

Select Board Regular Meeting
Monday October 7, 2019 - 6:00 p.m.
Longmeadow High School, Room A15, 535 Bliss Road, Longmeadow, MA

Present: Chair Marie Angelides, Mark Gold, Thomas Lachiusa, Marc Strange, and Richard Foster

Also Present: Paul Pasterczyk, Jay Moynihan, Debbie House, Chief John Dearborn, Chief John Stankiewicz, Carl Sweeney, Michelle Marantz, Tom Shea

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Select Board Chair Marie Angelides.

Mr. Lachiusa made a motion to enter into executive session at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation and the Chair hereby declares an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body; to reconvene to open session. Mr. Foster seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ms. Angelides-yes, Mr. Foster-yes, Mr. Strange-yes, Mr. Gold-yes, and Mr. Lachiusa-yes.

Returned to Open session at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in executive session

Announcements

1. The Board of Health suggests limiting outdoor activities during the hours around dawn and dusk/sunset until the first good frost. The Board of Health strongly recommends the following measures to prevent mosquito bites: Employ personal protection to prevent mosquito bites such as long sleeves, long pants and insect repellent containing DEET, and check your property for standing water to prevent mosquito breeding.
2. There will be a flu clinic at Greenwood Center on Tuesday, October 8 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Check the town website for additional flu clinic dates.
3. On October 14th there will be a 100-year birthday celebration for a WWII Bronze Star veteran at the East Longmeadow Skilled Nursing Center. All are welcome.

Resident Comments

1. Carl Sweeney, 124 Whitmun Road – Mr. Sweeney spoke about his opposition to the gas pipeline project at Longmeadow Country Club. The project is very close to his home and he feels this poses a health hazard to his family and neighbors. Mr. Sweeney asked the Select Board to reject this project from moving forward and recommended that alternative fuel sources be considered or have the station's location be in a remote place. Mr. Sweeney submitted his written presentation.
2. Michele Marantz, 117 Rugby Road – Ms. Marantz reported on the progress that the pipeline awareness group has made in their efforts to prevent the construction of the gas facility on Longmeadow Country Club property. The pipeline awareness group is asking the Select Board to state publicly that building an industrial gas facility on the LCC site is unacceptable and that construction on any Longmeadow site needs to be premised on acquiring town permits and site approval. Ms. Marantz submitted her written presentation.
3. Tom Shea, 81 Greenmeadow Drive – Mr. Shea, a 31-year resident thanked the Select Board for holding a public forum on the upcoming Special Town Meeting warrant articles. He asked that the DPW facility power point presentation by Weston & Sampson be added to the town website. Mr. Shea asked why the \$1.7 million contract awarded to Mountford was not put out to bid.

Select Board Comments

1. Mr. Gold requested that an update on the LED Street Light Conversion be added to the agenda.

2. Mr. Lachiusa spoke to the florist who did the flowers for the Home Tours last weekend. The event was sold out. Most people wanted to see the Young Mansion.
3. Mr. Foster noted that all of the flowers for the Home Tours event were donated.
4. Ms. Angelides and Mr. Lachiusa attended a MMA meeting. One of the topics was a tax ceiling discussion. Ms. Angelides thanked Senator Lesser for his support with this. Ms. Angelides suggested that the Select Board consider creating a subcommittee to look at the current PILOT agreements, and creating a task force to look into sharing services with other towns.
5. Mr. Lachiusa added that Boston is now the third highest city as far as prices for homes and apartments.
6. Mr. Gold noted that Longmeadow has the highest tax rate, but is 43rd for the highest tax bill.
7. Mr. Foster expressed his displeasure with having to pay a 10 cent fee for paper bags now that plastic bags have been banned. He believes it is wrong and doesn't think it was intended. Stores are charging for something that used to be free.

