

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
TUESDAY, July 5, 2011**

Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons, Mark Fairbrother, Chris Boutwell, Patricia Allen, Town Administrator, Frank Abbondanzio; Administrative Secretary, Wendy Bogusz; Chris Curtis, Greenfield Recorder, Jeff Tirrell, WHAI, Matt Small, Montague Reporter

Fairbrother opens the meeting and announces the meeting is being taped

Approve minutes of June 20, 2011, if available

Not Available at this time

Pat Allen, Hard Hat Auction

Allen talks about the Hard Hat Auction (while wearing a hard hat) that was recently held and \$4,000 was raised as a match for RiverCulture against the John and Abigail Adams grant.

Lou Ekus, Holy Smokes BBQ Deli, Request to place chairs in the Public Way

Ekus: You have diagrams of corner where Holy Smokes is located and shows map with measurements of where we want to place 3 tables and chairs.

Allen makes the motion to approve the request by Holy Smokes BBQ Deli, Leslie and Lou Ekus of 52 Avenue A, Turners Falls for a tables and chairs license at their establishment, Holy Smokes at the corner of Avenue A and Second Street for the year 2011 with a fee of \$10 per table, total \$30, three tables as indicated on the drawing. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Pole Location Hearing, South Prospect Street, Millers Falls, Don Fish WMECO Representative.

Fish: This is a pole petition to place a mid span pole to lift the conductors and communication lines there too low to the ground. The span is so great between the existing poles there is too much sag.

Allen makes the motion to approve the request for a joint pole location 6F020798 for WMECO and Verizon New England, Inc. on South Prospect Street as indicated on the petition, pole will be 21M. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Town Administrators Report

ESCO Update

Abbondanzio: We had a kick off meeting last Monday and we've already had the Building Inspector doing a review of the working drawings so they can order the boilers. Out of total work being done, the town only has to come up with about \$45,000. This is phase 1 and we will be going back to Town Meeting and be asking to go to a second phase which will probably involve the WWTP and possibly the Highway garage and also the Town owned schools. The first phase is dealing with the grant funds that need to be done immediately and should be completed by the end of August.

4 Town Revolving Loan Program

A number of years ago, Montague participated in a 4 town Community Development Block Grant Application with Greenfield, Buckland and Shelburne. This was a low interest revolving loan program to encourage business in Franklin County. The FCCDC was the administrative entity for that program. Over the course of the program, the money is revolved and turned over a number of times and the total amount put out is almost \$1-1/2 million. The problem is the program has been around so long, that now there is very little income being generated, mostly small amounts of interest and the Town of Greenfield felt we needed to limit the payments going into the administrative component of this program because there wasn't as much administration going on. Town of Greenfield drafted letter to the CDC and in the future the amount of administration will be linked to the amount of interest earned on the loans. Also the four towns will have input when loans are going to be made and the Towns will be informed as to who is getting these loans and for what purpose. We were all unanimous in the way that this should be done.

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Set Date for Soap Box Derby, Mick Muller

Muller: I haven't taken out insurance or anything because I need the date so I want to schedule it for Saturday, September 17th. Muller given okay to move forward with the requested date and he will be back with the correct forms.

Bob Trombley, Water Pollution Control Facility

Fornier Press:

Trombley: They did start up and electrical checks last week and there was a lot of work they had to do because they did not have the right wires color coded properly in one of the control panels and that has been corrected. There are some issues with the thickened sludge pump controls and polymer feed pump capacity to be worked out. With the little amount of checks we did last week we were able to obtain a cake of 42% solids during the trial. The specification on the project says 35% solids minimum and we hit 42% just starting it up and trying it out. The budget is based on a 30% solid. There are a lot of little things they have to finish up on, punch list items, clean up issues and last minute stuff but they are going to be there for all of July and a week or so into August. The roof change order has not begun yet, we are still waiting on this.

