

**AGENDA SPECIAL MEETING  
WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2012  
8:15 A.M.**

**1. OPEN MEETING:**

**2. ITEMS FOR SELECTMEN'S CONSIDERATION:**

A. Community Innovation Challenge Grant Application

**3. ADJOURN:**

**Next Selectmen's meeting is Monday, January 23, 2012 – 7 p.m.**

**MINUTES**  
**WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2012**  
**8:15 A.M.**

**Present:** Thomas E. Sheldon, Chairman, David A. Rempell, Ronald Turbin

**Others Present:** Paula Consolini, Margaret McCommish, Carrie Green

**Absent:** Jane B. Allen, Tom Costley

**1. OPEN MEETING:** Mr. Sheldon opened the meeting at 8:29 a.m.

**2. ITEMS FOR SELECTMEN'S CONSIDERATION:**

A. Community Innovation Challenge Grant Application – Ms. Green said the purpose of the grant is to request \$ 35,000 to examine the feasibility of the expansion of the Mount Greylock Regional School District (MGRSD) to include Superintendentcy Union 71 (Williamstown Elementary School District and the Lanesborough Elementary School District) and two elementary feeder schools (PK-6) and to continue to consolidate programming and services of MGRSD and Superintendentcy Union 71 into one streamlined entity – a PK-12 Regional School District.

The objectives of the grant would include the following:

- To further increase central office capacity to support a more efficient and effective single education system; to expand academic opportunities and program choices for students, parents and staff; to increase cost savings in operating and administrative/staffing costs through further economies of scale and sharing of educational needs and services; to design greater efficiencies in annual budgeting, purchasing, staffing, professional development, transportation, and special education by consolidating three annual budgets into one.

The grant will provide:

- Funding to constitute a Regional School District Planning Board as outlined in MGL Chapter 71, Section 14; a communication plan will be developed that spells out a range of communication strategies and engagement opportunities for different sectors of the towns (e.g. students, professionals, parents, retirees, etc.); a detailed financial analysis will evaluate the costs impacts, benefits and detriments (pros and cons) of a single regional school district for Williamstown and Lanesborough. The analysis would set forth alternative scenarios for financial arrangements between the towns in forming the district; Undertaking and completing a community-wide opinion survey of the two towns on a single regional school district. Compiling the results of the survey and publishing the survey's findings in local media outlets.

Projected budget for the \$35,000 CIC Grant would be for contractual services as the following:

- \$20,000 – Consultant: A facilitator for a Year/Half-long project;
  - \$ 7,000 – Specialist: financial consultant
  - \$ 5,000 – Legal Services
  - \$ 3,000 – Support Staff: Secretary/clerical

Mr. Turbin moved that the Board approve the application for the Chairman's signature. Mr. Rempell seconded and the motion carried unanimously. ( a copy of the CIC Grant is located in the Town Manager's Office)

**3. ADJOURN:** Mr. Rempell moved to adjourn at 8:40 a.m. Mr. Turbin seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The next Selectmen's meeting is Monday, January 23, 2012 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

David A. Rempell,  
Secretary pro tempore