

## **Windham Select Board**

Regular Meeting

March 20, 2017

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Frank Seawright</b>	<b>Chair</b>
	<b>Kord Scott</b>	<b>Selectman</b>
	<b>Maureen Bell</b>	<b>Selectwoman</b>
	<b>Kathy Scott</b>	<b>Assistant Town Treasurer</b>
	<b>Peter Chamberlain</b>	<b>Town Treasurer</b>
	<b>Robert Kehoe</b>	<b>Town Planning Commissioner</b>
	<b>Robert Bingham</b>	<b>Planning Commission</b>
	<b>Claudia Voight</b>	<b>Select Board Clerk</b>
	<b>Howard Ires</b>	<b>L &amp; G Union HS Rep</b>
	<b>Vance Bell</b>	<b>Conservation Commission</b>
	<b>Beth McDonald</b>	
	<b>Gail Wyman</b>	
	<b>Mark Simmonds</b>	

The Meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Frank

### **Approval of last meeting minutes:**

- Approved and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Frank

### **Agenda additions/deletions:**

- Kord Scott presented the following additions for discussion:

#### **Energy Committee**

- Kord attended meeting, suggest Energy Committee apply for \$20,000 – segmented by a \$10,000 grant and \$10,000 matching funds
- Kord made motion to have matching funds from town and Maureen 2<sup>nd</sup> – however where the avenue of the money stems from needs to be determined

#### **Executive Session to discuss Select Board Clerk and Chair positions**

- Chair – motion by Kord that Frank continue as Chair; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Maureen
- Select Board Clerk – to be discussed during Executive Session; motion made to make Claudia Voight acting interim clerk

#### **Policy for driveway culverts/cars on roadway during storm**

- Recent issue has driven need to develop a policy
- Handout to be developed for Jo Jo to distribute

#### **Town Meeting follow up letter**

- Regarding a Letter that will address relevant issues that were brought up and not resolved.
- Town residents will appreciate understanding what issues exist, that the Select Board has heard their concerns and what our intentions are in how to resolve them.
- Kord suggested sending letter out prior to Town Meeting – Frank suggested doing it through News & Notes
- Maureen asked Kord to draft up letter

### **How to address anger and divisiveness in Town**

- Frank has been reading books on the subject and thinking of his own personal experience, time heals, everyone needs to stop doing things that drives up anger/divisiveness
- This is not a unique issue; other towns share the same issue
- Beth expressed concerns about a letter that was sent which her son read which contained various comments about her father
- Kord commented that this is an issue which is not going to be resolved tonight, we need to think about it and reach out to others to avoid all anger
- Beth discussed her concern about the negative start to the new year for the Town and the dividedness; she suggested that perhaps a mediator would be beneficial to help the situation

### **Minutes for 3.20.17 Meeting**

- Motion made to adopt Minutes by Frank as presented.
- The Board voted all in favor

### **Appointments to Town Boards:**

- Planning Commission: Robert Kehoe to stay until filled
- Windham Regional Commission: Motion to re-elect Carolyn Partridge and William Dunkel to Commission – 2<sup>nd</sup> by Frank
- Dog Counter: Motion to re-appoint Ellen McDuffie/Joanne Chlebogianis – Frank 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Tree Warden: Motion to re-appoint Walter Woodruff – Maureen 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Building Safety: Vacant – need recommendations
- Town Health: Frank Seawright is officer until April 1, 2017 at which point Marcia Clinton will be re-instated.
- Senior Solutions: Motion to appoint JoJo – 2<sup>nd</sup> by Frank
- Select Board Clerk: Motion to appoint Claudia Voight made during Executive Session – all approved and position accepted by Claudia Voight
- Emergency Management Coordinator: Motion for Imme Maurath to continue – Maureen 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Radio Civil Emergency Service Coordinator: Vacant
- Energy Coordinator: William Dunkel nominated by Maureen and Kord 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Citizens Advisory Commission: Motion to re-appoint Jerry Dyke and Rudolph Behrendt by Maureen and Frank 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Conservation Commission: Peter requested to be taken off – motion to nominate Dawn Bower to Pete's position – 2<sup>nd</sup> by Frank
- Assistant Town Clerk: Motion to re-appoint Ellen McDuffie – 2<sup>nd</sup> and approved
- Assistant Town Treasurer: Motion to re-appoint Kathleen Scott – 2<sup>nd</sup> and approval
- Road Commissioner: Frank made a motion to make the Select Board act as the Road Commissioner – 2<sup>nd</sup> by Maureen - was brought to a vote:
  - Question brought up as to why Select Board to govern
  - Frank referenced incompetent record keeping
  - Kord disagreed stating that it would not be good management practice to have the Select Board manage

