

TOWN OF WILLIAMSTOWN

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TOWN CLERK

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AGENDA
WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2014
7:00 P.M.

1. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING STATEMENT**
2. **SELECTMEN'S MINUTES** February 3, 2014, February 10, 2014, February 24, 2014
3. **PUBLIC HEARING-** Creation of Williamstown Cultural District (Lapidus)
4. **LICENSES AND PERMITS** Seasonal License for Taconic Golf Course
5. **ITEMS FOR SELECTMEN'S CONSIDERATION**
 - A. Enrollment Projections for MGRSD (Greene and Ellis)
 - B. Discuss RFP process with Affordable Housing Committee (Cathy Yamamoto)
 - C. Water/Sewer Warrant \$183,880.10
 - D. Set Fee for One Day Liquor Licenses (Allen)
6. **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**
7. **PETITIONER REQUESTS**
8. **OTHER BUSINESS**
9. **VOTE TO ADJOURN**

Next Selectmen's meeting is Monday, March 24, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES
WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
March 10 2014
7:00 PM

Present: Jane B. Allen, Chairman, Thomas E. Sheldon, David Rempell, Ron Turbin, Jane Patton

Others Present: Peter Fohlin, Debra Turnbull, Cathy Yamamoto, Carrie Greene, Colleen Taylor (Mt. Greylock School Comm.), Paula Consolini (Williamstown Co-Chair from the Mt. Greylock Building Comm.), Mark Schick (Lanesboro Co-Chair from the Mount Greylock Building Comm.), Paul Harsch, Realtor

1. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING STATEMENT-** Chairman Allen reminded everyone that there are numerous opportunities to run for town offices. Nomination papers must be submitted to the town clerk's office by March 25 at 5:00pm. The openings available are as follows: two board of selectmen, two library trustees, one school board committee member, one planning board committee member and one housing authority committee member. These are all three -year terms.
2. **SELECTMAN'S MINUTES-** Mr. Turbin made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 3, 2014 meeting. Ms. Patton seconded the motion. Mr. Rempell and Mr. Sheldon abstained due to absence. The motion passed 3-0-2.

Ms. Patton made a motion to accept the minutes from the February 10, 2014 meeting. Mr. Sheldon seconded the motion. Mr. Rempell and Mr. Turbin abstained due to absence. The motion passed 3-0-2.

Mr. Rempell made a motion to accept the February 24, 2014 minutes. Mr. Turbin seconded the motion. Ms. Patton abstained due to absence. The motion passed 4-0-1.

3. **LICENSES AND PERMITS-**
 - A. Liquor License Renewal for Taconic Golf Club- Mr. Turbin made a motion to renew the Taconic License. Ms. Patton seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.
 - B. One Day License for Williams College for a St. Patrick's Day Celebration at Paresky Student Center from 1:00-5:00pm on March 15, 2014. Mr. Rempell made a motion to approve the license. Ms. Patton seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.
4. **PUBLIC HEARING-** Williamstown Cultural District- Fran Lapidus is requesting that Williamstown move forward with an application to create a downtown Cultural District. This walkable area holds various artistic, cultural and economic venues.

The application needs to be submitted on March 21, 2014, followed by a site visit and internal review. The Massachusetts Cultural Executive Council meets on May 6, 2014. The Mass. Cultural Board meets on May 20, 2014. Andrew Groff is working with Fran to complete the process. The district boundaries were shared with the public. Venues that fall outside the district will be recommended to visitors. The Williamstown Cultural District hopes to be in place for the reopening of the Clark Art Institute on July 4, 2014. Mr. Turbin made a motion to approve the resolution establishing the Cultural District. Mr. Rempell seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.

