

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Francis A. Hegarty, Chairman  
Steven P. Rose, Clerk  
Robert F. Brady, Jr., Associate

# Town of Avon Massachusetts

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Michael McCue, Town Administrator



## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2013 7:30 p.m.

Members present: Francis A. Hegarty, Chairman  
Steven P. Rose  
Robert F. Brady, Jr.

Others present: Michael McCue, Town Administrator  
Joseph Lalli, Town Counsel

Chairman Hegarty called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with all members present

Mr. Paul Chute, Co-Chair of the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, introduced Brian Lounge and Emily Williams. Both are juniors at Avon Middle/High School who worked on a stained glass project for the 125<sup>th</sup> Celebration. There were six students altogether that worked on the project; the remainder was not able to be present tonight. Mr. Chute presented the stained glass piece of artwork to the Selectmen. Mr. Chute would like to see the piece displayed in the school in the fall. Maybe it could be put up in the Library and Town Hall for the summer before a permanent location is found.

The Board commented on the beautiful piece of artwork completed by the students and Chairman Hegarty thanked all who worked on the project.

Emily Williams and Brian Lounge led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Brady made a motion to accept the minutes of Thursday, June 6, 2013 (Regular Session). Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### 7:35 p.m.—National Grid—Petition for installation of a joint pole

Mr. Joe Cardinal and Mr. John Doherty were in attendance from National Grid.

Mr. Cardinal reported that every pole on Bodwell Street is being utilized. This request is to install a new pole —45' height on Bodwell Street.

Chairman Hegarty reported that a new pole was placed on the corner of Pond and Malley Ave. (Page Street). The Town knew nothing about the new pole. Is it perhaps a Verizon pole? It is on Town property. Mr. Cardinal and Mr. Doherty responded that they would look into the matter.

Mr. Rose asked are we in good shape regarding double poles. Mr. Cardinal replied that he brought a copy of the database with him. There are a total of 69 double poles in the Town of Avon and National Grid only has one.

Mr. Rose suggested inviting Verizon and the Cable Company to the next meeting and referred the request to Mr. McCue.

After further discussion, Mr. Rose made a motion to approve granting of the new pole on Bodwell Street. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

#### **Park and Recreation Commission Summer Hires**

Mr. Rose made a motion to hire the following individuals to the Park and Recreation Commission, contingent upon successful fulfillment of the Town of Avon hiring policies:

Director—Elizabeth Doucette	G-10-1	\$11.77
Assistant Director—Kelli Mains	G8-1	\$9.41
Counselors:		
Dan Zaleski	G7-1	\$8.24
Sean O'Malley	G7-1	\$8.24
Ethan Hoffman	G7-1	\$8.24

Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

A letter was received for reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals, as representative to the Fire Department from Kevin J. Foster.

Chairman Hegarty explained the letter for reappointment as the Fire Department's representative to the Zoning Board of Appeals must be written by the Fire Chief. Chairman Hegarty suggested tabling the item until the next meeting. The Board agreed.

### **Fiscal Year '14 Road Repairs**

Chairman Hegarty reviewed Chapter 90 balances with the Board and reported there is an available balance total of \$414,281.72

The Board looked at a list of streets compiled by the Highway Superintendent, rating the condition of each.

Mr. Rose suggested resurfacing the “really bad” streets and then prioritizing the others. Funding also needs to be calculated. Mr. Rose stated Bows Lane and Cedar Road are the “really bad” streets.

The Board discussed other streets, such as Peterson Road, but would continue the discussion after meeting with the Finance Committee.

At 8:00 p.m. Finance Committee members Eric Beckerman (Chair), Lou Balboni and Mark Brown appeared before the Board to discuss the June 24, 2013 Special Town Meeting.

Mr. Beckerman discussed different scenarios. How do we (the Finance Committee) come up with a compromise? Can the Fire Department come in with a smaller amount? Can they hire two new firefighters and not four? Mr. Beckerman stated he had a conversation with Mr. Foster tonight.

Chairman Hegarty reviewed the articles as follows:

Articles 1 and 2—Budget

Article 3—Abatements finalized

Article 4—Medical Marijuana—not a recorded vote by State Law – the Town needs a recorded  $\frac{3}{4}$  vote

The quorum needed for the Special Town Meeting is now at 50 persons.

Finance Committee Chair Eric Beckerman stated the Finance Committee did not have a quorum this evening to vote on transfers.

### **Interdepartmental Transfers/Reserve Fund**

1. A request to transfer from Highway Department Salary line item, in the amount of \$3,596.80, to be transferred to Finance Committee Expense due to funds needed to cover costs of extra town meeting booklets and postage

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the transfer from the Highway Department Salary to the Finance Committee expense line item, in the amount of \$3,596.80. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. All were in favor.

