

Select Board Meeting Minutes
February 5, 2019
Tuesday, 5:30 p.m.
Town Hall Auditorium

ATTENDANCE: Chairman, Joseph J. Deedy
Vice-Chairman, Russell S. Fox
Clerk, Doug Moglin
Chief Administrative Officer, Karl J. Stinehart - Absent
Administrative Assistant, Sondra S. Pendleton

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: See Attachment "A" – 7 Page(s)

5:30 p.m. Convene in Open Session – Public Comments

Deborah Herath, CRC President

Alain Peteroy and Richard Hubbard, Franklin Land Trust

RE: CRC North Pond Land Acquisition Petition

Chairman Deedy informed the audience that he would take the above appointment prior to any public comments feeling as though the appointment may take care of a lot of questions the public may have in regards to the North Pond Land Acquisition.

This appointment is the result of the Townspeople not liking the vote of the Community Preservation Commission not funding the extra \$500,000.00 asked for for the preservation of the North Pond Land. Townspeople did vote for it at a prior Town Meeting they still want to use CPC Funds to draw another \$500,000.00 out. The owner of the property already got \$1,000,000.00 for 83 acres of preserved land sold to the state and is asking for the balance of \$4,000,000.00 for the remaining 63 acres. Attachment "B" – 2 Page(s).

Ms. Herath, CRC President was at the meeting to discuss a petition of the registered voters to put a warrant on a Special Town Meeting to ask the townspeople to vote on taking the money out of the General Fund. This would be a 2/3 vote. The Board felt it was in the best interest to re-approach the CPC to revote on the subject.

Rather than have the Townspeople submitting a petition, the Board feels, because of the time constraints with the State contribution, etc., that they should submit the Warrant Article for a Special Town Meeting, rather than have the Townspeople do it.

CRC President, Ms. Herath, stated that anyone who still wishes to donate to this cause can send it to P. O. Box 651 and the CRC will match all donations.

RE: CRC North Pond Land Acquisition Petition Meeting Cont.

The Select Board will reach out to the Commonwealth and see if they will hold the money allocated to Southwick until after a Town Meeting.

The Select Board will reach out to the Community Preservation Commission to see if they would reconsider having another vote.

The owner will be approached to see if she will give the Town consideration regardless of the time constraints.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

(Not per vadum – comments can be heard on the audio tape on www.southwickma.org)

- Ms. Herath, CRC President, read a prepared statement to the Board speaking in favor of the Board finding funding for the North Pond Land Acquisition. See Attachment “C” – 2 Page(s).

- Beth Thomas – 45 Miller Road also read a prepared statement to the Board speaking in favor of the Board finding funding for the North Pond Land Acquisition. See Attachment “D” – 3 Page(s).

- A 6th grader (name unavailable) made a statement in favor of the preservation of the North Pond Land.

- Michelle Pratt – 152 Berkshire Avenue spoke in favor.

- Diana King – 1 Eden Hill spoke in favor and requested the Board make a motion, however they will be holding off until the 2/19/18 meeting.

- Kim LaMarche – 27 Granville Road inquired about eminent domain and the assessed value of the land.

- Andrea Scully – 26 Castle Street brought up the fact that this land has aquifers, etc. and the Town should protect our water supply.

- Chelsea Pratt - 152 Berkshire Avenue

- Ron Beaudion – 195 Mort Vining Road stated the Town could put another well on the property and wants the Town to fund it.

- Marcus Phelps – 28 Depot Street stated the Free Cash, Stabilization Fund and Reserve Fund have balances in them so there is money to fund this purchase.

- Dawn Scully – 26 Castle Street spoke of the history of the “great lake” and should be funded above all other projects.

- Bernadette O’Relle-Oliver – Griffin Road West Suffield asked if having a new well on the property would bring in additional revenue.

- Kim LaMarche – 27 Granville Road inquired about eminent domain and the assessed value of the land again. Mr. Deedy stated he would get the information for her.

- Dennis Clark – 75 Fred Jackson Road – reminded everyone there that they should also attend the Special Town Meeting held regarding this land acquisition.

- Mr. Moglin stated a warrant article will go to a STM no matter what.

- Chris Pratt – 152 Berkshire Avenue – who will a request for a STM go to?

- Mollie Zeppa – 15 Kimberly Drive – do you have to attend the STM?

- Dominic Nooney – spoke regarding the land acquisition

- Dennis Goldie – 25 Lakeview Street – what’s bond rating, can we use that?

