

Town of Princeton, Mass., Selectboard Meeting Minutes December 20, 2019 – 10:30 AM – Town Hall Annex

Present: Chair Karen Cruise, Matthew Moncreaff, Richy Bisk and TA Sherry Patch

10:30 AM Karen opened the meeting and a suggestion was made to send thank-you notes to the Worcester Area Rotary Club for donating Thanksgiving turkeys and Christmas hams to the senior center, and to also thank John Bomba for the senior citizens holiday luncheon at Harrington Farm. Matthew offered to craft the notes.

Minutes – The board voted all in favor to approve the minutes from Dec. 10 as amended.

Public comment – None.

Committee appointments – The board received a written request from Larry Greene Jr. to serve on the Board of Health and fill the term through June 2022 left by the passing of Bob Mason. The Cemetery Commission had a vacancy since Ron Milensky left his position and Lynne Grettum applied for the seat.

ACTION: The Board voted all in favor to appoint Lawrence Greene, Jr., to the Board of Health for the balance of Bob Mason's term.

ACTION: The Board voted all in favor to appoint Lynne Grettum on the Cemetery Commission to fill a term through June 2020.

License/permit renewals – The board reviewed annual, for 2020, ABCC (liquor licenses) for Mountainside Market/Cork & Winsor on Mountain Road; Kwik Stop; Norco; Nimrod; Harrington Farm; Thirsty Lab and Mountain Barn. They also noted a Class II Seller's License for Chris Goodnow Auto Sales.

ACTION: With Richy recusing himself, Matthew and Karen signed licenses for Mountainside Market and Cork & Winsor; all three signed all remaining licenses.

Next "Letter To Residents" from S.B. – The group agreed to include a link on the next letter in January to refer readers to the Environmental Action Committee Report and the town's 2007 Master Plan.

Correspondence/Communications –

- The board received a request from Wachusett Greenways to increase last year's Princeton donation to support the Central Mass. Rail Trail, from \$500. To \$800. The board agreed to include it as an article on the 2020 ATM warrant.

S.B. considers communications addressing PFAS well contamination – An announcement about the PFAS issue is on the website home page, linking to currently-available information on the Board of Health page. The board noted that results have come back on seven of the 14 household wells that have been tested to date. Now DEP will require the next layer of homes to be tested—those within a second 500' radius of Town Hall. Sherry will reach out to find how other communities with this problem have dealt with it, and she reported that Health Agent Chris Knuth and Jim Hillis of the Board of Health are

doing more extensive research on PFAS. The group agreed to include maps of the affected well sites on the town webpage. It was discovered that 19 Mountain Road had test results higher for PFAS than the town well did, and an interim water filtration system has been supplied there by the town. There is an issue around disposal of the carbon filters being supplied after they've been used to clear drinking water of the PFAS.

ACTION: Board voted all in favor to proceed with an upgraded water filtration system at 19 Mountain Road.

ACTION: Board voted all in favor to authorize the T.A. to decide on the best method of storage/disposal of spent carbon filters.

ACTION: Board voted all in favor to have the T.A. arrange for Tighe & Bond to test wells at Krashes Fieldhouse and Fire Station #2 in East Princeton, as they are also public water supplies.

ACTION: Board voted all in favor to check with School District to see if water has been tested at T.P. School and move forward with testing to be done by whoever is responsible, the town or the school district.

Bagg Hall upgrade – Sherry reported that architects Spencer, Sullivan & Vogt (SSV) are calling on some requirements for Bagg Hall upgrades, and need some extra funding

ACTION: Board voted all in favor to authorize the T.A. to sign a change-order with SSV to be funded with monies from the state already earmarked for upgrades, totaling about \$12,000.

Future tasks/actions –

- The board will schedule a meeting with the pending buyer of Mechanics Hall, Mike Touhy, along with his lawyer, town counsel and selectboard member(s) to discuss the next step in the contract of sale.
- Matthew will draft a charge for the Holiday Decorating Committee that is being proposed. It was noted that Patsy Mollica has a list of potential members.
- Group agreed that the charge for the Road Advisory Cmte. needs to be revised.
- Regarding a topic for the upcoming S.B. letter-to-residents, one suggestion was to roll out the budget process and report on progress in finalizing the FY'21 budget.
- Regarding issues at the Waste Management Landfill operation on Route 31 in Westminster/Fitchburg, the board will consider neighborhood concerns at the Jan. 7 meeting.
- A public information meeting may be planned for residents to discuss the PFAS issue: possible causes, solutions and mitigation.

11:30 AM Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Marie Auger, admin. assistant

Referenced Documents: Letter of request from Larry Greene Jr; Letter of request from Wachusett Greenways