

Bethlehem Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

Bethlehem Selectmen Office

June 9, 2014

Present: Selectman Blanchard (acting Chairperson), Selectman Culver, Selectman Fiorentino, Selectman Glavac.

Chairperson Blanchard opened the meeting at 6:30pm.

At 6:30 Chairperson Blanchard moved to go into non-public session for phone consultation with Attorney. Selectman Culver seconded. Chairperson Blanchard did roll call with all members agreeing to go into non-public session.

The Board had a phone consultation with Attorney Keith.

At 7:16 Chairperson Blanchard moved to come out of non-public session. Selectman Culver seconded. Carried 4-0.

Chairperson Blanchard announced the meeting was back in public session.

Selectman Glavac gave an update on the Broadband committee and asked the Board to send a letter to gain access to E911 data to get accurate areas without Broadband. Selectman Glavac said Carol Miller has a draft letter that needs to be put on letterhead to send to the Department of Safety. Selectman Glavac moved to have the Board sign the letter and send to Dept. of Safety. Chairperson Blanchard seconded. Carried 4-0.

Selectman Glavac also has a draft letter where the Town can request up to 5% of gross receipts from Time Warner and Selectman Glavac estimated that the Town would receive 12 – 15 thousand a year. Selectman Glavac said the Town hasn't collected anything from Time Warner since 2006 and it could be used to develop Broadband programs. Selectman Glavac moved to send the letter to Time Warner for franchise % to go from 0% to 5% in 90 days. Selectman Fiorentino seconded. There was discussion and concern that the 5% would increase the current Time Warner customer's bill. Motion Failed 1-3.

The Board reviewed the Tax Collector warrant. Chairperson Blanchard moved to approve and sign the warrant for \$3,132,889.60 with a due date of 07/15/14. Selectman Culver seconded. Carried 4-0.

The Board reviewed and discussed pet waste stations that Recreation Director Rhienna Miscio has asked the Board to approve. The stations will be donated by NCES but the Town would need to supply the bags. This was tabled.

The Board reviewed an abatement for Timberwolf Logging for the value of timber for \$507.72. Chairperson Blanchard moved to approve the abatement. Selectman Culver seconded. Carried 4-0.

The Board discussed the Chamber website and whether to continue using the same website person and to continue advertising for businesses. It was discussed that the contracts with the businesses expire at the end of this month so it needs to be decided to continue to charge businesses or not. It was also mentioned that the fencing next to the Visitor's Center is in disrepair and it should be addressed as it is Town property. An opinion about the website will be asked from LGC to see if the Town can charge businesses and advertise for them on the website.

The Board reviewed the minutes from 05/19/14. Chairperson Blanchard moved to approve the minutes. Selectman Culver seconded. Carried 4-0.

The Board reviewed the minutes from 06/02/14. Chairperson Blanchard moved to approve the minutes. Selectman Fiorentino seconded. Carried 4-0.

The Board discussed a bill from Ronny Marvin that was part of the Valve project at the Country Club. It was decided this would be charged to GGB like the valve was.

Chief Ho-Sing-Loy asked the Board to expend money to purchase a steel container for storage at the shooting range. The Chief told the Board that a 24 ft container cost \$2,750.00 and a 40 ft container cost \$3,500.00. Chairperson Blanchard moved to approve the purchase of the 40ft container for \$3,500.00 for storage at the firing range. Selectman Glavac seconded. It was noted the price includes delivery. Carried 4-0.

Selectman Culver asked if there was any update on the Town Forest sign about no hunting. Marilyn Johnson will be contacted to see if she was able to get in touch with Fish and Game.

Frank Claffey asked if we could find out if Time Warner charged other Towns customers when they received the 5%.

Chairperson Blanchard moved to get quotes to repair the fencing at the Visitor Center. Selectman Culver seconded. Carried 4-0.

Rita Farrell mentioned the grass was very high at the old Sovereign Journey house and also at the Craft Building. She asked if it could be taken care of. Chairperson Blanchard said he would call Andy Peabody about maintaining the Sovereign Journey property but said the Town cannot go on the property.

Rita asked for clarification on what the non-public subject was. Chairperson Blanchard told her it was a tax issue.

There was discussion about tax sales and how the next one would be done by an auctioneer.

There was discussion about the sign (courtesy of Casella) in the flower garden at the Country Club. The Board indicated that next year it will be put out to bid to maintain the flower garden.

At 8:15 Chairperson Blanchard moved to go into non-public session per RSA 91 A II (a) & (e). Selectman Culver seconded. Chairperson Blanchard did roll call with all members agreeing to go into non-public session.

The Board discussed personnel. Chairperson Blanchard moved that Alan Demoranville gets 1 week of vacation time paid. Selectman Culver seconded. Carried 4-0.

Selectman Fiorentino moved to approve the 3 raises proposed by Chief Ho-Sing-Loy. Selectman Glavac seconded. Carried 4-0.

Chairperson Blanchard moved to advertise for two officers. Selectman Fiorentino seconded. Carried 4-0.

The Board discussed a request to an extension for payment of property from the tax sale due to an incorrect tax collectors deed. Chairperson Blanchard moved to grant the extension. Selectman Culver seconded. Carried 4-0.

At 9:50 Chairperson Blanchard moved to come out of non-public session. Selectman Fiorentino seconded. Carried 4-0.

At 9:50 Chairperson Blanchard moved to adjourn. Selectman Culver seconded. Carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

April Hibberd

Administrative Assistant