



SELECTBOARD AGENDA & MEETING NOTICE

August 16, 2021

***Indicates item added after the 48 hour posting
bold underlined time = invited guest or advertised hearing
 (all other times are approximate)

Location: Gill Town Hall, 2nd Floor

Face coverings required if not fully vaccinated for COVID-19

5:30 PM Call to Order (If the meeting is being videotaped, announce that fact. If remote participation will occur, announce member & reason, & need for roll call voting)

Old Business

- Review of Minutes
- Gill Elementary School Floor Replacement Project – report on any new information or updates

New Business

- Police & Fire Department Vehicle Acquisitions – ideas for new cruiser and mini-pumper
- Review and approve annual warrant for services to be performed by the Animal Control Officer
- Invitation from FirstLight to participate with other stakeholders in a collaborative process to support a potential settlement on proposed and additional recreational improvements to be included in FirstLight’s license application to FERC
 - Discuss Selectboard interest in participating in the settlement process
 - Appoint representative
 - Discuss Town goals and priorities relevant to recreation and FirstLight’s license application
- FirstLight announcement of two grant programs for Franklin County communities and 501c3 non-profit organizations – *Climate Action Grant* and *Environmental Justice Grant*
- Other business as may arise after the agenda has been posted.
- Public Service Announcements, if any
 - Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day – Saturday, September 25th – save the date. Pre-registration starts in mid-August

Warrants

FY22 #03 Vendors (\$26,028.21) & Payroll (\$24,650.78) – reviewed & signed on 8/2/21

FY22 #04 – review & sign

Adjournment

Other Invitations/Meetings:

Date	Time	Event	Location
Mon 8/30	5:30 PM	Selectboard meeting	Gill Town Hall, 2 nd floor
Mon 9/13	5:30 PM	Selectboard meeting	Gill Town Hall, 2 nd floor
Sun 9/26	12-3 PM	Gill Harvest Festival	Town Common
Mon 9/27	5:30 PM	Selectboard meeting	Gill Town Hall, 2 nd floor

Massachusetts General Law

Chapter 140, Section 151A: Issuance of warrant to officers; duties; confinement of dogs; allowance for care; records

Section 151A. (a) The mayor or board of selectmen, as the case may be, shall annually issue a warrant to the animal control officer directing the officer to seek out, catch and confine all dogs within the city or town which are not licensed, collared or harnessed, or tagged, as required by this chapter, and to enter and prosecute a complaint for failure to comply with this chapter against the owners or keepers of such dogs, if known, and to euthanize or cause to be euthanized only by the administration of barbiturates in a manner deemed acceptable by the American Veterinary Medical Association Guidelines on Euthanasia, or by gunshot in case of emergency, each such dog not licensed, collared or harnessed, or tagged after being detained by or for the officer for a period of 7 days; provided, however, that after 7 days, the animal control officer may make available for adoption any dog found free of disease for a sum of not less than \$3 to be determined by the city or town and shall keep an account of all moneys received by the officer for the adoption and shall immediately pay over the moneys to the treasurer who shall forward it to the city or town. Before delivery of a dog so adopted, the animal control officer shall require the purchaser to show identification and to procure a license and tag for the dog from the clerk of the city or town wherein the dog is to be kept. Dogs detained under this section shall be confined in a place suitable for the detention and care of dogs and kept in a sanitary condition, or they may be placed in the care of the holder of a kennel license or of a domestic charitable corporation incorporated exclusively for the purpose of protecting animals from cruelty, neglect or abuse. The commissioner from time to time shall cause such places wherein animals are detained under this section to be inspected and shall make necessary orders in relation thereto. An animal control officer having custody of a detained dog or cat shall be allowed a sum determined by the city or town per day for the care of the dog or cat, payable by the owner or keeper, if known, otherwise by the city or town.

(b) Each animal control officer shall make, keep and maintain systems of records or forms which fully and correctly disclose the following information concerning each animal in the officer's custody: (1) the date and location of apprehension; (2) a description of the animal; (3) the place of detainment; (4) if tagged, the name and address of the owner of the animal; (5) the name and address of a new owner, if any, including the date of sale or transfer of the animal; (6) if the animal is euthanized, the method and date of such euthanization and the name of the person who euthanized the animal; and (7) the date, location and description of an animal euthanized by gunshot in case of emergency, the disposition of the animal remains and a description of the situation requiring the gunshot.

Each animal control officer shall forward a copy of the record to the town or city clerk within 30 days. Copies of the record shall be kept for 2 years in the office of the city or town clerk wherein such animal control officer is employed.

Massachusetts General Law
Chapter 140, Section 153: Form of warrant to officers

Section 153. In the several cities and towns of the several counties, such warrant may be in the following form:—

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

(Seal)

To , ss.

To , constable of the city (or town) of

In the name of the commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to proceed forthwith to seek out, catch and confine all dogs within said city (or town) not duly licensed, collared or harnessed, and tagged, according to the provisions of chapter one hundred and forty of the General Laws, and you are further required to make and enter complaint against the owner or keeper of every such dog, and to kill or cause to be killed only by the administration of barbiturates in a manner deemed acceptable by the American Veterinary Medical Association Guidelines on Euthanasia, except by gunshot in case of emergency each dog which after being detained for a period of 7 days, shall not then have been duly licensed, collared or harnessed, and tagged, except that any dog not found to be diseased may be made available for adoption for not less than \$3, and you shall keep an account of any such adoption and forthwith pay over the money to the town treasurer. Before delivery of any dog so adopted you shall require the purchaser to show identification and to register and procure a license and tag for such dog from the town clerk of the town where the dog is to be kept, in accordance with the provisions of section one hundred and thirty-seven of said chapter one hundred and forty of the General Laws.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings therein, on or before the first day of October next, on or before the first day of January next, and on or before the first of April next, and at the expiration of your term of office, stating the number of dogs caught, confined and/or killed, or adopted, and the name of the owners or keepers thereof, and whether all unlicensed dogs and cats in said city (or town) have been caught, confined and/or killed, or adopted, and the names of persons against whom complaints have been made under the provisions of said chapter one hundred and forty, and whether complaints have been made and entered against all the persons who have failed to comply with the provisions of said chapter one hundred and forty.

Given under my hand and seal at ___ aforesaid the ___ day of ___ in the year 2000 and ___

Mayor of (or Chairman of the Selectmen of)

TOWN OF GILL

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



August 17, 2021

Mr. Kyle Dragon
Animal Control Officer
Franklin County Sheriff's Office
160 Elm Street, Greenfield, MA 01301

Dear Kyle,

At their August 16, 2021 meeting, the Selectboard affirmed your role as the Town of Gill's Animal Control Officer for Fiscal Year 2022 (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022), providing services in accordance with the Regional Animal Control Services agreement between the Town and the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. We thank you for serving the Town of Gill in this capacity!

In accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 140 Section 151A, the Selectboard issues to you the following warrant for services to be performed:

"You are hereby required to proceed forthwith to seek out, catch and confine all dogs within the Town of Gill not duly licensed, collared or harnessed, and tagged, according to the provisions of chapter one hundred and forty of the General Laws, and you are further required to make and enter complaint against the owner or keeper of every such dog, and to kill or cause to be killed only by the administration of barbiturates in a manner deemed acceptable by the American Veterinary Medical Association Guidelines on Euthanasia, except by gunshot in case of emergency each dog which after being detained for a period of 7 days, shall not then have been duly licensed, collared or harnessed, and tagged, except that any dog not found to be diseased may be made available for adoption. Before delivery of any dog so adopted you shall require the purchaser to show identification and to register and procure a license and tag for such dog from the town clerk of the town where the dog is to be kept, in accordance with the provisions of section one hundred and thirty-seven of said chapter one hundred and forty of the General Laws.

"Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings therein, on or before the first day of October next, on or before the first day of January next, and on or before the first of April next, and at the expiration of your term of office, stating the number of dogs caught, confined and/or killed, or adopted, and the name of the owners or keepers thereof, and whether all unlicensed dogs and cats in said city (or town) have been caught, confined and/or killed, or adopted, and the names of persons against whom complaints have been made under the provisions of said chapter one hundred and forty, and whether complaints have been made and entered against all the persons who have failed to comply with the provisions of said chapter one hundred and forty.

Sincerely,

Ray Purington, Town Administrator, signing on behalf of the Selectboard

cc: Doreen Stevens, Town Clerk
Chris Redmond, Chief of Police

Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard

From: Leonard Greene <Leonard.Greene@firstlightpower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 4:51 PM
To: Leonard Greene
Cc: Carter Wall
Subject: FirstLight Relicensing Recreation Settlement Meeting Invitation
Attachments: Settlement Ground Rules.DOCX; AFLA Executive Summary.pdf

To Our Recreation Stakeholders,

FirstLight is committed to providing recreational access to our local communities and to the people visiting our beautiful area. In our recent Amended Final License Application (AFLA) to the FERC, and following discussions with stakeholders held in 2019, we proposed over \$5.6 million of additional recreation improvements in local communities as part of our relicensing process. An Executive Summary of the proposal can be found attached to this email. We were not able to accommodate all proposals we received from interested stakeholders, due to a combination of safety considerations, protection of natural habitat, or financial feasibility, but we appreciate the strong interest in working together to build upon the information and proposals contained in the AFLA to ensure that the projects provide robust public recreational opportunities.

As indicated in MassDEP's recent request to FERC, we would like to meet with key interested stakeholders, communities, and public officials to discuss additional proposals that stakeholders have requested and engage in a collaborative process to support a potential settlement on these issues. We are planning a virtual settlement meeting of key stakeholders on September 10 at 10am and hope you will be able to attend, with three potential follow-up meetings on September 30, October 15, and October 29.

A proposed agenda is listed below. The goal of the meeting is to discuss recreation proposals only, as other key topics like fish passage and project flows will be discussed with different participants.