Interim Town Manager's Report

Mr. Moynihan has a DIF meeting this week regarding costs, and a Colvest meeting with legal counsel. Phase I of the landfill capping has been awarded and is moving forward. Endangered species were not found at the site. The low bidder was Salt Marsh at \$736,000. The 12-week project will start the beginning of November. The state requires substantial completion by November 22.

A firm is being hired to do a traffic study for MGM. They will pay for the study.

Mr. Moynihan will speak to our MIIA representative regarding the new Department of Labor OSHA requirements, safety audit, and policies and procedures.

There are IT grants for policies and procedures for cyber security. Mr. Moynihan spoke with our IT Director about this.

Old Business

1. *Mr. Gold made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from September 16, 2019 as presented. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed, Mr. Foster abstained.*
2. Library Agreement – to be discussed at the October 21st meeting.
3. Goals – budget directives, goals, and assumptions have been previously discussed at the September 16th meeting.
4. Town Manager Search – The Select Board offered the position to a candidate and is waiting for a response.
5. LED Street Lights – Mr. Gold gave an update to the Board. The audit that was done was less than what we wanted to have done. There are approximately 16-20 different decorative lights in town. On October 15 Tanko Corporation will be in town looking at the decorative lights and do a more detailed audit. December 1st we will purchase the street lights from Eversource and we should have a total conversion to LED by May. The town has to own the street lights before we can go out to bid. MAPC will be going out for bids. Chad Thompson, our Procurement Manager is looking into service contracts for the lights. A contract will be with a “time and materials” company. Funds will come from the state reimbursement contract, the Green Communities Grant, and the utility company. Residents are asked to report any light outages as soon as possible so that they can be fixed before the town buys them. The Police Officers are taking note of any lights that are out when they are on patrol; a list has been started. Utility poles (with wires) are owned by the utility companies. The town can put a light on them at no cost by filling out a form. The town will own the decorative poles (no wires).

New Business

1. Special Town Meeting Draft Warrant – Paul Pasterczyk review the warrant with the Select Board.
Article 1. FY20 Community Preservation Fund revenues, \$46,520 will each go to open space, community housing, and historic preservation.
Article 2. \$15,000 for a pavement distress survey

Article 3. \$45,000 for two firefighters

Article 4. estimated debt service for the new Adult Center, \$360,000 principal and \$260,000 interest

Article 5. bills of prior year, \$100.79

Article 6. install electric charging station at Town Hall

Article 7. raise and appropriate \$240,000, transfer to Operational Stabilization Fund. This is not a reoccurring expenditure. Ms. Angelides supports this. Mr. Gold feels that we need to hold down our tax rate.

Article 8. microburst cleanup \$175,000

Article 9. \$250,000 phase I landfill capping

Article 10. \$100,000 legal expenses, TN Gas and new DPW

Article 11. town's share (25%) MVP grant

Article 12. \$140,000 forestry, 2nd storm and backlog

Article 13. \$25,000 planting, backlog of tree planting requests

Article 14. \$95,000 transfer to Operational Stabilization Fund

Article 15. new DPW additional costs

Article 16. \$2,000,000 phase II landfill capping

Article 17. \$236,000 replace water mains on Fairview Street

Article 18. delete (revise Charter-building committee)

Article 19. amend General Bylaw-revoke Ch. 51 s16A

Article 20. amend General Bylaw-change polling hours

Article 21. amend General Bylaw-water service

Additional articles to be added to the warrant include easements for Dwight Road and the north interceptor sewer, hazardous material bylaw, conservation projects for town buildings, Glenbrook fields, and a Historic District Commission article. The warrant was not closed.

