

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MONDAY, August 16, 2010
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM**

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Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons, Mark Fairbrother, Chris Boutwell; Patricia Allen (absent) Town Administrator, Frank Abbondanzio; Administrative Secretary, Wendy Bogusz; Arn Albertini, Greenfield Recorder

Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Mark Fairbrother as acting chair for the meeting. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye

Approve Minutes of August 2, 2010

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the minutes of August 2, 2010. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – aye, Fairbrother – Aye

FY2011 CDBG Application; Informational Meeting, Bruce Hunter FRHRA

Abbondanzio reads Town of Montague Notice of Informational Meeting, FY2011 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application into the record (attached to file copy)

Abbondanzio explains purpose that purpose of meeting is to solicit public input and gives back ground of grant. Goes over previous grant awards and what goals have been met. The 2010 grant was not successful in getting the grant for Unity Park and another Catholic Social Services Program, we missed out by 1 point. We thought we might be able to appeal the decision, but FRCHA makes the recommendation that it is not best to appeal the grant. Regional Housing was very successful on housing rehab grants that they filed on behalf of a number of towns, including Montague. We have a housing rehab program that will be administered by the Housing Authority this coming year in Montague Center, it is for owner/occupied low/moderate income and it is a \$154,000 program. We already had internal discussion about what the potential town projects might be. Staff has talked about taking another crack at getting Unity Park Funded in 2011, only a few things that need to be tweaked to get the project awarded. We also looked at the possibility of doing some housing rehab in Turners Falls; we currently have 5 homeowners on the waiting list. We looked at parking on Canal Street which will probably have to go through a couple different stages including a feasibility stage and will probably be done under economic development. Because of the funding cycle for the social service programs, there is some thought about not recommending proceeding with that in the coming application. For the first time we did a survey which was incredibly successful. 1260 people responded out of 4100 (31%). Community Needs, Community Projects and Social Services were the three major categories. Frank goes over results of survey (attached to file *Montague 2010 Community Needs Survey, August 2010*).

Hunter: The community projects were taken from the current Community Development Strategy (CDS). We sent the survey out to see what projects the public would like to see funded. We update the CDS every year which shows the priority projects for the community and with 30% of the community responding, this gives the Selectmen and Town Planner an idea of how the public rates the projects and some are community development eligible. This is the first town wide survey that has been done. This is a good planning tool.

Residents Project/Program Requests

Walter Ramsey: The CDS is updated every year and is part of applying for the CDBG Grant in general. It is a way of making sure the town has all its ducks in a row. There are generally four categories of projects that are in the CDS: economic development projects, public works projects, community infrastructure projects and conservation projects, as well as a category for other. This changes only slightly from year to year depending on how many projects get completed. The draft of the CDS will be available for public review on September 1st at Town hall and on the Town Website. There will be an information meeting for public comment on September 15th at 7:00 PM. This meeting has to be separate from a Selectmen's meeting. This will give community another chance to comment on projects. (Has to be done 2 months prior to project)

There are no questions, comments. Comments should be directed to Walter Ramsey, Town Planner.

Hunter: the next step for Unity Park is the construction part of it. Comments were minor in the previous application they just wanted to see more of a relationship between the new equipment and new programs; how they interacted. This was done in the application, the reviewer just felt it was still a little unclear.

**Town Administrators Report
Cell Phone Stipend Request**

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Boutwell makes the motion to approve the request for a cell phone stipend for Megan Cloutier, Montague Police Department in the amount of \$25.00/per month effective August 16, 2010. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother – Aye

Vote to accept and adopt “Statement of Support for the Guard and Reserve”

Fairbrother reads *Statement of Support for the Guard and Reserve* into the record

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Statement of Support for the Guard and Reserve for the Town of Montague. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

111F

Boutwell makes the motion to remove James Deery from Section 111F effective August 12, 2010. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Fairbrother makes the motion to remove Chris Williams from Section 111F effective August 19, 2010. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Violation of Lease Agreement for use of Town Property by SPS

The parking lot has been cleaned up a bit since the email was sent last Thursday, but I have not heard from the construction company SPS as of this date.

DCR Forest Futures Visioning Process

Letter from DCR pertaining to the Forest Futures Visioning Process, this is a long term strategy the state has for managing its land in Massachusetts, 308 acres. I think it's important we have the right people on the advisory committee working with DCR because they are going to be dividing land into three categories, reserve, park land and woodland; 60% are going to be in Reserves or Park Land and 40% in Woodland. The woodland portion is going to be more intensively managed for forest. I think it's important if there is any kind of preservation objectives of the Conservation Commission and Planning Board, we need to weigh in when they start doing the zoning of their property.

MMA Statewide Essay Contest for 6th Graders

We've participated in this in previous years; both Selectboards in Montague and Gill have to vote to do this.

Boutwell makes the motion to authorize the 5th annual MMA Statewide essay contest for 6th graders through the school. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – aye, Fairbrother - Aye

MMA Legislative Breakfast, October 15, 2010

There will be a breakfast in Orange on this date, more information will follow

Other

Received copy of invitation to bid from the school for the school roof replacement project; bids are due on Friday.

Sharon Broughan/John Carey, America Needs Fatima request, Use of Peskeompskut Park

Fairbrother makes the motion to authorize Sharon Broughon and John Carey of America Needs Fatima to use Peskeompskut Park on October 16, 2010 from Noon to 1:00 PM; no facilities needed to be used except for the park itself and signed off by Chief of Police. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Deerfield Valley Arts Association requests, Entertainment Permit and Use of Public Property

Boutwell makes the motion to allow the Deerfield Valley Arts Association, Gallery 38 to use land in front of the Discovery Center under control by EDIC, (old building) on Saturday, August 21, 2010 from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Entertainment license for the Deerfield Valley Arts Association Gallery 38 on Avenue A in Turners Falls, for Saturday, August 21, 2010 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM instrumental and live vocalist, has been signed off by all. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Fairbrother - Aye

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Patricia Pruitt on behalf of Prospect and Central St. Neighborhood Association; Use of Public Property, Prospect St. Bridge, Celebrate completion of bridge

Pruitt: We have been having this event for the past 4 years, celebration for neighborhood, bring food and musicians. This year we are celebrating the bridge is open.

Boutwells only concern is with 30 – 40 people on the bridge would like to see jersey barriers put on the bridge or the whole bridge closed.

Pruitt: I've talked to Tom and he is going to put up whatever barricades' and signage that are necessary. The Chief didn't have any problems with it; Tom and Ray have consulted on this.

Patricia will talk to Tom and Ray about having the whole bridge closed for the event, get the sign offs and bring a new form forward for the next meeting.

Fairbrother agrees with Boutwell about the bridge being closed. This will be revisited with Tom and Ray and brought back before the Board with a revised plan next week.

Other

- Question asked about recycling containers being put on the sidewalks next to the regular trash to encourage recycling and stop littering. This will be looked into.

- We did not receive any responses for the Montague Center School RFP. The Capital Improvements Committee will have to revisit this and decide if the RFP will be put back out.

*Boutwell makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM. Seconded by Fairbrother, approved unanimously.
Fairbrother – Aye, Boutwell – Aye*