Change Order #5

Trombley: Looking at change order to remove the 8 existing lights and conduit, and install 4 new lights and conduit which will have a higher rating and last longer. Removal and reinstallation will be \$6,589.84, down \$200 from their previous quote. We have \$35,000 remaining in contingencies.

Allen makes the motion to approve Change Order #5 for the project at the WWTP with Delray Construction Company, for \$6,589.84 for the Sludge Garage Lighting upgrade. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye

Memorandum of Understanding

Allen makes the motion to withdraw the earlier approval for the memo of understanding between the and the Town of Montague regarding hauling and disposal of the sludge. Seconded by Boutwell, approved. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell - Abstain

Allen makes the motion to approve new memo of understanding between the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District and the town of Montague regarding hauling and disposal of sludge with New England Organics according to attachment A which indicates the costs. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved. Allen – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Abstain.

Update on Millers Falls Sewer Evaluation

Trombley: CDM has done a flow analysis on the proposed pump station based on the path of the force main going from Millers Falls, down Green Pond Road out to Lake Pleasant Road connecting into an existing manhole at the intersection of Lake Pleasant and Old Northfield Road where the two stations out there didn't discharge to, so you would then have 3 stations discharging to the same manhole and flowing by gravity down Old Northfield Road all the way to Turners Falls Road. What they do as part of their analysis is access peak flow factors which involves the main full capacity of a carrying line and looking at the peak discharge ability of each of the three pump stations (two existing and one proposed) we run the risk of surcharging the Old Northfield Road main, which means we run the risk of overflowing raw sewage onto the road even though it is sand and goes through the trees to the woods, we still don't want to do that. We're taking a step back and asking two questions: 1) If we want to maintain that route, do we want to spend another \$500,000 to upgrade the line on Old Northfield Road (which would be required to keep the discharge from the proposed pump station to go on that path. 2) The other option is to revisit looking at running the line down Millers Falls Road past the Airport and connecting into the line where the Industrial Park comes out. More information is needed, such as pipe size for CDM to evaluate it properly.

Abbondanzio: The Industrial Park sewer capacity was a lot more than what is being billed out.

Trombley: That is a possibility. This will be looked into further by CDM. More information to follow at a future meeting.

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Erving Board of Selectmen Invitation to Discuss Millers Falls Inter-municipal Sewer Agreement

Abbondanzio: This is a way for Erving to stay current with their reporting requirements, but we need to let them know if will be able to attend that meeting. Will CDM be able to get the information back to us in time?

Trombley: If I get them the information by the end of this week, I don't think that is going to be a problem, I think we'll be able to get something back from CDM next week.

Allen: So even if we are not ready to make a decision we should probably go to their meeting and talk.

Abbondanzio: It's important that we stay current with the legal requirement in the agreement that says we need to meet on a periodic basis.

**Town Administrator Report
Peer to Peer Grant Application**

Ramsey: This is a yearly round that DHCD does where they offer grants at no cost to the Town. I'm requesting that the Town apply for technical assistance in developing our GIS mapping program. Currently we have a GIS system but we need to update it and keep it up to speed and actually use it to its full potential. This program would allow a peer (professional from another community) to come in and help me one on one to develop GIS program that is actually going to benefit Town departments. It would be a way to store a lot of information and access information quickly.

Allen makes the motion to apply for the FY12 Peer to Peer Technical Assistance Grant from the Dept. of Housing and Community Development to help the planning department with their GIS Mapping program. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Cultural District Support Letter

Ramsey: We were here 2 weeks ago where the Board signed the resolution and in addition to part of that application package, they need a letter of support that was overlooked last week.

