

SEP 18 2014

TOWN CLERK

12:55 pm

**AGENDA
WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2014
7:00 P.M.**

- 1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING STATEMENT**
- 2. SELECTMEN'S MINUTES:** September 8, 2014
- 3. PUBLIC HEARING –**
 - A. 7:05 pm Public hearing for National Grid Job # WR17047041 on Scott Hill Road (1 Pole)
 - B. FY2015 Tax Rate Classification Hearing
 - C. Set public hearing for transfer of Innkeepers All Alcohol License Taconic Williamstown Corp to BillTown, LLC, d/b/a Williams Inn, 1090 Main Street
- 4. LICENSES AND PERMITS**
 - A. One Day Beer and Wine License Modification Williams College
October 11, 2014, Weston Field 12:00-4:00 p.m. Additional Service Area
 - B. One Day All Alcohol License Williamstown Community Preschool Cocktail Party
October 13, 2014, 6-9 p.m.
- 5. ITEMS FOR SELECTMEN'S CONSIDERATION:**
 - A. Residential Tax Exemption
 - B. Municipal Electric Aggregation Bid
 - C. Release Deed- Stetson Court to Williams College
 - D. Reappoint John Holden to the Zoning Board with a term expiring June 30, 2019
 - E. Discussion of Town Flag Design
 - F. Chapter 90 Reimbursements Winter Rapid Recovery Program \$45,749
 - G. Discussion of Five Corners Intersection
- 6. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**
- 7. PETITIONER REQUESTS**
- 8. OTHER BUSINESS**
- 9. VOTE TO ADJOURN**

MINUTES
WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
September 22, 2014
7:00 PM

Present: Ron Turbin, Chairman, Tom Sheldon, Andrew Hogeland (by conference phone), Hugh Daley, Jane Patton,

Absent:

Others Present: Peter Fohlin, Craig and Heather Clemow, William Barkin, Jason McNair, Kyle Johnson, Bonnie Brown, Christine Abel, David Westall, Thomas Elder, Ken Swiatek, Debra Turnbull

1. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING STATEMENT-** Chairman Turbin noted that Mr. Hogeland was participating remotely by conference telephone and speaker pursuant to the Open Meeting Law provisions on remote participation. It should be noted all votes were taken by roll call as a result. Chairman Turbin expressed gratitude for the flag committee and all their hard work.
2. **SELECTMAN'S MINUTES-**Ms. Patton made a motion to accept the September 8, 2014 minutes. Mr. Sheldon seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.
3. **PUBLIC HEARING 7:05 pm.** Approve the request from National Grid Job # WR17047041 to erect one pole and associated lighting at the intersection of Scott Hill Road and Cold Spring Road. Ms. Patton made a motion to approve the request presented by Bonnie Brown of National Grid. Mr. Sheldon seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.
FY2015 Tax Rate Classification-Mr. Daley made a motion to accept a single tax rate for both commercial and residential properties. Ms. Patton seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.
Set a public hearing for the transfer of license for the Williams Inn from Taconic Williamstown, Corp. to BillTown, LLC 7:05pm October 14, 2014.
4. **LICENSES AND PERMITS-**
 - a. One Day Malt and Wine Licenses, Williams College, Weston Field, 12:00-4:00 p.m. Saturday, Oct 11, 2014 with service to end after the third quarter with one additional service area. Mr. Hogeland made a motion to approve the additional service area. Mr. Sheldon seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.
 - b. Approve one day all alcohol license for Williamstown Community Preschool on October 13, 2014, 5:30-7:30 in the Sanctuary. Alcohol service to be provided by Hops and Vines. Mr. Sheldon made the motion to approve the application. Mr. Daley seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0-1. Ms. Patton abstained due to her involvement with Hops and Vines.

5. ITEMS FOR SELECTMAN'S CONSIDERATION:

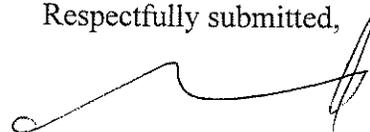
- a. Residential Tax Exemption-Mr. Fohlin presented an option to utilize a residential tax exemption currently followed by 13 other Commonwealth communities which allows homeowner below the average assessment to pay lower real estate taxes. The total amount of taxes raised remains the same. The reduction for homeowners with assessed values below the average would be applied to those with higher property values and second home owners. Mr. Swiatek supports the tax exemptions because it makes home ownership more affordable for affordably priced properties. Mr. Fohlin has lived and worked in a community that had the tax exemption. He found that it split the community. It also requires second home owners who don't have children in the school system and who use less services to shoulder more of the tax burden. Mr. Sheldon felt it was premature for the Board to act; rather there should be opportunity for public comment, perhaps culminating in a warrant article for the Town Meeting. The select board opted not to take action.
- b. Municipal Electric Aggregation Bid- Mr. Fohlin advised that the Berkshire Communities committed to a one year contract with Hampshire Power for \$.12191 kWh. National Grid's DPU filing for the next six months is \$.16182. The group committed to a one year contract anticipating that costs will decrease in the future.
- c. Release Deed- Stetson Court-Mr. Fohlin addressed Mr. Hogeland's previous concern regarding the ownership of the town green at the beginning of Stetson Court. Language was added to protect the town's ownership and control of the town green. Mr. Hogeland made a motion to turn over the deed to Stetson Court to Williams College. Mr. Sheldon seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.
- d. Re-appoint John Holden to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a five year term ending June 30, 2019. Mr. Hogeland made a motion to re-appoint Mr. Holden. Ms. Patton seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.
- e. Discussion of the Town Flag. Heather Clemow and Mr. Sheldon presented the feedback submitted through the survey on the town website. Comments were largely positive with some improvements suggested for the arts quadrant relative to the artist's silhouette. Mr. Hogeland suggested that it would be better to not decide just on a single submission, but that anyone in town should be given an opportunity to submit a design. After a lengthy discussion the board decided to open up the process to other submissions. Mr. Daley made

a motion to accept submissions for a town flag by Williamstown residents by November 14. Ms. Patton seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0-1. Mr. Sheldon abstained due to his involvement with the flag committee.

- f. Chapter 90 Reimbursement Winter Rapid Recovery Program \$45,749- Mr. Fohlin presented the reimbursement documents completed by the DPW. The documents illustrate the monies allocated to the town from the Winter Rapid Recovery Program. Mr. Daley made a motion to accept and sign the documents. Mr. Sheldon seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0. Three copies of the documents were signed and returned to the DPW.
- g. Discussion of Five Corners Intersection- The town only controls Route 43 South. Mr. Fohlin and DPW Director, Tim Kaiser met with the DOT representative to discuss the safety issues associated with the Five Corner's Intersection. The DOT currently is outlining plans to reorient the intersection so that traffic on Route 43 has a 90 degree view of the oncoming traffic. [Note: Mr. Hogeland was disconnected briefly during this discussion but rejoined before it concluded.] The DOT also approved all the recommendations made by Chief Johnson regarding signage as motorists approach the intersection.

- 6. **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT-** See attached and at www.williamstown.net.
- 7. **PETITIONER'S REQUEST- None**
- 8. **OTHER BUSINESS:** Mr. Daley reported that he and Mr. Hogeland continue to work on an initial discussion document that would outline possible topics for inclusion in an overall economic development plan. They hope to present to the Selectboard a list of ideas regarding economic development in the near future.
- 9. **ADJOURN.** Mr. Daley moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hogeland. The motion passed 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Andy Hogeland
Secretary