

**AGENDA  
WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

TOWN OF WILLIAMSTOWN

OCT 27 2014

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2014**

**7:00 P.M.**

TOWN CLERK

11:55 am

Amended

1. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING STATEMENT**
2. **SELECTMEN'S MINUTES:** October 14, 2014
3. **PUBLIC HEARING** – Set public hearing date for Transfer of Stock at Hops & Vines MA. LLC d/b/a Hops and Vines from David Aldecoa to Gil Rubenstein, change of manager from Gil Rubenstein to Robert Beuth.
  - A. **LICENSES AND PERMITS** - Two One Day Farmer's Market Licenses for Berkshire Winery d/b/a Balderdash Cellars, 72 Leona Drive, Pittsfield for Berkshire Grown Holiday Markets, November 24 and December 14, 2014 from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm, Williams College Field House, 82 Latham Street, Williamstown.
4. **ITEMS FOR SELECTMEN'S CONSIDERATION:**
  - A. Approach to Addressing Requests for Resolutions
  - B. Request to Support Ballot Question #2 (Hyde)
  - C. Resolution to Support North Berkshire Healthcare
  - D. Request to purchase a single cemetery plot at Westlawn Cemetery (Peter and Mary Pierson)
  - E. Economic Development
  - F. Water Sewer Warrant \$157,375.43
  - G. MGRSD Borrowing for Building Feasibility Study
5. **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**
6. **PETITIONER REQUESTS**
7. **OTHER BUSINESS**
8. **VOTE TO ADJOURN**

**Next Selectmen's meeting is Wednesday, November 12, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**  
**WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**October 27, 2014**  
**7:00 PM**

**Present:** Ron Turbin, Chairman, Tom Sheldon, Andrew Hogeland, Hugh Daley, Jane Patton,

**Absent:**

**Others Present:** Peter Fohlin, Debra Turnbull, Jean Vankin, Martin Greenstein, Wendy Penner, Tom Hyde, Robin Simonetti, Rebecca Ohm, Jim Gander, Olivia Myerson, Amy Jesouit

1. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING STATEMENT-** Chairman Turbin acknowledged the success of the Mount Greylock cross country teams at the Berkshire County Championship with the boys placing first and the girls second. Kyle Alvarez and Matt Wiseman qualified for the Mass Junior Golf Championship. Deadline for town flag proposals is November 14, 2014 in the town manager's office. Halloween Trick or Treating is 6:00-7:30 on October 31, 2014. The state election is November 4 at the Elementary School
2. **SELECTMEN'S MINUTES-**Mr. Hogeland made a motion to accept the October 14, 2014 minutes. Mr. Sheldon seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0-1. Mr. Turbin abstained due to absence.
3. **PUBLIC HEARING 7:05 pm** Set a public hearing for the transfer of stock for Hops and Vines MA, LLC d/b/a Hops and Vines from David Aldecoa to Gil Rubenstein, change of manager from Gil Rubenstein to Robert Beuth. Mr. Hogeland made a motion to set the public hearing at 7:05. Mr. Daley seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0-1. Ms. Patton abstained due to her interest in the restaurant.
4. **LICENSES AND PERMITS-** Two One Day Farmer's Market Licenses for Berkshire Winery d/b/a Balderdash Cellars, 72 Leona Drive, Pittsfield, MA for Berkshire Grown Holiday Markets on November 23 and December 14, 2014. The ABCC had extended package store hours on October 23 for Sunday beginning at 10:00 am. The request was modified to reflect the 10:00 am start time. This was later confirmed by Ralph Sacramone at the ABCC. The motion to approve the licenses with the earlier hours was made by Mr. Hogeland. Mr. Sheldon seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.
5. **ITEMS FOR SELECTMEN'S CONSIDERATION:**