- Frank responded that if it seems it is not working then it can come to a re-vote; Frank had spoken to Josh and Josh was diplomatic and said it would be a good idea
- Maureen commented that it was discussed at prior meeting and noted Kord's prior disagreement to the group management
- Kathy Scott disagreed and would like to see meeting minutes of when it was discussed prior; a mention of having a lead for the position however still having the Select Board involved
- Frank suggested that this be discussed in Executive Session prior to a vote to iron it out. Item tabled.
- **So that it is not left open during the process, will leave it that any Select Board member can be called if there are any issues until it is discussed in Executive Session and voted on.**

#### **Meeting with VTRANS to review roads budget:**

- Kord stated that Meghan had called about this and it needs to be scheduled within a certain amount of time after Town Meeting
- No mention of how long after Town Meeting schedule needs to take place

#### **Annual Road Crew Evaluations:**

- Expect that after session end on 11/15 this will need to be scheduled
- Next evaluation in May; two for the first couple of years and then one. B
- Budget is important, ends on 11/15.

#### **Develop Code of Conduct:**

- Maureen distributed copies of model from VLTC and one which Grafton drew up for comparison/reading.
- Discussion will take place at next Select Board meeting.
- Frank stated that he feels it will take a number of discussions on this line item.
- Policy will be determined and drafted up and distributed.

#### **Dog Complaint:**

- Regarding Andrea Pare's German Shepard that has had some complaints/running wild, dog is not aggressive but is threatening
- Bill Dunkel will speak with her about this

#### **Other Business:**

**Loggers bonding issue** was brought up

- Awaiting Zoning Board to make a recommendation

**School Situation:**

- Subject of losing our school brought to the table by Howard Ires
- School is vital part of town, needs to be maintained, only thing left in Town other than Clerk's Office and Cemetery
- Act 46 is chaotic/moving children around to other districts
- Supervisory Commission making up rules as they go and not being clear as well as trying to get around the State Constitution– Frank agreed
- Town owns the school – voted to keep Town Board
- State is threatening to overrule us

- Question about legality
- Effect will deter future residents to move into the area as they would not want their children taken out of Town to another district for school
- Suggestion to have an attorney represent the Town to get answers/clarify what is going on Question re: should funds come from School funds or Town funds – Howard stated that School money is actually State money
- Maureen asked if other towns are asking for legal advice too?
- Kord suggested that Howard draft letter with point to Town Attorney
- Howard suggested that the Select Board ask legal advice prior to proceeding in any way

**Correspondence/Pay Orders:**

- Letter from Mary Boyer re: motion on article 17 – for Select Board to send letter of behalf of residents acknowledging/thanking road crews
- Johnathan croft – towns certificate of highway mileage not received
- CAI letter needs to go to Lister's
- Flyer about local roads safety workshop- Kord saw at town garage, so they have it
- Fire protection task force flyer max grant is \$4,000- Frank suggested giving donation to organization
- Liquor license renewal for tater hill
- Checks list for signature of Select Board

**Executive session:**

- Kord presented list of items which he felt needs to be discussed/addressed in the new year, asked other members what they thought should be focus from his list and any others to add
- One question stems around Select Board member being on another committee, Kord wants clarification
- Frank said if it involved a contract he does not want to be involved due to conflict of interest

**Select Board went into executive session**

**Motion to Adjourn: Frank made motion to adjourn at 8:45**

**Adjourned at 8:45 pm**

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Select Board Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_

