

Town of Dudley

Board of Selectmen
Highway Commissioners
Cemetery Commissioners

March 26, 2018 @ 6:30pm
Dudley Municipal Complex
71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA
Room 321A
Approved 4/9/2018

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

John Marsi opened the meeting at 6:30pm. In attendance were Steven Sullivan, Kerry Cyganiewicz and Jonathan Ruda. Also in attendance were Greg Balukonis, Town Administrator and Michelle Jervis, Administrative Secretary. Paul Joseph was absent.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Kerry Cyganiewicz motioned to approve the minutes of 3/12/18 as printed. Jonathan Ruda seconded. Unanimous 4-0.

3. Appointments/Resignations:

Inspector of Animals – Barn Inspector – Jonathan Ruda motioned to reappoint Jennifer FitzGerald as the Inspector of Animals for the Town of Dudley with a term to expire April 30, 2019. Steven Sullivan seconded. Unanimous 4-0.

Economic Development Committee – Alternates – Brian LaBrec and Russell Giglio – Kerry Cyganiewicz motioned to appoint Brian LaBrec and Russell Giglio as Alternates for the Economic Development Committee with a term to expire March 26, 2021. Jonathan Ruda seconded. Unanimous 4-0.

4. Public Comments/Citizens Comments – Informational:

Gregg Desto, Superintendent of the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District, came before the Board. Mr. Desto would like remind the citizens of Dudley to vote on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 in support of the school's budget override. He has put this out on social media and their website and thanked the Board for their support on behalf of the School Committee. He explained that there is a gap in the district, what children are learning and what they will need to succeed in the workplace and in college. Unfortunately, counselors are needed in the middle school due to increase challenges the students are facing and he will be holding a question and answer session for both the citizens on Dudley and Charlton in the next few weeks. Mr. Balukonis stated that Proposition 2 ½ does not have the ability to raise more for the town. Jonathan Ruda stated that out of 71 communities in Central Massachusetts, Dudley is 71 in lowest taxes, yet our citizens want good schools. Our crime rate is not high, we have excellent public safety and it is madness to jeopardize what we have right now. The Board thanked him for all his hard work and look forward to the special election.

5. Town Administrator's Report:

Mr. Balukonis reported that he will be meeting at the State Auditor's office on April 5, 2018 to discuss the education formula. He will be inviting the Town of Charlton to this meeting. Phase 1 of the street

lighting audit regarding the conversion of LED streetlights has been completed. He will be submitting a warrant article for this conversion with the electric savings paying off the bond in 3-5 years.

6. Around the Town – Focusing on Local Businesses:

7. Public Hearing:

8. Licenses/Permits:

9. Public Business:

a. Award of Landfill Solar Lease – tabled from 3/12/18 – Mr. Balukonis stated that he has reviewed the proposals for a solar array on the town’s landfill on Indian Road and is requesting the Board to award the bid to Ameresco, Inc. of Framingham, MA. Ameresco is the highest rates proposal and the highest evaluation. The bidder met all our criteria requirements and will be leasing the property for \$162,000/year for 20 years. After discussion Steven Sullivan motioned that based on the Town Administrator’s recommendation to award the landfill solar lease to Ameresco, Inc. of Framingham MA. Jonathan Ruda seconded. Unanimous 4-0.

b. Cable Access – Stipend Increase for Camera Operators – Ted Baron, Cable Access Coordinator, came before the Board with this request. He stated that it has been five years since the cable stipend has been changed. There are more meetings now and it takes time to convert them to the website. Thanks to Charter Spectrum the financial situation of the department is in good shape with a \$204,000 balance. He would like to increase the stipends beginning April 1st to \$60 for recording a meetings or program, \$70 for recording a meeting or program in the town hall outside of meeting room equipment; \$100 for recording a meeting or programs outside the town hall and \$120 for recording a meeting or program out of Town. Mr. Balukonis stated that the PEG Access payments come to the town annually and this department is self-funding, with no cost to the town. Steven Sullivan motioned to grant the increases as listed. Jonathan Ruda seconded. Unanimous 4-0.

10. Board Member Comments:

11. Departmental Communication:

Police Chief Wojnar informed all that the annual Drug Kick Back Day will take place in the lobby of the police station on Saturday, April 28, 2018 from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Drugs and syringes can be dropped off safely.

12. Adjournment:

Steven Sullivan motioned to adjourn at 7:17pm and to convene into Executive Session under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 30A Section 21(a)(3) – To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares and to admit the Library Trustees to join the meeting. Jonathan Ruda seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

John Marsi, Aye

Jonathan Ruda, Aye

Steven Sullivan, Aye

Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Jervis

Administrative Secretary