1. Baseline-setting presentation by FirstLight including Recreation study included in the AFLA
2. 2019 list of recreation requests – what was requested and rationale for what was proposed in the license applications.
3. Discussion of key topics
 - River access and camping
 - ADA compliance
 - Whitewater
 - Downtown Turners Falls development/fishway viewing

Please let us know if you have any suggested additions to this agenda. We look forward to your participation on September 10.

You are not currently a signatory to the settlement 'ground rules', but if you would like to join us, please sign the attached and get it back to us. We very much looking forward to seeing you there!



Len Greene, Director of Government Affairs & Communications
111 South Bedford St., Suite 103, Burlington, MA 01803

C: 860-795-4310

www.firstlightpower.com

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Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard

From: Elizabeth Bazler <Elizabeth.Bazler@firstlightpower.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 12, 2021 4:25 PM
To: Ray Purington - Town of Gill (administrator@gillmass.org); Walter Ramsey (planner@montague-ma.gov); Andrea Llamas - Town of Northfield (allamas@northfieldma.gov); Bryan Smith - Town of Erving (bryan.smith@erving-ma.gov)
Cc: Carter Wall
Subject: FW: Climate Action and Environmental Justice Grant Programs

Hello,

Since Carter is on vacation this week, just wanted to share this funding opportunity with our favorite town leaders. Carter is the primary contact and will be available for questions next week.

Respectfully, Beth

FIRSTLIGHT LAUNCHES CLIMATE ACTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE GRANT PROGRAM FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMUNITIES AND NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

AUGUST 12, 2021

The company to offer up to \$30,000 in grants to support regional 501c3 non-profit organizations and local communities in the fight against climate change and to advance environmental justice

Northfield, MA – August 12, 2021 – FirstLight Power (FirstLight), a leading clean power producer and energy storage company, announced today that the company is launching two grant programs – the *Climate Action Grant* and *Environmental Justice Grant*. The grant programs were created as an opportunity for Franklin County communities and 501c3 non-profit organizations to join FirstLight in having a positive impact on climate change and on environmental justice. The program includes two grant applications – for work in climate action and environmental justice-related projects in Franklin County – that will be eligible for grants up to \$15,000 each, totaling up to \$30,000. Applications will be accepted from August 1 through October 8, 2021, and FirstLight will work with a selection committee to choose and announce grant winners in November 2021.

“FirstLight is proud of our role in making Franklin County an epicenter of clean energy leadership and environmental stewardship through our operation of some of the region’s largest clean power assets and by making our recreational and educational facilities accessible to our neighbors and local communities,” said Alicia Barton, CEO of FirstLight. “Building on our long-standing commitment to

have a positive impact on the communities that we serve, we are excited for the opportunity to sponsor work by local environmental, education and tribal organizations to advance new projects that will improve the local environment and public health while fostering greater climate resiliency within our communities.”

FirstLight’s *Climate Action Grant Program* will support the efforts of 501c3 non-profit organizations for climate action-related projects in Franklin County. Climate Action Grant projects can be educational, support workforce development, help preserve critical environmental resources, study or mitigate the impacts of climate change, increase resiliency, or otherwise enhance the community’s opportunities for sustainability. A selection committee will award grants up to \$15,000, depending on availability of funding.

FirstLight’s *Environmental Justice Grant Program* supports and empowers community-based 501c3 organizations, tribal and local government entities, and cultural and social action organizations working on solutions to local environmental and public health issues. The program is designed to help communities understand and address exposure to multiple environmental harms and risks. Environmental Justice Grant projects can study, educate, train, or promote awareness of environmental or public health impacts in the community, provide solutions to critical environmental problems, public health issues, or preservation of important resources in environmental justice communities, or otherwise enhance the community’s environmental empowerment. A selection committee will award grants up to \$15,000, depending on availability of funding every year.

FirstLight’s Climate Action and Environmental Justice Grant Programs request that eligible organizations and communities apply through an [online application form](#) by **October 8, 2021**. In this application, communities and organizations will share their preliminary approach and will outline how they plan to have a lasting impact on the local community, spur action on climate or environmental justice issues, elevate existing community assets to create new benefits or opportunities, how the project fits into the community’s broader goals, and the ability of the group to complete the proposed project and how it aligns with the group’s overall mission. Grant recipients will be announced in November 2021.

For questions regarding eligibility or the application process, please contact carter.wall@firstlightpower.com.

ABOUT FIRSTLIGHT POWER

FirstLight Power (FirstLight) is a leading clean power producer and energy storage company in New England with a portfolio that includes nearly 1,400 megawatts of pumped-hydro storage, battery storage, hydroelectric generation, and solar generation – the largest clean energy generation portfolio in New England today. Based in Burlington, MA, with operating offices in Northfield, MA and New Milford, CT, FirstLight provides stewardship of and recreational access to 14,000 acres of land and waters along the Connecticut, Housatonic, Shetucket, Still, and Quinebaug Rivers. To learn more, visit www.firstlightpower.com.

Alicia Barton
Chief Executive Officer

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