

WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
AGENDA

TOWN OF WILLIAMSTOWN

MAR 19 2015

MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2015  
7:00 P.M.

TOWN CLERK

2:00 pm

1. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING STATEMENT Faith Scarborough Award** The Faith R. Scarborough Community Service Award Committee is accepting nominations for the 34th annual award. The committee will select a citizen who has demonstrated integrity, excellence, and dedication in community service. The award will be presented at town meeting, which is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, at 7 p.m., at Williamstown Elementary School. The deadline for nominations is April 10. Nominations should be emailed to the town moderator, Adam Filson, at [afilson@williamstown.net](mailto:afilson@williamstown.net) <<mailto:afilson@williamstown.net>> .
2. **SELECTMEN'S MINUTES:** March 9, 2015 (BoS Minutes 3.9.15)
3. **PUBLIC HEARING:** Set a public hearing date for 4,000 gallons of Propane at 140 Hopper Road, Bo Peabody, Sherwood Guernsey-Trustee.
4. **LICENSES AND PERMITS:** None
5. **ITEMS FOR SELECTMEN'S CONSIDERATION:**
  - A. Cable Mills borrowing \$1,102,961 (to be funded with CPA funds) School Bond refunding \$2,190,000 total borrowing \$3,292,961 (Janet Saddler)
  - B. Request to Place Town Meeting article Opposing Northeast Energy Direct Project of Tennessee Gas Pipeline in Massachusetts and Championing Sustainable Energy on the Town Meeting Warrant (Anne O'Connor)(Proposed Town Article)
  - C. Update on Affordable Housing Committee (Van Ellet)
  - D. 3rd Annual PopCares 5K Race, May 30,2015 8:45-12 (email and route map)
  - E. Review Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles (Town Manager)
  - F. Town Manager Search Update (Patton-Sheldon)
  - G. Economic Development Update (Daley)
  - H. Re-appoint to Board of Registrars Republican Kurt Gabel
6. **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**  
(Town Manager's Report)
7. **PETITIONER REQUESTS**
8. **VOTE TO ADJOURN**

Next scheduled Selectmen's meeting Monday, April 13, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**  
**WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**March 23, 2015**  
**7:00 PM**

**Present:** Tom Sheldon, Hugh Daley, Ron Turbin, Chairman

**Absent:** Jane Patton, Andrew Hogeland

**Others Present:** Peter Fohlin, Debra Turnbull, Van Ellet, Anne O'Connor, Adrienne Dunn, Janet Saddler

1. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING STATEMENT- STATEMENT Faith Scarborough Award** The Faith R. Scarborough Community Service Award Committee is accepting nominations for the 34th annual award. The committee will select a citizen who has demonstrated integrity, excellence, and dedication in community service. The award will be presented at town meeting, which is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, at 7 p.m., at Williamstown Elementary School. The deadline for nominations is April 10. Nominations should be emailed to the town moderator, Adam Filson, at [afilson@williamstown.net](mailto:afilson@williamstown.net).
  
1. **SELECTMEN'S MINUTES-** Mr. Sheldon made a motion to accept the March 9, 2015 minutes. Mr. Daley seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0-0. Mr. Sheldon made a motion to accept the March 18, 2015 minutes. Mr. Daley seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0-0.
  
2. **PUBLIC HEARING:** Mr. Sheldon made a motion to set a public hearing for issuing a 4,000 gallon propane tank license for Bo Peabody at 140 Hopper Road. Sherwood Guernsey- Trustee on April 13, 2015 at 7:05pm. Mr. Daley seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0-0.
  
3. **LICENSES AND PERMITS- None**
  
4. **ITEMS FOR SELECTMEN'S CONSIDERATION:**
  - a. Cable Mills borrowing \$1,102,961 (to be funded with CPA funds) School Bond refunding \$2,190,000 total borrowing \$3,292,961 (Janet Saddler). Janet Saddler presented the documents authorizing the corrected \$3,177,961 borrowing at 1.61% interest rate with a maturity date of 2025. Mr. Daley made a motion to sign all supporting documents authorizing the treasurer to initiate the borrowing. Mr. Sheldon seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0-0.
  
  - b. Request to Place Town Meeting Article Opposing Northeast Energy Direct Project of Tennessee Gas Pipeline in Massachusetts and Championing Sustainable Energy on the Town Meeting Warrant (Anne

O'Connor)(Proposed Town Article) Ann O'Connor presented a proposed town warrant article opposing the gas pipeline. Ms. O'Connor asked the board if they were willing to endorse the warrant article. The board advised Ms. O'Connor to submit the warrant article as a citizen's petition by March 30, 2015.

- c. Update on Affordable Housing-Van Ellet- Van Ellet reported on the status of the Affordable Housing Committee. Mr. Ellet noted the development of approximately 100 affordable units designed to address the needs of low income families including Spruces residents. The committee intends to watch the progress of these projects and their occupancy rates. Mr. Ellet identified additional opportunities to assist the elderly population in developing low maintenance, cost effective housing. Young families were also identified as a sub population that is under served. He suggested working with the planning board in updating the master plan to addressing housing issues. The Affordable Housing Committee will continue to monitor the progress of Cable Mills, Highland Woods and Photech. The Photech project is still working on financing. The town is waiting for the option agreement from Berkshire Housing. Mr. Sheldon asked if the AHC plans were going to be refined with more action oriented detail. Mr. Ellet stated that after an investigative process their future plans will become clearer.
- d. Approve 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual PopCares 5K Race, May 30, 2015 from 8:45am-12:00pm. Local police have been notified and have agreed to provide support for safety. Mr. Sheldon made a motion to approve the race. Mr. Daley seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0-0.
- e. Review of Town Meeting Warrant Articles- Mr. Fohlin reviewed the rough draft of the 21 articles for the town warrant with the board. The board will vote their recommendations on the final draft at the next board meeting.
- f. Town Manager Search Update- The Town Manager Search Committee will meet on May 11 to review candidates, design interview questions and structure the interviews. The interviews will be May 20-21 dependent on scheduling. The selectmen's interviews will likely occur the following week on May 27-28.
- g. Economic Development- The economic development survey is out. The surveys can be returned with the tax bills or at town hall. The survey is also available at Survey Monkey online.
- h. Re-appoint Kurt Gabel to the Republican Board of Registrars. Mr. Sheldon made a motion to re-appoint Mr. Gabel. Mr. Daley seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0-0.

5. **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**- See attached and at [www.williamstown.net](http://www.williamstown.net). Mr. Daley reminded parents
6. **PETITIONER'S REQUEST**- Anne O'Connor presented a town warrant article by citizens petition banning polystyrene (Styrofoam and plastic silverware) in Williamstown. They are proposing that the health department enforce the ban. Additionally, plastic bags would be banned. Enforcement for banning plastic bags was unclear. Exemptions could be considered annually based on hardship. Fines are based on violations and frequency. Mr. Daley proposed taking the next year to educate businesses on how to become Styrofoam free rather than mandating it. Mr. Turbin asked that businesses have a period of time to become compliant. Mr. Sheldon recommends investigating this from a state perspective. The proposed bylaws suggest fees for alternative bags. Mr. Fohlin had a concern that the AG office would consider this a tax which the town does not have the authority to levy. Compliance is so much easier than enforcement. The community is small enough to reach out to business owners with alternatives to plastics and Styrofoam. The farmer's market and the schools could help to educate the public. Mr. Turbin cautioned the petitioners to make sure that they were following state laws and regulations.
7. **OTHER** – None
8. **ADJOURN**. Mr. Daley moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sheldon. The motion passed 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Sheldon  
Secretary Pro Tempore