center

3/12/15* (Thurs.)

7:00pm-9:00pm

*Snow Date: 3/18/15

8 BIG TICKET PROJECTS: HOW YOUR BOARD CAN SHEPHERD THEM FROM CONCEPT TO TOWN MEETING APPROVAL

Presenters: Peter D'Errico, Leverett Selectboard

4/16/15 (Thurs.)

7:00pm-9:00pm

9 BIKES, TRAINS, AND BUSES: ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION IN FRANKLIN COUNTY

Presenters: Tina Cote, FRTA; Beth Giannini, FRCOG; TBD, Rail Project

5/14/14 (Thurs.)

7:00pm-9:00pm

PLEASE SEE PAGE 1 FOR ADDITIONAL WORKSHOPS

“WHAT’S NEW IN MUNICIPAL LAW” 2014

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2014
LOG CABIN BANQUET & MEETING HOUSE
HOLYOKE, MA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2014
THE LANTANA
RANDOLPH, MA

AGENDA

REGISTRATION: 8:15 AM - 9:00 AM
Continental Breakfast

OPENING REMARKS: 9:00 AM - 9:15 AM
Robert Nunes, Deputy Commissioner of the Division of Local Services

GENERAL SESSION: 9:15 AM - 12:15 PM
The Division of Local Services Legal Staff presents the latest from the Legislature and the Courts.

LUNCHEON: 12:15 PM - 1:30 PM
Menu: Salad, Entrée, Chef’s Selection of Starch and Vegetables, Coffee/Tea and Dessert

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM
You may attend one of three concurrent workshops:

Workshop A. Local Taxes. A review of issues related to the qualification of charitable, religious and other non-profit organizations for local tax exemptions.

Workshop B. Local Finances. A discussion of municipal finance issues related to expenditures for public purposes and administration of trust funds.

Workshop C. Local Employees. An exploration of potential pitfalls and issues when local officials or employees wear multiple hats.

SEMINAR MATERIALS

Morning presentation slides and afternoon workshop materials will be distributed at the seminars. They will also be posted online after the October 2, 2014 seminar.

Reference books containing this year’s legislation and cases will be available online before the seminars. You do not have to bring them to the seminars.

Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard

From: Michael Sullivan [michael.sullivan@gmrds.org]
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 3:10 PM
To: Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard
Cc: townadmin@montague-ma.gov; Robin Hamlett; russell@duperelawoffices.info
Subject: Re: Financial disclosure request

The attorney of the day insisted tpwn govt approval was needed even though we are a region. I will ask our attorney to look into it further. Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 8, 2014, at 2:19 PM, "Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard" <administrator@gillmass.org> wrote:

Hi Michael,

"Special municipal employee" has always been fuzzy and murky to me, even though two of the other paid (Assessor) and unpaid (ZBA member) positions I hold have been so designated. Can you check with counsel on a couple of points for me?

- The GMRSD is a standalone legal entity from either town, and your staff positions, employees, and hiring decisions are total distinct from ours. Why isn't the School Committee the approving body here? Our Selectboard has no jurisdiction here, in my opinion.
- Whoever ends up taking the vote, I think it would first be to designate both positions (para professional and part-time Spanish teacher) as special municipal employees. The vote covers the position, not the individual. Then there would be a separate vote to approve the exemption for the individual.

Gill's Selectboard meets this Monday night, August 11th and then again on the 25th.

This was a timely question, as it reminded me that I may have another new-hire who needs a similar designation.

Ray

From: Michael Sullivan [mailto:michael.sullivan@gmrds.org]
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 1:14 PM
To: 'townadmin@montague-ma.gov'; Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard (administrator@gillmass.org)
Cc: Robin Hamlett; russell@duperelawoffices.info
Subject: Financial disclosure request

Hi Frank and Ray,

We have a para professional (teaching assistant) who will take a new job within the district as a part-time Spanish teacher. The wrinkle is we would like her to continue to work part time as the para (she is a valuable bilingual resource at the elementary level). There are no complications to do with on our end however the state's ethics folks tell us that in order for this to be allowed the select boards of both towns need to approve an exemption form that grants this employee special status to do this. The reasoning behind this is that it protects against any scenario where a municipal employee could be granted unfair advantage in seeking employment in a higher position within the organization. The scanned version of the form is attached and we will mail you paper copies. I am wondering how soon you could approve or have your boards approve

this? And if you have additional questions I will do my best to explain things more. Regards,
Michael

Michael Sullivan, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Gill-Montague Regional School District
michael.sullivan@gmrtd.org
ph (413) 863-9324

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Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard

From: Michael Sullivan [michael.sullivan@gmrtd.org]
Sent: Sunday, August 17, 2014 10:43 AM
To: Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard
Subject: RE: special municipal employee

Hi Ray,

Thank you for acting upon this so promptly. However, upon further advice from our attorney we have decided not to pursue this designation. He believes the initial advice we received from the state was not accurate, as you suggested. I am sorry if you invested much time in explaining or discussing this with the Selectboard.

-----Original Message-----

From: Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard [mailto:administrator@gillmass.org]
Sent: Wednesday, August 13, 2014 9:34 AM
To: Michael Sullivan
Subject: special municipal employee

Hi Michael,

The Gill Selectboard voted the special municipal employee designation on Monday night, and signed off on the disclosure form. A scan of the form is attached. I've gone ahead and filed a copy with our Town Clerk, so you should be all set from the Gill side of things.

Ray

Ray Purington
Administrative Assistant
Town of Gill
325 Main Rd
Gill, MA 01354
P: (413) 863-9347, F: (413) 863-7775
administrator@gillmass.org, www.gillmass.org

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