- a. Approach to Addressing Requests for Resolutions-Mr. Hogeland requested discussion of a process for addressing the submission of resolutions to the board of selectmen. Mr. Hogeland felt requests should be limited to town issues or regional issues that affected the town, and with opportunity for representation of both points of view on a particular issue. Mr. Daley agreed with Mr. Hogeland's position. He felt it appropriate to allow citizens to express their opinions without offering a board opinion. Ms. Patton felt the board should show leadership by offering an opinion on various topics but that those opinions were not telling people what opinion they should form. Mr. Sheldon felt that it is appropriate for the board to consider issues that affected the community and offer an opinion. Mr. Turbin was also comfortable offering an opinion on various issues.
- b. Support Ballot Question 2- Tom Hyde expressed support for Question 2 which expands the bottle bill for water bottles, energy drinks and other containers. The additional return dollars will go into an environmental fund which is a change from the monies going into the general fund. Wendy Penner from the COOL committee also addressed the increase in the deposit. She commented that while deposit increases are allowed every five years the deposits have not increased in the last thirty years. No one was identified to represent an opposing view. Mr. Sheldon made a motion for the board to support Question 2. Ms. Patton seconded the motion. The vote was 3-0-2. Mr. Hogeland restated his position that he did not feel it was the responsibility of the board to take positions on statewide issues not affecting the Town in a specific or distinct way. Mr. Daley abstained from the vote.
- c. Resolution to Support North Berkshire Healthcare- Jean Vankin, concerned citizen, Jim Gander, Union Representative and Olivia Myerson, Williams College student spoke in favor of supporting a resolution for the former North Adams Regional Hospital to reopen a full service hospital regardless of whether or not Critical Access Hospital Designation is achieved. The board agreed this was a regional issue that affected Williamstown and so would take a position on it. After the board discussed the proposed resolution, an alternative draft prepared by Ms. Patton, and an addition proposed by Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Hogeland made a motion to adopt the following resolution regarding the hospital. "Whereas North Adams Regional Hospital closed abruptly on March 28, 2014 leaving the 37,000 residents of Northern Berkshire County without its only inpatient facility and full service emergency department; and

Whereas the North Adams Regional Hospital has been a critical part of the North Berkshire economy, and

Whereas the residents of Williamstown and all North Berkshire County value and depend upon access to quality, affordable and local medical care;

Now therefore, the Williamstown Board of Selectmen encourages Berkshire Health Systems to continue its commitment to expand the

availability of financially sustainable and high quality emergency, outpatient, and inpatient services at the former North Adams Regional Hospital campus.

The Board also requests that the Governor, State Assembly, Secretary of Health and Human Services and Berkshire Health Systems consider carefully new information that is forthcoming bearing on the question of fiscal viability of inpatient services at the North Campus of Berkshire Health Systems. Mr. Daley seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.

- d. Request to purchase a single cemetery plot at Westlawn Cemetery by Mary and Peter Pierson. Mr. Hogeland made a motion to grant the request at Westlawn for the Piersons of 156 Josh Hall Pond Road, Grafton, NY. Ms. Patton seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.
- e. Economic Development- The board agreed to utilize their retreat on November 5, 2014 to further discuss the economic development document and set priorities. Mr. Turbin also suggested identifying and acting on those items the board can easily implement. Mr. Sheldon commented on the interest of area realtors in contributing to the economic discussion. Amy Jeschawitz, Planning Board member also expressed interest in a collaborative effort to promote economic development along with the Chamber of Commerce. Amy offered the idea of a parking lot for Spring Street. Mr. Hogeland also suggested a joint meeting with the planning board after the document has been finalized by the board
- f. Water/ Sewer Warrant \$157,375.43- Mr. Hogeland made a motion to approve the water/sewer warrant. Ms. Patton seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.
- g. MGRSD Borrowing for Building Feasibility Study- Before the school committee can move forward with borrowing money for the feasibility study the districts must approve it. This approval was given at town meeting but the notification timeline was seven days too late. The bond counsel required a new notification be given. Another town meeting is not required because of its prior approval. No action was required. The board will send a letter acknowledging receipt of the request and restate the affirmative intention of the town of Williamstown.

- 6. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT-** See attached and at [www.williamstown.net](http://www.williamstown.net). Mr. Fohlin invited the Library Trustees to the Board meeting to address a concern regarding five guinea hens which are defecating on the sidewalks and the recently repaired window sills. The hens are scaring some library patrons. Mr. Fohlin met with Mr. Raker on October 15, in an attempt to resolve the issue with no resolution. Research identified a town bylaw, Chapter 10, Article 1 requiring poultry located within the town limits must be kept within a secure enclosure. Failure to follow this article will result in a non-criminal disposition enforced by

the Animal Control Officer, Jackie Lemieux. First offense is a warning citation, second offense is \$25, third offense is \$50, and fourth offense is \$100 and every offense after the fourth is \$100. Citations will be issued for each bird on each day that the birds are cited at the library outside of their enclosure. Failure to pay can result in us going to court. The resolution for Mr. Raker is to build a coop and contain his guinea fowls. Rebecca Ohm spoke as a trustee and library supporter that the citizens of Williamstown should not have to deal with the birds or their feces. Mr. Raker was also invited to attend a trustee meeting to express his viewpoint. The animal control officer will begin to issue citations for any infractions to Chapter 1, Article 1. The Agricultural Committee was also notified of the situation.

Mr. Sheldon asked for the schedule for the completion of Cable Mills. Phase one has a 15 month timeline for completion.

7. **PETITIONER'S REQUEST**- None
8. **OTHER BUSINESS** Mr. Turbin and Mr. Hogeland are planning to attend the Berkshire County Selectmen's Dinner.
9. **ADJOURN**. Ms. Patton moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Daley. The motion passed 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Andy Hogeland  
Secretary