

**MINUTES**  
**WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2012**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**Present:** Thomas E. Sheldon, Chairman, Jane B. Allen, Tom Costley, David A. Rempell

**Absent:** Ronald Turbin

**Others Present:** Richard Haley, Kim Wells, Sarah Gardner, Kathy Poirot

1. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING STATEMENT:** Mr. Sheldon congratulated the Friends of the Milne Library for another successful year raising about \$20,000 at their annual book sale over the past weekend.
2. **SELECTMEN'S MINUTES:** April 9, 2012 – Ms. Allen moved to approve the April 9, 2012 minutes. Mr. Rempell seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
3. **ITEMS FOR SELECTMEN'S CONSIDERATION:**

**A. Agricultural Commission Appointments –**

Full Members - three-year terms expiring June 30, 2015 - (Richard Haley) (Kim Wells)

Alternate Member – three-year term expiring June 30, 2015 - (Sarah Gardner)

Ms. Allen suggested that considering the importance of town committees the Board should start conducting formal interviews with candidates for all positions.

Mr. Haley said he was asked by current members of the Commission to request appointment due the increased interest in farming and his long history as a farmer. He felt that with his experience he could contribute to the Commission.

Mr. Wells, one of the founders of the Agricultural Commission in 2006, said the group became inactive when some of the former members had to resign due to personal issues. He said with recent activity such as the upcoming warrant articles that would allow farms to host events that he said he was ready to help get the Commission going again.

Ms. Gardner, who has served on several town boards in the past and currently serves on the Conservation Commission requested to serve as an alternate member on the Agricultural Commission. Heading up the Keep Farming effort in Northern Berkshire, Ms. Gardner said she found that about half of the towns in North Berkshire didn't have Agricultural Commissions and only a few were active. She said she wanted to be part of this Commission and work with farms in the Berkshires.

Mr. Rempell moved to appoint Richard Haley and Kim Wells as full members on the Agricultural Commission and Sarah Gardner as an Alternate member on the Agricultural Commission for three-year terms expiring June 30, 2015. Mr. Costley seconded and the

motion carried unanimously. The three appointees were sworn in by Assistant Town Clerk Kathy Poirot.

**B. Arbor Day Proclamation** – Chairman Sheldon read the proclamation aloud. Ms. Allen moved the Board sign the proclamation. Mr. Costley seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**4. PETITIONER’S REQUEST:** None

**5. OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**6.** At 7:27 p.m., Ms. Allen moved to vote to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to non-union personnel and not to reconvene in open session. Mr. Rempell seconded and the motion carried by roll call vote, Aye, David Rempell, Aye, Jane Allen, Aye, Tom Costley, and Aye, Thomas Sheldon. The next Selectmen’s meeting is Monday, May 14, 2012 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Costley, Secretary