Planning Board Appointments

Allen makes the motion to appoint George H. Cooke to be a member of the Planning Board until June 30, 2014 replacing Ted Armen's vacated seat. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Allen makes the motion to appoint Frederic H. Bowman to the Planning Board until June 30, 2016. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Discuss Natural Hazards Mitigation Grant Match – Millers Falls Road

Ramsey: This is a grant I've been working on with Tom Bergeron. An area of Millers Falls Road near Cemetery Road, across from the Cemetery if you are driving towards Millers Falls, you look to your left and it is a very steep embankment where the hillside is just washing away and it is constantly threatening to undermine Millers Falls Road. The FRCOG last year did a Mitigation Planning Grant where they went around and evaluated different sites from around Franklin County and this was the most pressing issue to address amongst all the projects they looked at throughout the county. We have never been able to completely solve this problem and it is not going away. Tom and I have been working on putting together a funding package that is going to be able to address this problem. It was a priority in our Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan update that was just completed and having that plan allows us to go for a Natural Hazard Mitigation grant to do a project like this. Engineering has been done at no cost to the Town and they have done a cost benefit analysis which we found out it would cost the Town \$733,000 if a disaster were to happen and the cost to fix it is \$308,000 proactively. The grant we are looking at through FEMA and MEMA they would provide all but \$77,000. There is no decision to be made at this point, we just wanted to bring it forward to get a feeler if we should apply for the grant.

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Bergeron: Because that area is at the bottom of two down slopes in the road, years ago they actually put in a culvert and a catch basin which is 8" deep and then it runs to another culvert, then into a leach field a bit. As the leach field filled, it was no longer absorbing any water, the water ran over the curb like a waterfall. We later found out that the water running off into the leach field was then leaching down towards the banking because it is the downhill side of the leach field, started cutting away at the banking on the sides. Three years ago it was brought to my attention that a lot of that sand is going right down into the Millers River.

Ramsey: This is an emergency evacuation route for the Town

Allen makes the motion to endorse the concept of the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan for the Millers Falls Road section discussed above based on the results of the benefits cost analysis done by the FRCOG as indicated in the letter dated June 30, 2011. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Amend Patrolman Sevene's 111F status

Allen makes the motion to extend the 111F status of officer Michael Sevene until next meeting on July 18th. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Status of Hampshire COG Municipal Aggregation of Electricity Program

Abbondanzio: HCOG submitted their application, 22 towns are participating in the program

Railroad Salvage Update

Jensen: Not much to say, have not had contact with Mr. Bent and voice messages were full. Jensen to contact state to see if permits have been pulled out on asbestos removal. Jensen to be at next meeting. Fence has been fixed. *Jensen receives phone call from Bent at this moment Bent is finishing up job in Virginia and hopes to be done next week, which leaves 3 weeks till his deadline. He says he has asbestos bill, and I got the impression the work is already done. David will look into this further.*

Sign Mayhew Steel Purchase and Sale Agreement

Allen makes the motion to approve and sign the purchase and sale agreement between the Town of Montague and Mayhew Steel Products Inc. for a parcel of land at the Industrial Park labeled Parcel B of 1.398 Acres on the plan dated May 25, 2011, prepared by Roberge Associates in plan book 131, page 55 with a total purchase price of \$25,000. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Atty. General Response to Open Meeting Law Complaint

Abbondanzio: This was received by BOS back in April regarding the Montague By-law review committee. There was a complaint filed with AG Office by Mr. Golrick. This letter is from the AG basically saying they are in the process of reviewing it, but due to short staffing may take longer than 90 days required to response. They will get back to him when they have a decision.

Other

Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Patricia A. Allen as representative for the Town of Montague to the Franklin Regional Council of Governments through June 2012. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye, Allen – Abstain

Allen makes the motion to approve use of Peskeompkut Park, by the Montague Public Libraries, Linda Hickman as the Child Librarian for July 15, 2011 from 10:00 AM until Noon for the Puppet Show. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

The next regularly scheduled Selectmen's Meeting will be held on **Monday, July 18, 2011** at 7:00 p.m. at the Montague Town Hall, Upstairs Meeting Room, 1 Avenue A, Turners Falls, Ma.

Allen makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Allen – Aye, Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye