

Town of Dudley

Board of Selectmen
Highway Commissioners
Cemetery Commissioners

October 3, 2016 @ 6:30pm
The Black Tavern
Center Road, Dudley, MA
Approved 10/17/2016

Some matters have been taken out of agenda order but were typed up in agenda order for ease of locating information when necessary.

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance

Jonathan Ruda opened the meeting at 6:31pm. In attendance were Steven Sullivan, Peter Fox and John Marsi. Also in attendance were Greg Balukonis, Town Administrator and Michelle Jervis, Administrative Secretary. Paul Joseph was absent.

Chairman Ruda thanked The Black Tavern for sponsoring our meeting tonight. This is an annual event and we all look forward to it. Also he requested residents to come visit and Tavern as well as the new monument across the street dedicated to the founding families of Dudley.

2. Acceptance of Minutes:

John Marsi motioned to approve the minutes of 9/26/2016 as written. Peter Fox seconded. Unanimous 4-0.

Peter Fox motioned to approve the executive minutes of 9/26/2016 as printed but not to release. John Marsi seconded. Vote 4-0-1 with Steven Sullivan abstaining.

3. Appointments:

5. Around the Town – Focusing on Local Businesses:

6. Public Comments/Citizens Comments:

7. Public Hearings:

8. Licensing and Permits:

9. Public Business:

a. Water/Sewer Commissioners – Mill Street/Village Street/Pine Street Project – Jay Spahl, Commissioner and George Patrinos, Interim Water/Sewer Superintendent, came before the Board. They have requested an additional \$200,000 be transferred from retained earnings on the town warrant for 10/24/16 meeting to cover costs of the Mill/Village project. Mr. Patrinos stated that they understood there would be issues with the condition of the roads. He stated that Dan Gion, Highway Superintendent checked them and paved some of the sidewalks. During the project they hit a lot of ledge and rocks with Pine Street having mostly ledge. They replaced a major line and shut off gates. People were getting inconvenienced and the more you shut off the water there is an increase of sediment and discoloration. Jonathan Ruda stated that they have been doing a great job informing the residents. Regarding the condition of the road Mr. Spahl stated that asphalt needs to settle for about 90 days. He feels the job should wait until spring and it could be done correctly. The system in that area is over 100 years old and some of the old lines carried water

directly from the pond when the mill was active. John Marsi requested that the road be paved to blend in with West Main Street and continue down Schofield Ave in the spring. It would make a good impression as you drive into town. Steven Sullivan requested that this issue be placed on the next department head meeting so that all will be informed. The Board thanked them for the information.

b. **Michael Mayotte, Capital Improvement Planning Committee** – Mr. Mayotte came before the Board. He informed the Board of the approved capital improvement requests from various departments that appear on the warrant. He would like to keep the Board informed of the committee's decisions.

1) Asphalt paver for the highway department in the amount of \$80,000. This is a need for the town and the cost savings is significant. The existing paver is 22 years old.

2). Request from Building and Grounds for a new 2017 F350 dump truck with plow in the amount of \$48,500. The CIP approved this request in April. Mr. Balukonis stated that he is recommending the article be passed over and hold off on the purchase until spring.

3). Proposed Fire Station – Mr. Mayotte that the BOS, CIP and FAA have approved the warrant article for a new fire station in the amount of \$6,500,000. Fire Chief Kochanowski stated that he is planning on having an open house and place signs around town but that cannot happen until after town meeting if the project passes at that time. It will be on the ballot for the November 8, 2016 election. The Town will borrow the money for up to 40 years with a low interest loan. Peter Fox approves the project and feels the residents need the station. John Marsi agreed and stated the town needs infrastructure to support new businesses and must move forward. He supports the project.

4). UPS System for the Dudley Municipal Complex. Mr. Mayotte stated that the CIP approved this request since the system is out of service and has failed. There was no warranty purchased on the system and it is now obsolete. The total cost is \$60,000. Mr. Balukonis stated that it is a turnkey system and we would hire an electrical engineer to design and install it for the town. It would go out to bid and would keep the Board informed of the progress.

5). Digital sign for the town hall in the amount of \$23,678. This sign would be installed outside on West Main Street in front of the town hall. CIP approved it.

6). Police vehicle for the Police Chief in the amount of \$8,500. Chief Wojnar stated that the he has monies in his detail account to pay 1/3 of the cost for a hybrid Ford Fusion. His current vehicle has over 115,000 miles and he would roll it into his fleet. The CIP approved this request since the Chief will be getting a matching donation from an area business and the cost for a new vehicle for the town is \$8,500.

7). Finally the Capital Improvement Planning Committee has an article on the warrant amending its bylaw. They would like it to read that the CIP shall make its recommendation to the Board of Selectmen no later than thirty (30) days prior to the Fall Town Meeting. Reports submitted less than thirty days' notice shall not be considered by the Board of Selectmen or the FAA. After discussion the amendment would have additional wording to the effect that if an emergency arises the Board of Selectmen can determine a otherwise. The Board thanked him for his updated information.

c. **Fall Town Warrant** – The Selectmen reviewed each article and placed a “hold” on articles requiring additional information or clarification. The following Articles were discussed.

Article 3 – Supplemental Budget – Budget transfers of \$152,000 plus \$23,000 for assessor's article – valuation for total amount of \$175,000.

Article 6 – Purchase Building and Grounds Truck – previously discussed.

Article 8 – Acceptance of Land – Regarding the request to accept Parcel “C” on a Definitive Survey Plan owned by Vitkus Properties, LLC, Board members requested that Dan Gion, Highway Superintendent, provide a report on the property to see if it would be acceptable for the town as passive recreation.

Article 10 – Restoration of Graves in Corbin – Would like to know the funding source.

Article 11 – First Station Renovation – previously discussed.

Article 14 – Funding for Employee Merit Pool – Mr. Balukonis informed the Board that we spend about half of the funds last year, approximately \$6,300 and turned back the remaining funds.

Article 15 – Town Clerk’s article – Will be removed from the warrant at the request of the town clerk.

Article 21 – Amend Capital Improvement Planning Committee Bylaw – discussed previously.

Article 23 – Digital Sign for Town Hall – discussed previously.

Article 24 – Late Charges for Municipal Collections bylaw for Police Department – Chief Wojnar explained that the Town Accountant as well as the auditors requested this account to collect interest on details that remain unpaid.

Article 26 – Accept M.G.L Chapter 90, Section 17C for Local “Safety Zones” - Chief Wojnar stated that there are two new laws that he would like the town to adopt. It would provide Safety Zones so that the town can change a speed limit without the need for the State to get involved.

Steven Sullivan motioned to approve the Warrant as presented with the caveat of a report from the Highway Superintendent regarding the land acceptance stated in Article 8. John Marsi seconded. Unanimous 4-0.

10. **Town Administrator’s Report:**

11. **Board of Selectmen Comments/Department Head Comments:**

12. **Adjournment/Executive Session:**

John Marsi motioned to adjourn at 7:50pm. Peter Fox seconded. Unanimous 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Jervis, Administrative Secretary