

**Selectmen Meeting
Minutes
June 17, 2020**

Chairman Connolly, Selectman Boisoneau, Selectman Kerrigan, Selectman Dziokonski and Selectmen Devault were present. Town Administrator Ward and Solicitor Gibbons were attendees. Chairman Connolly opened the meeting at 7:03PM.

Public Comment

There was none.

Review of Minutes

The board received minutes from June 3, 2020 Selectmen's meeting for review and approval. Selectman Kerrigan made a motion to approve minutes as presented. Selectman Dziokonski seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Discussion about Revising the Quorum for June 22, 2020 Town Meeting

Chairman Connolly invited Town Moderator Terrance Ingano forward for discussion on the revising of the town meeting quorum. Mr. Ingano thanked the board for review and discussion of the quorum for the upcoming town meeting. The discussion reviewed the difficulty in the past of trying to get the quorum number in order to host the meeting. On average the meeting would have a delayed start of close to one hour waiting for the correct number of attendees. It was determined in the current environment the number should be reduced. Selectman Boisoneau made a motion to lower the quorum requirement to 20 as allowed by the special acts of legislation. Selectman Dziokonski seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Devault explained the quorum should be lowered to fifty, he explained he is nervous if the number is too low. Explaining fifty will motivate residents to show up. Chairman Connolly explained lowering the quorum doesn't prevent a larger number to attend. Board members and the Moderator agreed explaining it will be helpful to get the meeting started on time. The vote was 4/1 Selectman Devault opposed.

Rebecca Adams, The Hub Craft - 1R & 3R Green Street Proposed Marijuana Cultivation Facility (former Weetabix Company)

Chairman Connolly invited the representatives for The Hub Craft forward. Ms. Rebecca Adams and Mr. Steve Chasin were before the board. Ms. Adams reviewed she is a compliance regulation cannabis consultant representing The Hub Craft, a marijuana cultivator and manufacture. She reviewed they have opened over 20 medical recreational facilities ensuring they are all in compliance with state and local laws. Adams stated she received the towns guidelines last evening and apologized she would have prepared the introductory letter. She requested to be scheduled for the next meeting to review all the necessary materials with the board. She explained The Hub Craft have a license in City of Fitchburg, they have started construction acquiring a

special permit. They are currently operating in Nevada and have a greenhouse in Colorado. They are a minority owned business run by Howard Taner with other professionals from the cannabis industry. They wanted to be here for the meeting but due to Covid were unable to travel in from out of state, they plan to attend further meetings. Ms. Adams reviewed the facility will be at 20 Cameron Street the former Weetabix cereal company, building one is 76,000 square feet and the other building is 52,092 square feet with plans to add a mezzanine level of about 58,000 square feet. They plan to have cultivation rooms, a commercial kitchen and an extraction lab along with ancillary space. They also plan to have a co-gen plant, to create power for the building to provide the needed cooling for the facility. When operating they will employ 150 with preference given to Clinton residents, they will operate 24 hours 7 days a week. She explained a member of the team plans to move to Massachusetts, possibly Clinton. They intend to produce products they have made and are successful with. She will prepare the needed materials and get them to the board for the next meeting. Chairman Connolly explained it is important to get the information to the board, a new member will be joining the board so it is important to have the information before the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for July 1. Selectman Boisoneau asked about the location, Ms. Adams said Cameron Street but the material read Green Street. Ms. Adams agreed explaining she had misspoken the buildings to be used are on Green Street. Selectman Devault asked if the business owners plan to come before the board, he understands they are the consultants. Ms. Adams explained yes the owners are out of state and due to the Covid were unable to fly in to attend this meeting. Selectman Kerrigan explained moving forward the owners should attend normally the discussions are with the decision makers. Ms. Adams stated she apologized the owners will be present at the next meeting and she will follow up with the information as soon as possible.

2020 Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Chairman Connolly asked for the pleasure of the board on the final draft of the Town Meeting warrant presented. Selectman Dziokonski made a motion to accept the final draft Town Meeting warrant as presented. Selectman Boisoneau seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

FY2021 Finance Committee Proposed Town Budget

Chairman Connolly asked Administrator Ward for an update on the Finance Committee budget presented, he was unable to attend the public hearing held last week. Selectman Kerrigan explained he was in attendance of the hearing, there were no changes. Selectman Kerrigan made a motion to approve the FY21 Finance Committee Budget as proposed and the one twelfth budget as prepared for town meeting. Selectman Boisoneau seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Administrative Business

There was none.

Old & New Business

Town Buildings Reopening Update

Administrator Ward was before the board with an update on the reopening of the town buildings. He explained the Board of Health indicated it is time to start reopening the building as of June 15th the building is accessible to the public. All of the town offices have remained open throughout the quarantine, work has continued without any interruption. The Senior Center has remained open throughout quarantine as well, they have more limitations due to the population they serve. They have begun offering activities outdoors, no seniors are entering the building. The Library has not reopened for public accessibility, they offer services virtually and curbside pick-up. The Director has indicated she is meeting with the board of Trustees on Tuesday and will complete the plan on policy and procedures moving forward. She is following the state board and other communities. The Park & Recreation office is open by appointment and the summer program is pending what is allowed by the state. The Police, Fire, DPW, and Facility Departments are all fulltime. He thanked all town employees for their continuous service to the community, he hasn't received any complaints over the past three months.

West Ledge Streetlight Project

Administrator Ward updated the board on the request to finish the streetlights for the West Ledge Estates. He explained Town Counsel had reviewed the file and his researched shows a vague outcome as to who is responsible for the installation of lighting in the neighborhood. The recommendation to move the issue forward to help out the neighborhood is for the town to put up the lights with the help from National Grid. He has made contact with National Grid and there would be a cost. Chairman Connolly asked what type of repairs are needed to complete the project. Administrator Ward reviewed National Grid explained an engineer will evaluate the status of the existing bases and the infrastructure, the plan is to ensure the infrastructure is safe and can be used. Chairman Connolly asked pending the issues, funding from the Facility Department or the Civic Fund could be used. Administrator Ward explained there is also a streetlight line item account in the budget that could be used. Chairman Connolly explained he would authorize up to \$10,000 to be used to complete the project. Selectman Devault made a motion to approve up to \$10,000 in funding to be used to for the analysis of National Grid to verify the infrastructure can be used to install the streetlights in the West Ledge Estate neighborhood. Selectman Dziokonski seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Independence Day Fireworks Event

Selectman Devault reviewed he has been approached by the Clinton Fire Union regarding the upcoming Annual Fireworks event. The union is looking for some feedback from the board on how to move forward with the upcoming event, they have asked for the board's opinion. Chairman Connolly explained the event is coming up

quickly, this is not a board of Selectmen decision, this is a Fire Departments Union sponsored event. He state he would support going forward with the event, if it is done in a safe manner with the current state guidelines in effect. It is hosted at the Athletics Field which is open, recently there were large groups at events in Central Park. Selectman Boissoneau stated he is supportive of the event taking place as well. Selectman Devault explained he has concerns regarding mass gatherings, it creates another excuse to conjugate. Selectman Kerrigan explained recent events were in support of Civil Rights that is different from a town organized event. Recently the Olde Home Day event has been postponed for September, perhaps they could change how to attend and require attendees to stay in their car. Other communities have chosen not to host 4th of July events. Selectman Dziokonski stated people are free to choose to attend, but he is uncomfortable if it is a town sanctioned event. If the Governor lifts the restrictions he would support it. Discussion continued regarding people have typical plans for the holiday and will continue with them. Selectman Devault explained he will relay the message if the Governor were to lessen restrictive guidelines and allow large gatherings the board would endorse the event.

Discover Clinton Assistance for Restaurant & Bar Openings

Selectman Devault shared he is working with Community & Development Director Phil Duffy and Discover Clinton to host an informational night for restaurant owners who want to participate in the application process to apply for outdoor seating. It will be held at the town hall on June 30. He reviewed a representative from the Board of Health will review the guidelines and assist in guiding businesses through the phases of reopening. All questions will be answered at once and this will send a clear message for how businesses will move through the phases of reopening.

