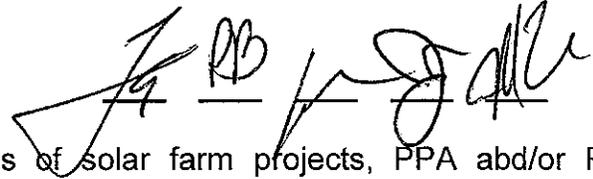


JUN 13 2013

LUNENBURG TOWN  
CLERK OFFICE

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
6/4/13**



**6:00PM** Meet with Town Counsel to review status of solar farm projects, PPA abd/or PILOT Agreements, EPG Solar and/ or Mass PV1

The Board of Selectmen met in the Joseph F. Bilotta meeting room at Town Hall as scheduled with Tom Alonzo, Paula Bertram, David Matthews, Robert Ebersole, Jamie Toale and Town Manager Kerry Speidel. Regular Meeting opened at 7:00 PM

**7:00PM PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Alonzo began the meeting by explaining the BOS was already in session because the meeting began at 6PM so that an update could be given to the BOS by Town Counsel on the Solar Panel Project in Town.

Mr. Alonzo thanked the American Legion and Doreen Noble for the Memorial Day Services held on Memorial Day.

Mr. Matthews noted that an agreement was come to with the Public Employee Union that helps contain health insurance costs. The agreement will last until June 30, 2016.

Ms. Speidel stated that the agreement is essentially an extension of the current contract but includes a tiered system. She noted that the Town will be saving significant money in the coming years, possibly up to \$600,000.00, and prescription drug care will go through Medicare as opposed to the own.

**APPOINTMENTS**

**7:00 p.m. Bangkok Hill Restaurant, Request for Approval of BYOB** - Mr. Robert Bowen, representing the Bangkok Hill Restaurant, had read through the terms issued by the Town to qualify for a BYOB restaurant and agreed with those terms. He stated that this would be a temporary thing, since the restaurant was seeking a full time liquor license.

Ms. Speidel stated that permit would expire Dec. 31, 2013 or at the issuance of a liquor license. She stated this language was listed on the application for the BYOB Permit.

Ms. Bertram stated that if this language was not listed on the permit and only listed on the application, there would be a problem. She requested that the language regarding the liquor license be included on the permit.

Mr. Toale asked if, under provision 3C, it was OK to approve the expiration of the Permit at the issuance of the Common Victualler License.

Mr. Bowen stated that he would be OK to waive this provision.

Ms. Bertram stated that she thinks it is an add provision and would be willing to waive the provision. She also noted that in reviewing the policy manual this issue should be reviewed and updated.

Mr. Alonzo stated he was happy with the provisions so long as Bangkok Hill returns the BYOB permit as soon as they are approved for a liquor license.

Mr. Ebersole moved to approve the request for a BYOB permit at the Bangkok Hill Restaurant with a waiver of section 3A, and subject to the requirements stated in their application that the license will expire on Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> or

at the issuance of a liquor license. Ms. Bertram seconded the motion. On vote motion carried, 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

### **CURRENT BUSINESS**

**1. Accept Donation, Carpet for PACC Studio-** Ms. Speidel explained that a donation of approximately \$500.00 worth of carpet was made to the PACC Studio by Mr. Dave McDonald. The BOS must accept the donation on behalf of the town and PACC. She stated that a letter was sent by Lance D. May, Chairman of the PACC, explaining the donation.

Mr. Matthews stated that he was thankful and welcoming of the donation, but in the future he believes the process of donating anything to the Town should be made much easier.

Mr. Ebersole moved to accept the donation of carpet for the PACC Studio. Ms. Bertram seconded. On vote motion carried, 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

**2. 12-month Contract with Dominion for Municipal Aggregation Plan-** Brian Murphy, Colonial Power Group, reviewed the history of the Town's relationship with Municipal Aggregation Plan. He stated that on May 16<sup>th</sup> Ms. Speidel agreed to a contract with Dominion Energy Services which is valid for one year but that the price is only known for the next 6 months. If Dominion can beat the next Unitil service rate, they can continue on with the contract. If Dominion can't beat the service rate, they can place the customer back on regular service. If a consumer wished to leave the agreement, they are free to do so.

Mr. Alonzo asked if someone had opted out of the initial aggregation plan, did they also opt out of the current aggregation plan.

Mr. Murphy stated that those who opted out of the plan in 2011 were not invited into or informed of the the new aggregation plan. If a member of the town who had initially opted out wanted to join the plan again, they could do so but would have to rejoin the aggregation plan.