Chief Bishop

RE: Review of FY20 Budget

The Chief of Police, Mr. Bishop, came to the meeting to give the Board a preview of some of his larger budget requests. He will now meet with the Finance Committee and Select Board jointly in early March.

PVPC Jim Mazik

RE: CDBG Hearing

Mr. Deedy read the legal ad in its' entirety.

TOWN OF SOUTHWICK
Public Hearing – 5:55 PM Tuesday, February 5, 2019
5:55 PM Town Office Building
454 College Highway, Southwick
FY 2019 Southwick Community Development Fund Application

The Southwick Board of Selectmen will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 5:55 PM at the Southwick Town Office Building, 454 College Highway, Southwick, MA. The public is encouraged to attend this meeting to discuss the proposed FY19 application to the MA Department of Housing and Community Development. The application will be filed no later than March 1, 2019.

The town is seeking input on community needs and the proposed project to be included in the grant application. Projects currently being discussed include engineering for Bungalow Street, infrastructure improvements on Bungalow Street and/or town-wide housing rehabilitation.

The Southwick Town Office Building is handicapped accessible. Persons who require special accommodations should contact the town at least one week prior to the hearing date at (413) 569-5995. For further information contact PVPC Deputy Director James M. Mazik at (413) 781-6045 or jmmazik@pvpc.org.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to open the hearing at 5:55 p.m.

Deputy Director, Mr. Mazik, explained that he would like the Board to accept the application from the PVPC for a proposed Community Development Block Grant for Federal Fiscal Year 2019. The Board wants to focus on infrastructure improvements around the lakes and housing rehabilitation (paving, improvement of drainage, updating water and sewer infrastructure on Bungalow Street and town-wide housing rehabilitation for 15 housing units. This will consist addressing building code violations, health and sanitation violations, serious infrastructure repairs like roofs leaks, plumbing and septic. The most a community can receive in a 2 year period is \$1.35 million. If the Town is approved for the \$550,000.00 FFY19 Grant the Town will then apply for \$800,000.00 on the FFY20 application.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to close the hearing at 5:10 p.m.

- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to Authorize PVPC to submit the proposed FY 2019 Southwick Community Development Fund Grant Application to the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development in an amount not to exceed \$550,000 as detailed in the public hearing and to include funding for a Housing Rehabilitation Program and funding for the Bungalow Street Infrastructure Design Project.

CDBG Hearing cont.

- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to authorize PVPC to execute and submit all required forms, documents, letters, and authorizations pertaining to the proposed FY 2019 Southwick Community Development Fund Grant Application.

Badge Pinning of two new Southwick Police Department Reserve Officers:

The Board held a pinning ceremony for Kristin Rechenberger and Michael Girard for being newly hired as Southwick Police Department Reserve Officers. Congratulations!

6:00 p.m. Rick Johnson

RE: 2019 Wick 339 Race Schedule and Approvals

Rick Johnson came to the meeting for his yearly update to the Board. He submitted his 2019 race schedule.

Payables, Payroll and Minutes:

- The Board acknowledged Payroll Warrant #1918, dated 2/4/19, in the amount of \$218,705.12
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to approve the Regular Session Minutes of 1/29/18.
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to approve the Executive Session Minutes of 1/29/18.

Action Items, Bills, Mail, Correspondence, Vendor and/or Personnel Contracts, Personnel Decisions, Policy Adoptions, Payroll Actions, Old Business, New Business, Etc.-Possible Motions/Votes:

- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to approve the Employee Handbook Revisions regarding leave accruals for temporary employees past 6 months after the 2nd reading by the Board.
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to authorize approval of the FY20 Veterans District Budget submitted by Mr. Stinehart.
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to accept a Southwick Police Department FY2019 State 911 Training Grant Award in the amount of \$10,000.00.

Old Business & Dates to Remember:

- An update was given on the 250th Anniversary Meeting of 1/23/19, the next Meeting will be a "meet and greet" for area business to be introduced to all the celebration events and how they can get involved on 2/11/19 @ 6:30.

Old Business & Dates to Remember continued:

- Southwick Police Department Provisional Officer Parks has been made an offer of employment by the Select Board Chairm Deedy and Chief Administrative Officer Stinehart and will be attending the Police Academy.
- Mr. Fox would like to ask the Cemetery Commission for their recommendation on getting water to the Old Cemetery.
- Lakeview Village Sewers Connection Agreement is ongoing.

New Business:

- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to put the fire truck supplemental funding on the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Being no further business to be brought before the Board **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

There was no Executive Session held.

Respectfully submitted,

Sondra S. Pendleton
Administrative Assistant

Cc: Town Clerk