Environmental Assessment Award Contract to Ensafe, Inc. for 172 Sterling Street

Administrator Ward explained the consultant cost for phase 1 & 2 of the environmental review for 172 Sterling Street, is \$74,900.00. Community & Economic Development Director Phil Duffy is recommending approval to award the contract to Ensafe Inc. Mass Development will cover cost in the amount of \$76,000. Selectman Kerrigan made a motion to approve the consultant environmental assessment contract go to Ensafe, Inc. in the amount of \$74,900. Selectman Dziokonski seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Selectman Kerrigan made a motion to approve the Chairman sign the Mass Development contract accepting the \$76,000 in funding to cover the cost of the environmental assessment at 172 Sterling Street. Selectman Devault seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Superintendent of Public Works Landfill Salary

Town Administrator Ward reviewed the Superintendent manages the landfill capping project and receives an annual salary for the extra work of \$25,000 and a stipend based on the amount of revenue generated from the project. Each year the board has to determine and award the amount to the Superintendent. Selectman Kerrigan explained

in the Budget Subcommittee discussion it was decided to streamline the DPW administrative salaries to one line item. At this time it is broken out into the funding sources, for more transparency this should be done. Chairman Connolly explained this is a standard annual award agreed upon when the project began. Selectman Kerrigan made a motion to ratify the agreement and approve the FY20 payment to Superintendent McGown. Selectman Dziokonski seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Chairman Connolly explained the agreement was drafted in 2012, it has gotten old and things have evolved over time, he recommended the board authorize the DPW Superintendent work together with the Town Counsel and return to the board with a update version. Selectman Kerrigan made a motion to authorize the DPW Superintendent and Town Counsel, Town Administrator and Chairman Connolly work together on a new agreement regarding the landfill capping project salary and stipend. Selectman Dziokonski seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Old & New Business

Discussion on Location of Town Meeting

Selectman Devault reviewed in the future he hoped to receive all feedback from departments prior to a decision is made. He reviewed the recent discussion and decision made on the location for the town meeting he wished wasn't made until the Board of Health was able to make a recommendation and share the feedback regarding the location. Guidelines received from Board of Health encouraged the use of an outdoor location. He would like to wait on making any decisions until all feedback is received regarding an issue.

Committee Reports

Cable Committee

Selectman Kerrigan explained a meeting will be held over Zoom, one is schedule fort Thursday at 3PM.

Recognition of Selectmen Dziokonski's Service on the Board

Chairman Connolly presented Selectman Dziokonski with a plaque commemorating his years of service on the board. He thanked him for all his wisdom and contributions to the community. He has provided a lot of guidance to him and the community through his service on the board. He expressed his appreciation and explained he has enjoyed the time spent serving together although they have not always agreed on issues. Selectman Kerrigan stated he ran against Selectman Dziokonski when elected and turned out serving together. He has shown nothing but class, answering all his questions. He explained it has been a pleasure in serving with him on the board and subcommittees they have worked on together. He hoped to never lose his counsel and friendship they have formed. Selectman Dziokonski shared a memory from childhood when he would frequent the Drug Store located just on the corner from town hall. He was about 12 years old when he would see the members of the board of Selectmen at the store and enjoy speaking with them this memory has stayed with him and he now

realizes he is the older generation serving on the board of Selectmen and it is time to have others join the board. He explained he enjoyed working with the current board, he also thanked the voters and citizens of Clinton for electing him and giving him the chance to serve. Administrator Ward thanked Selectman Dziokonski explained he has certainly lived up to the office, he thanked him for all the support to him and the staff and office.

Chairman Connolly reviewed the board will be entering into Executive Session and will not return to an open meeting.

Executive Session Article 3 Facility Union Contract 8:15PM – 8:30PM

Roll Call Vote: Selectman Kerrigan “aye”, Selectman Boisoneau “aye”, Selectman Dziokonski “aye” and Chairman Connolly “aye”.

Selectman Kerrigan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30PM. Selectman Dziokonski seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Meeting Adjourned,

Joyce A. Corbosiero

Executive Assistant to the Clinton Board of Selectmen/Town Administrator