Mr. Murphy noted that the role of Colonial Power Group was to be a liaison to those who are using the service. They are there to answer questions and address concerns from those enrolled in the aggregation plan. Up to this point, only 4 people had contacted the group from the town about the plan, and only 4 people had opted out of the plan in its second phase. The Town can look to set a long term rate or ladder in purchases, all to make sure that the Town is receiving the best deal it can.

Ms. Speidel asked if the Town still has the opportunity to buy energy for 7.75 cents for the second half of the agreement.

Mr. Murphy replied that the Town did not agree to that rate in the contract.

Mr. Toale asked how the laddering strategy works for individual consumers.

Mr. Murphy replied that the laddering strategy is open to the consumer and a consumer can stay with the program or opt out of it. The Town could put some limitations around a laddering program.

Mr. Matthews asked if the communication issues had been solved from the previous agreement with Conn Edison.

Mr. Murphy stated that those communications issues had been solved and that those issues were the fault of Conn Edison. New provisions had been placed in the agreement with the Town that prohibited the energy supplier from contacting any individual consumer without the approval of Colonial Power Group first.

**3. Approve BOS Goals and Objectives-** Mr. Matthews stated that he noticed that reinstating the Chair meetings from each board was part of the goals and objectives. He stated that his personal experience when he was Chairman of the BOS, he did not find those meetings to be necessary. His personal opinion was that so long as there was good communication between the BOS and other boards and departments in Town, a Chair meeting is not necessary.

Mr. Alonzo stated that when the Chair meetings were instituted, there was no decision making happening, but that they were more of a regular occurrence to discuss issues. That being said he takes Mr. Matthews point and does not feel one way or another about it.

Ms. Bertram stated that when she was Chairman of the BOS, these meetings were very productive and full of great information. She did state that it may not be necessary to make it a BOS Goal and Objective.

Ms. Bertram stressed that Department Updates were very important for her and she would like to see it on the BOS Goals and Objectives because it improves communications. Monthly updates from departments would be preferred. This issue was not currently on the BOS Goals and Objectives list.

Mr. Toale agreed and stated that the only time the BOS hears from the departments is around budget time, and there was value in hearing from them when they weren't defending their budget and it is very likely the BOS could assist the individual departments.

Mr. Ebersole state that he would like to see a condensed hearing process to improve communications with individual boards and departments.

Ms. Bertram stated that this would be very difficult and would dictate and limit the type of communication that could be had between the BOS and the boards and departments.

Mr. Alonzo stated that regular meetings between the BOS and department/board heads would be added onto the goals and objectives list.

Ms. Speidel said that an alternative to the Chairs Meeting might be to have a periodic "all boards" meeting, where every member of every board meets with the BOS at the same time a couple of times a year.

Mr. Alonzo said that he will make changes to the goals and objectives of the BOS as discussed, which include striking "regular" from the language of Chair meetings and adding in the periodic meetings with department heads under the improved communication section.

#### **4. Approve Town Manager Goals and Objectives-** Tabled until 6/11/13 BOS meeting

#### **5. Minutes/Warrants/Action File Issues**

Minutes: 05/21/2013

Warrants: State Special Election: June 25, 2013

6/4/13	25P13	\$738,924.17
6/4/13	64-13	\$625,591.03
6/5/13	65-13	\$164,688.11

#### Action File Issues:

Mr. Alonzo stated that in the past two members of the BOS negotiated a contract for the Town Manager, and he would like to get an early start on this issue since the Town Manager's contract is up in December. He stated he would like to be one of the two members negotiating the contract.

Mr. Matthews volunteered to be the other member of the BOS to negotiate the contract.

There were no objections to this from the BOS.

#### **6. Committee Reports-**

Mr. Toale stated that the Finance Committee met with Nathan Kenney who provided the committee with a brief on his work at the dispatch in Devens. He also noted that Finance Committee appointed Steve Raboin to the Building Reuse Committee.

Mr. Matthews confirmed that School Building Committee checked with the MSBC that they were on track to confirm a school for Lunenburg for 2016/2017.

Mr. Ebersole stated that the Sewer Commission has been in touch with the citizens who live on Sunset Ave about extending the Sewer there and the reception by the constituents was positive. Also, the Fitchburg inter-municipal agreement is still sitting on approval from Fitchburg.

Mr. Alonzo stated that the Finance Committee Appointment Committee met with 4 excellent candidates for the board and met with one re-appointment. Jason Smith was re-appointed. The two new committee members are Karin Menard and John Henshaw.

**7. Town Manager Reports or Department Reports** – Ms. Speidel stated that the Town is only expected to receive \$316,598.00 of Chapter 90 funding from the State, which is about 50% of what was requested and is less than the Town had been receiving the past few years. Unless more funding comes in soon, the Town's spring paving project will be significantly smaller than originally planned.