2. Westcomm Update – Fire Chief Dearborn and Police Chief Stankiewicz attended the meeting and gave an update. State 911 approved the full operating budget (the full 75%). We are moving towards partial implementation as of October 1. December 2 is the start date. From October 15-December 2 all Longmeadow 911 calls will route from Chicopee to Longmeadow, this will free up the grant money. Four Longmeadow dispatchers will be working in Chicopee October 15. We will continue to operate as we are now. Westcomm funds will pay the dispatchers along with benefits. The Longmeadow Police lobby will be secure with an intercom and monitor. A call button will ring in Chicopee and a dispatcher will respond. The Westcomm budget will be submitted in May. Three sets of grants support this; operational grant, training grant, and development grant.
3. *Mr. Lachusua made a motion to approve the one-day liquor license for November 2, 2019 for St. Mary's Academy Designer Purse Bingo Fundraiser from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Mr. Gold seconded the motion. The vote was 5 in favor and 0 opposed.*
4. *Mr. Gold made a motion to approve the one-day liquor license for December 29, 2019 for the St. Paul the Apostle fundraiser event at St. Mary's Academy from 5:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was 5 in favor and 0 opposed.*
5. *Mr. Lachusua made a motion to approve the street closure request for the Center School Halloween Hustle race on October 26, 2019 from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Mr. Gold seconded the motion. The vote was 5 in favor and 0 opposed.*
8. Columbia Gas Moratorium – Fire Chief Dearborn spoke on this topic. Chief Dearborn and DPW Director Mario Mazza are the contacts in Longmeadow for Columbia Gas. The Department of Public Utilities issued a moratorium on October 3. Any non-emergency work by Columbia Gas has to be approved first. Chief Dearborn expressed his frustration in working with Columbia Gas. Many times the Fire Department would respond to a gas leak only to find that Columbia already knew about it. The Chief asked the Select Board to request that Columbia Gas supply a list monthly of the location of gas leaks, the grade, repair date, and when it was reported. Also, the Chief would like a work plan every 6

10/07/19 Regular Meeting
11/4/19 approved

months from Columbia with the purpose of the work listed. The Chief asked for a letter of support to come from the Select Board to Columbia Gas. Mr. Gold supports what the Chief is doing and supports what the state has done. He believes we have an obligation to let the state know that we are not comfortable with Columbia Gas building in our town. The Chief will draft a letter for signatures.

Ms. Angelides asked the Select Board to think about creating a position for a grant writer or a planning and development position. This would need to be put into the budget if the Select Board chooses to go forward with it. Mr. Strange believes it would be beneficial to the town to have a planning and development position. There is a lot of work involved. Mr. Moynihan has worked on grants for Springfield years ago and offered to look into this for the Board and bring information to the next meeting.

The Finance Committee and the School Committee are scheduled to join the next Select Board meeting on October 21 to discuss FY21 budget assumptions, directives, and goals per the FY 21 budget and capital planning calendar.

Richard Foster made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:58 p.m. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion. The vote was 5 in favor 0 opposed.

The next regular scheduled Select Board Meeting will be on October 21, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie House

Documents:

Agenda

Resident Comments – Carl Sweeney, Michele Marantz

Keches Law Group Letter – Deposition

Assistance to Firefighters Grant memo

Analyze Impact of Prop. 2.5

Email IT Planning

Columbia Gas September Safety Letter

Home Rule Petition-Atty. Timme

List of street light outages by Police Dept.-North District

Contractor Fraud Scheme article

Open Meeting Law training flyer

Tighe & Bond Landfill Closure Phase I recommendation

Draft SB Minutes 9/16/19

Draft STM Warrant

Library Amended Operating Agreement draft

One Day Liquor License Applications-Designer Purse Bingo/St. Paul's Fundraiser

Street Closure Application-Halloween Hustle 5K

Capital Stabilization Fund Policy

SB Budget Policies

Other Post-Employment Benefits Funding Policy

Approved Minutes: Conservation 8/28/19, Historic District 8/13/19, Tree Committee 9/19/19

Chapter 70 chart of MA towns

Comcast letters 9/13/19, 9/30/19

Correspondence – senior volunteer letter, Mass DOT letter 9/16/19, Mass DOT Guidelines for Right of Way acquisitions