

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM  
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA  
TUESDAY, January 17, 2012**

*Meeting was opened at 5:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons, Mark Fairbrother, Chris Boutwell, Patricia Allen (absent), Town Administrator, Frank Abbondanzio; Administrative Secretary, Wendy Bogusz (absent); Jeff Tirrell, WHAI; Chris Curtis, Greenfield Recorder, David Detmold, Montague Reporter*

**Fairbrother opens the meeting and announces the meeting is being taped**

**Approve Minutes of December 19, 2011 and January 3, 2012**

*Boutwell makes the motion to approve the minutes of December 19, 2011. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye*

*Boutwell makes the motion to approve the minutes of January 3, 2012. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye*

**Robert Trombley, WPCF Superintendent  
Sign Judd Wire Industrial Discharge Permit**

No changes from previous permit

*Boutwell makes the motion to renew the Wastewater Discharge Permit #14 for Judd Wire, for 124 Turnpike Road to be effective January 17, 2012 and expire on January 16, 2017 as presented in the document. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye*

**Seminar Request for an employee**

Trombley: This is different than the standard request. In this situation, it is not a course that is given by the DEP or any of the operator organizations for the purpose of maintaining training contract hours towards maintaining our Operators Wastewater Treatment Licenses. Each operator in Mass. is required to have 20 training contract hours every two years. Eric Meals is going to be taking a Biology class at GCC for the Spring Semester and we are looking to use that class towards his training contact hours. The money would come out of our seminar budget.

Abbondanzio: Thinks it is a good idea that it is outside of work hours, but the only problem is anything to do with educational incentives is a topic of collective bargaining; we haven't done it in the past and we would be setting a precedence.

Boutwell's only concern is the Town would be setting a precedence for other departments

Fairbrother can see other problems, scenarios raising up and opening up a can of worms. Needs to be done through negotiations.

Abbondanzio: Educational incentives have been negotiated by unions at different times and in different forms. You deal with this through the collective bargaining process. The Selectmen are the agents of collective bargaining, so they would do that through their representation with the individual unit. They then come back to the Board and get the whole board to go along with a particular policy or whatever.

**Schedule Change Request for WPCF**

Trombley: This would be similar to the Town Hall hours and the hours the Highway Dept. has during certain seasons. We are looking at 4 – 10 hour days, Monday through Thursday. When Town Hall started this we talked about it at the plant and it didn't seem like it would fit, time has gone on and we have a little different staff, we seem to be doing better tracking down alarms and keeping things under control from the alarm stand point. We thought it might be a timely situation now to address it; allowing the staff to give them a break where on the weekend they have off, the 2 gentlemen who aren't working have a 3 day period of R & R. We'd like to do it on a trial basis and see how it works out. As far as the pump stations, we'd still do our 3 time a week inspections, so we don't see that as an issue. If we see something crop up that was a chronic issue that was a significant risk factor, we would reassess it at that time. We are currently working five eight hour days.

Abbondanzio asks about impact on overtime?

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Trombley: There is an impact on overtime because there is one more day on the weekend we are getting time and a half for 3 hours. For the remainder of this fiscal year, it would be \$3726 for a Friday with 2 people working it on a three hour time and a half basis. We see the benefits as in concert with the septage haulers lowering the rate, it is going to give them a longer day of access by a couple hours Monday through Thursday. If they had a load for Friday, they would do like they do for a weekend, they would call and bring it in when the staff is there Friday, Saturday or Sunday morning. It also gives longer time and continuity to get some work done.

*Boutwell makes the motion to allow the Montague Waste Water Control Facility to go to four ten hour days, Monday through Thursday and will do this on a temporary period through the end of March at which time it will be reviewed to see how things work. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye*

**Other**

We will be taking in a test load of sludge from Greenfield next week on a trial basis to see how well it works with the press and how it might affect our process. If everything works out and it is a benefit to Montague and there is a savings to Greenfield, this might be of interest for us to do on a permanent basis. There are other plants that have expressed interest and the goal is to try and reap some benefit for the Town and offset the sewer rates for all the users.

**Town Administrators Report**

**Vote alternate to FRCOG**

*Boutwell makes the motion to vote to appoint Mark Fairbrother as alternate to the Franklin Regional Council of Governments. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye*

**Sign 2011 Annual Report to ABCC**

*Boutwell makes the motion to authorize the Chair, Mark Fairbrother to sign the 2011 Annual Report of the Licensing Commissioners for the Town of Montague to the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye*

**Sign Local Support Documentation Form for the FC Regional Dog Officer Control and Kennel Program (Community Innovation Challenge Grant)**

*Boutwell makes the motion to authorize the Chair, Mark Fairbrother to sign the Local Support Documentation Form for the FC Regional Dog Officer Control and Kennel Program (Community Innovation Challenge Grant). Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye*

**Request to FC Regional Brownfield's Committee for Technical Assistance to conduct a Phase II Brownfield Assessment – Millers Falls property, 26 – 34 E. Main Street**

We just received the phase I report. This is asking the FRCOG to get funding for Phase II

*Boutwell makes the motion to authorize the Chair, Mark Fairbrother to sign the request to FC Regional Brownfield's Committee for Technical Assistance to conduct a Phase II Brownfield Assessment – Millers Falls property, 26 – 34 E. Main Street. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell - Aye*

**Letter from Planner RE: notice of intent to accept a part-time position in Leverett**

Abbondanzio: This is to notify you that the Town Planner intends to accept an offer from the Town of Leverett as a part time Conservation Agent. The position requires up to 5 hours per week which would be performed in Leverett on Fridays and at monthly evening meetings.

**Topics not Anticipated Covered in the 48 Hour Posting Requirement**

Abbondanzio: We have the Brownfield's Cleanup revolving loan agreement and promissory note that needs to be signed by the Chairman. This is for the \$200,000 grant we are getting from the FRCOG to do the clean up at Strathmore and also \$130,000 loan on the project.

*Boutwell makes the motion to authorize the Chair to sign the Brownfield's Cleanup revolving loan fund promissory note for the Town of Montague in the amount of \$130,000 for the Brownfield's Cleanup of the Strathmore Mill Building, Turners Falls, MA. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye*

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*Boutwell makes the motion to authorize the Chair to sign the Brownfield's Cleanup revolving loan fund agreement between the Board of Selectmen and its' Treasurer and the Franklin County Regional Governments for the Cleanup Debris of the Strathmore Mill Property for the \$130,000. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye*

**Other**

*Boutwell makes the motion that the Board sign the borrowing authority form for the Treasurer, Patricia A. Dion for the Town of Montague, for \$1,500,000 short term borrowing until April 10, 2012. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye*

*Boutwell makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 PM. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye*