

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
MONDAY, January 6, 2020**

Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons Chris Boutwell and Michael Nelson, and Town Administrator Steven Ellis.

Call to Order: Vice Chair announces that the meeting is being recorded by MCTV and asks if anyone else is recording the meeting

Approve Selectboard Minutes of 12-16-2019

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Selectboard Minutes of 12-16-2019. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye

Public Comment Period: Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Board of Selectmen will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment

None

Chris Williams, Police Chief

Execute USDA grant to supplement 55% of purchase price of new cruiser

Boutwell makes the motion to authorize Steven Ellis, Town Administrator, to sign the USDA grant to supplement 55% of the purchase price of a new cruiser. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye

Charles Berg & Steven Grayhm, Mulholland Productions, Inc.

Use of Public Property, 127 Avenue A and 4th Street, January 8, 2020, 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM

- *Boutwell makes the motion to approve the request of Charles Berg & Steven Grayhm, Mulholland Productions, Inc. for the Use of Public Property, 127 Avenue A and 4th Street, January 8, 2020, 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye*
- *Boutwell makes the motion to amend the prior motion to also add January 12, 2020 from 4:00 to 10:00 PM for additional filming. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye*

Cassandra Holden, Laudable Productions

Entertainment Permit: "Barbes in the Woods" Festival at 27 Center St., Montague Center on August 8, 2020, 1:00 PM to 11:00 PM

- Laudable Productions presents detailed plans for parking and safety.
- Members of the audience give feedback on several topics:
 - access to the roads in the event of emergencies
 - varying opinions on the noise level
 - concern about people walking through private property
 - trash and composting
 - appreciation of discounted tickets to Montague residents
- A neighborhood email list has been created to encourage better communication.
- The Shea Theater is involved in a dialogue regarding ways to participate in the event.
- Concerns were expressed regarding the time to end the event; several people would like it to end at 10 PM instead of 11.
- Approximately 1300 people attended last year. Holden suggests capping the ticket sales to somewhere between 3,000 to 4,000.
- The Board approves the holding of the event on August 8, 2020. A provisional permit is not given at this point as other details need to be worked out.
- Another meeting with Laudable Productions is scheduled for February 3rd.

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Town Administrator's Report

- **Execute MOU with MassHistoric for the 5th Street Pedestrian Bridge replacement**
Boutwell makes the motion to authorize the Acting Chair to sign the MOU with MassHistoric for the 5th Street Pedestrian Bridge replacement. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye
- **Execute Amended Grant Agreement with the MA Office of Housing and Economic Development**
Boutwell makes the motion to execute the Amended Grant Agreement with the MA Office of Housing and Economic Development. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye
- **Winter Special Town Meeting**
Ellis informs the Board of the consideration of a Winter Special Town Meeting. Preliminary date is February 26. Potential items include establishing stabilization funds for cannabis impact and cannabis retail sales fees, a proposal to modernize the personnel bylaws, rescinding the borrowing authority that was set aside for the WPCF solar array, and looking carefully at the budgets.
- **Expected public information session relative to the General Pierce Bridge Rehabilitation**
The General Pierce Bridge is in its design phase currently and construction on the bridge will begin in the near future. DOT wishes to have a public information session. Ellis is working with the school district to confirm holding the session on February 4th at 6:30 PM at the high school.
- **Southworth Update**
The building is now formally owned by Tom Cusano. The Town has received the checks for all of the liened bills, which total approximately \$475,000.
- **Topics not anticipated in 48 hour posting**
 - **Supplement to Chapter 90 funding.** The Town will receive a supplemental amount of \$48,928 from the State to our original FY20 Chapter 90 funding.
 - **Bonding.** Standard and Poor's has reaffirmed the Town's AA rating, which is important to our ability to bond this time and in the future.
 - **WPCF Superintendent.** The individual who was going to be appointed as the new WPCF Superintendent has opted to remain in his present position in another community. The Search Committee will be developing a set of next steps to identify a new candidate.

Boutwell makes the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye

Documents and Exhibits:

- Execute USDA grant to supplement 55% of purchase price of new cruiser
- Charles Berg & Steven Grayhm, Mulholland Productions, Inc.; Use of Public Property, 127 Avenue A and 4th Street, January 8, 2020, 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- Cassandra Holden, Laudable Productions, Entertainment Permit: "Barbes in the Woods" Festival at 27 Center St., Montague Center on August 8, 2020, 1:00 PM to 11:00 PM
- MOU with MassHistoric for the 5th Street Pedestrian Bridge replacement
- Amended Grant Agreement with the MA Office of Housing and Economic Development
- Expected public information session relative to the General Pierce Bridge Rehabilitation