

MINUTES
WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2011
7:00 P.M.

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

Others Present: John Holden, Robert Kavanaugh, Peter Fohlin

1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING STATEMENT: Mr. Turbin updated the Board on Beaver Wood Energy's application for a biomass facility in Pownal. He said that, as announced previously, the Board has hired an attorney to represent the interests of the Town. He said there was a motion for a stay on the part of Beaver Wood Energy, and we opposed the stay as did some other entities. The Vermont Public Service Board did not grant the stay of application and directed Beaver Wood Energy to proceed with its briefs and arguments on jurisdictional matters. On jurisdictional matters, Beaver Wood Energy is requesting that both its application for the biomass facility and its application for the wood pellet manufacturing plant be considered together pursuant to section 248 of the Vermont code. The argument against is that the wood pellet application falls under the jurisdiction of section 250 of the Vermont code which is governed by Vermont land use regulations and requires approval by the local town zoning board. Our attorney is still advising us to whether we should oppose Beaver Wood's request. Beaver Wood's briefs are due January 15th and we would need to respond by February 7th.

2. SELECTMEN'S MINUTES: November 29, 2010, December 13, 2010 and December 21, 2010 – Mr. Rempell moved to approve the minutes of November 29, 2010. Mr. Sheldon seconded and motion passed with Ms. Allen and Mr. Costley abstaining. Mr. Costley moved to approve the minutes of December 13, 2010. Mr. Sheldon seconded and motion passed with Mr. Rempell abstaining. Mr. Rempell moved to approve the minutes of December 21, 2010. Mr. Costley seconded and motion passed with Ms. Allen abstaining.

3. ITEMS FOR SELECTMEN CONSIDERATION:

- A. Municipal Scholarship Committee Appointment – 3 years (R. Kavanaugh) – Ms. Allen moved to appoint Robert Kavanaugh to the Municipal Scholarship Committee for a term of three years expiring in 2013. Mr. Rempell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- B. Zoning Board of Appeals Appointment – (J. Holden) – Ms. Allen moved to appoint John Holden to the unfilled seat on the Zoning Board of Appeals that expires in 2014. Mr. Sheldon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- C. Water & Sewer Warrant - \$280,649.00 – Mr. Rempell moved to approve the Water & Sewer Warrant for \$280,649.00. Ms. Allen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

4. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT: See attached.

5. PETITIONER'S REQUEST: None

6. OTHER BUSINESS: Mr. Rempell complimented the highway crews for their snow removal efforts following last month's nor'easter citing how quickly snow was removed

from Spring Street. Mr. Costley added his praises stating that it is a huge benefit to merchants on Spring Street. Mr. Fohlin added that Williamstown prides itself in never having to declare a snow emergency which would include no on-street parking.

7. ADJOURN: Mr. Costley moved to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. Ms. Allen seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The next Selectmen meeting is Monday, January 24, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane B. Allen, Secretary

JBA/kp