Ms. Speidel stated that a letter was received from MIIA advising that additional Participation Credits will be available starting on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The additional credit is in the amount of \$7,294.00. An additional credit for workers compensation will be received in the amount of \$273.00.

Ms. Speidel stated that she met with an LSP license site professional to look at the property at 925 Mass. Ave. and the Parks Garage on West Street. The professional was doing pro-bono work. She expects to have a game plan on what to do with those two properties in the next couple of weeks.

#### **APPOINTMENTS/RE-APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS –**

**1. Building Reuse Task Force:** Ms. Speidel stated that she had 3 applications for the Building Reuse Task Force. Currently the Task Force had representatives from the BOS (Jaime Toale), Historical Commission (Pat Slattery), Finance Commission (Steve Raboin), and the commission was waiting for representatives from the Planning Board, School Committee, and the Council on Aging. Advertising for the three open spots from public has been ongoing on the Public Access Channel and on the Town's website.

Mr. Toale asked the public to continue to volunteer for the Building Reuse Task Force and fill out a talent form at the Town Clerk's Office. He also stated that interviews for the positions should be scheduled for the next meeting.

**2. Agricultural Commission:** Mr. Alonzo noted that the Agricultural Commission was created at town meeting and will include 5 members with members serving either one 1 year term, one 2 year term, or one 3 year term.

Doug MacMillan, 471 Leominster Road, noted that he grew up on a farm, raised some beef, and wanted to be a strong liaison between the farming community and the Town of Lunenburg. He stated that he wanted the commission to be a good face for the farming community.

James Lattanzi, 123 Hollis Road, noted that he has come before the BOS as an advocate for the Agricultural Commission. He is the owner of Hollis Hill Farms, and believes that the Agricultural Committee is a great group to help promote agriculture in the Town. He noted that he works closely with the Farm Services Agency and the Federal Government as well as the Massachusetts Maple Committee.

Jeffery L. Mendoza, 162 Lancaster Avenue, owns 14 acres of land that are farmed in Lunenburg by Lunenburg farmers. He believes there needs to be a strong connection between the Town and its farmers. He is not a farmer and he believes this is a good thing since he can be a voice for the non-farming public.

Andrea Schnepf, 74 Highland Street, owns a farm on Highland Street which mostly farms fruits and vegetables and she is also the Farmers Market Manager in town. She works for the Board of Health. She wants to help bring resources to the farmers in Town through State and Federal programs.

Garrett Stillman, 991 Lancaster Ave, noted he was a 4<sup>th</sup> generation dairy farmer. He is the current Vice President of the New England Dairy Producers/Handlers Assoc. He believes that the Agricultural Commission is a necessity in the Town because of how much farming and agricultural there is in the Town and that time must be made to make the Agricultural Commission work.

Renee T. Trakimas, 520 Page Street, owns Sunrise Stables, which is an equine boarding stable. She believes the Agricultural Commission has a responsibility to preserve the land and the farming and agricultural community. She noted that she belongs to a few State and Federal Horse Regulation committees.

Greg Barnett, 74 Highland Street, stated his hope to be an alternate on the board. He grew up with agricultural but never owned a farm. He has worked for a number of farms in town. He's been applying pesticides on the crops, worked with committees to explain pesticides to the community, and wants the commission to function as an educational group in town. He also noted that he would like to see a Town Field Day or fair to help promote the farms in town.

Mr. Alonzo thanked everyone who volunteered to represent the Town and farms on the Agricultural Commission. He stated the commission was long overdue.

Mr. Ebersole noted that the members were recommended to the BOS by the Town Manager, not a straight vote by the BOS.

Ms. Speidel recommended the one year position to Renee Trakimas, for two year terms Jeffery Mendoza and Douglas MacMillan, and for three year terms Jim Lattanzi and Garrett Stillman.

BOS all commented in favor of the Town Managers recommendations.

Mr. Matthews moved to approve the recommendations of the Town Manager for the Agricultural Commission. Mr. Toale seconded. On vote motion carried, 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

Mr. Alonzo stated that the new members of the Agricultural Commission should see the Town Clerk to be sworn in and the Town Clerk will organize the first meeting.

**3. MART Advisory Board-** Mr. Alonzo asked Mr. Robert Bowen if he was able to continue serving on the MART Advisory Board.

Mr. Robert Bowen replied that he had missed several meetings of the board and that he did not believe it was a good idea for him to continue serving unless there was no one else able to serve.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Mr. Toale congratulated Lunenburg High School's class of 2013 for graduating.

Being no further business Mr. Alonzo moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Bertram seconded the motion. On vote motion carried, 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

### **UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE**

June 11, 2013

June 18, 2013

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Susan Doherty, Recording Secretary  
Board of Selectmen*