5. ITEMS FOR SELECTMAN'S CONSIDERATION:

- A. Enrollment Projections for MGSD** – Carrie Greene and Colleen Taylor from the Mount Greylock School Committee, Mark Schick from Lanesboro and Paula Consolini from Williamstown, co-chairs of the Mount Greylock Building Committee, were in attendance. Ms. Greene reported that the committee has 270 days to complete the Massachusetts School Building Authority eligibility phase. The MSBA has projected 535 students as the ten year average for Mount Greylock enrollment. This figure includes enrollment from Hancock, New Ashford, Williamstown and Lanesboro. Williamstown and Lanesboro currently make up the Mount Greylock School District. Hancock and New Ashford also tuition a high percentage of their students to Mount Greylock. Other students attend Mount Greylock through school choice. The enrollment goals are to have 100 students in each class including Williamstown, Lanesboro, New Ashford, Hancock and school choice. The cost of a new school is the responsibility of member schools and is not shared by the communities that pay tuition. Lanesboro has questioned if Hancock and New Ashford should become members of the district, creating a financial responsibility for the new building or be required to move their students to another school. Lanesboro has asked for a new enrollment calculation based solely on Williamstown and Lanesboro students. A determination will need to be made on the final enrollment numbers for the feasibility study. Mr. Rempell commented on the effects that lower enrollment could have on how robust the curriculum will be. Mr. Harsch, local realtor, also commented on the effect an improved or new school brings to the property values and populations of the community. Lanesboro will be holding a meeting on March 27, 2014 to discuss the enrollment issue. The enrollment issue will need to be resolved prior to the town meetings when Williamstown and Lanesboro will be asked to fund a feasibility study.
- B. Discuss RFP Process with Affordable Housing Committee (Cathy Yamamoto)** - Two proposals were received by the Affordable Housing Committee. One from Arch Developers with proposals for both 330 Cole

Avenue and 59 Water Street. The second proposal was from Berkshire Development Housing Committee for 330 Cole Avenue. The final decision for development belongs to the Selectmen. Three approaches were discussed for evaluating the RFPs. Mr. Rempell favored a joint evaluation process with the AHC and the entire Select Board. Chairman Allen preferred review by the AHC with final recommendations from the AHC to the Select Board. Mr. Sheldon offered review by the AHC with a Select Board liaison participating in the process. It was noted that Select Board members can attend the deliberations as private citizens. The discussion resulted in the Board of Selectmen preferring the AHC making the final recommendations to the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen will evaluate the proposals independently and make the final decision. The Board may desire a face-to-face meeting with the developers.

C. Water/Sewer Warrant \$183, 880.10- Mr. Rempell made a motion to accept the water/sewer warrant. Mr. Sheldon seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.

D. Set Fee for One Day Liquor Licenses (Allen) - -The Board reviewed the history of one day liquor licenses. In 1989 the Board set the fee at \$200.00 per license. Previously it had been \$50.00. Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk, researched fourteen area communities and found the fees ranged from \$0-\$75. Reducing this fee to \$50 will result in a potential loss of \$3750.00 in revenue, based on the number of licenses granted last year. Small non-profits would benefit from reducing the fee to \$50.00. Mr. Turbin made a motion to reduce the fee to \$50 effective March 11, 2014. Mr. Sheldon seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.

6. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT- See attached and at www.williamstown.net.

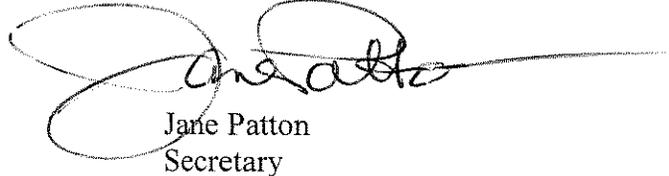
7. PETITIONER'S REQUEST- None

8. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. Ms. Patton reported on the progress of the Public Building Safety Committee. The consultant at Reinhart has identified two properties, the Financial Center on Rt. 2 and the Lehovec property on Rt. 2. It has been determined that the Financial Center is suitable for a new police station but not a joint project to house both police and fire departments. The Lehovec property may accommodate a police and fire facility. The Lehovec property is still available for purchase. The next steps in evaluating the Lehovec property includes GEO Tech testing to include seismic testing, wetlands and flood plan evaluations. Mr. Fox, PBSC member, noted that the actual square footage for the police station had increased due to allowances for mechanical spaces, walls, structures, etc. The PBSC will evaluate their budget to determine if monies are available for conducting the GEO tech testing.

- B. Mr. Sheldon reported that he and his wife enjoyed their attendance of the Mount Greylock production of Guys and Dolls at the Williams College 62 Theater. This is a nice example of Williams College and Mount Greylock High School working together in light of the dire facilities issues at the school.
 - C. Mr. Turbin expressed an interest in attending the Berkshire County Selectmen's Association Dinner Meeting on April 10, 2014. The deadline for reservations is March 27, 2014. Mr. Turbin would welcome another selectman joining him for the event.
9. **ADJOURN.** Ms. Patton made a motion to adjourn the selectmen's meeting at 8:55pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sheldon. The motion passed 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jane Patton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jane Patton
Secretary