2. A request to transfer from Fire Department Salary, in the amount of \$25,361.74 to Police Department Salary line item. Funds needed to cover costs of extra overtime due to illnesses and reduction in force.

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the line item transfer from Fire Department Salary to Police Department Salary, in the amount of \$25,361.74. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3. A request to transfer from Dispatch Salary, in the amount of \$5,000.00 to Police Department Expenses. Funds needed to cover costs of fuel and repairs.

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the line item transfer from Dispatch Salary to Police Department Expenses, in the amount of \$5,000.00. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. All were in favor.

4. A request to transfer from Waste Collection, in the amount of \$8,332.34 to Police Department Salary. Funds needed to cover costs of extra overtime due to illnesses and reduction in force.

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the line item transfer from Waste Collection to Police Department Salary, in the amount of \$8,332.34. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The motion carried.

All requests for appropriation Transfer between or within Departments will be forwarded to the Finance Committee for action.

The Board returned to its discussion on road repairs for FY '14.

The Board reviewed the condition of the streets listed. Bows Lane and Cedar Road were listed as “really bad.” The Brentwood area was also listed as “really bad.” Chairman Hegarty stated we need to investigate the drainage in the Brentwood area. If the Pond Street project is working, the water table should be reduced in the Brentwood area.

It was Mr. Brady’s opinion to start repairs on the “really bad” streets and hold off on the rest. Mr. Rose agreed but suggested we need someone in the Town to prioritize the streets so that we know how much we have left to spend for road repairs.

Mr. Brady made a motion to start repairs on Cedar Road and Bows Lane and refer to the Town Administrator to work out how much money would be left to spend. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. Chairman Hegarty recused himself. The motion passed 2-0.

The Board discussed a letter received from resident Richard Mansur of 26 King Street. Mr. Mansur complained about the condition of the road in front of his house due to the Town’s snow plowing job, taking asphalt chunks out of the road. His second complaint was damage to his snow blower due to the poor condition of the road. He is holding the Town responsible and looking for reimbursement to cover the cost of a new snow blower.

Chairman Hegarty reported it is the Town of Avon’s policy to plow and sand all non-accepted streets as a public service in the interest of public safety. The portion of King Street where Mr. Mansur’s house is situated is part of a non-accepted street. The condition of non-accepted streets is not the Town’s responsibility. The damage to Mr. Mansur’s snow blower is also not the Town’s responsibility, but the homeowner’s. The Town does not maintain or repair non-accepted streets.

The Board asked Mr. McCue to respond to Mr. Mansur’s letter.

**Street Opening Permit Request—R.J. Messina, Inc. at 30 Bodwell Street for Restaurant Depot**

A request was received for a street opening permit from R.J. Messina, Inc. This is a one-time road cut to install a hydrant for Restaurant Depot.

With sign-off approval from the Highway and Water Departments, Mr. Brady made a motion to grant permission for a street opening permit at 30 Bodwell Street for Restaurant Depot. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion carried.

A request for gift acceptance was received from the Council on Aging, in the amount of \$100.00. The gift is to be used to fund COA activities and purchases.

On a motion made by Mr. Rose, seconded by Mr. Brady, it was unanimously voted to accept the \$100.00 gift to the Council on Aging.

Summer meetings for the Board of Selectmen were set as follows:

Thursday, July 11, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 25, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 15, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

On a motion made by Mr. Rose, seconded by Mr. Brady, it was unanimously voted to approve all vouchers for the payment of bills as submitted minus Tibbetts Engineering Corp. invoices.

### **Town Administrator's Report**

Mr. McCue reported that he received a contract from Yee Engineering and has forwarded a copy in tonight's packets for the Board's review.

Mr. McCue reported that he has received monthly reports from all departments for the Board's review.

Mr. McCue announced that Sheriff Bellotti's Community Service crew is currently working at the Police and Fire Station doing some interior and exterior painting. They will return in approximately one month to paint the footbridge located at the library. In the fall the Community Service workers will again return to fix some of the rotted wood on the Town Hall building.

The 2013 Summer Concert Series will begin on Wednesday evening, July 10<sup>th</sup>. Concerts are scheduled on Wednesday evenings at Moses Curtis Park from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Free parking is

available at the Avon Cooperative Bank, the municipal lot and St. Michael's Church. There is no parking allowed in the Square. Refreshments will be available.

Mr. Brady announced Avon's 125<sup>th</sup> Celebration Family Field Day on Saturday, June 8th was an exceptional day. Thank you to the businesses that donated items. Fireworks were held at 9:00 p.m. and Sunday's concert "Ball in the House" was a huge success.

Chairman Hegarty stated that there are plenty of chances remaining to participate in the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. The Celebration Committee will be meeting again on Monday evening, July 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Avon Town Hall Meeting Room. Meetings are the first and third Mondays of each month. All are welcome.

Chairman Hegarty wants to remind residents that a Special Town Meeting will be held this coming Monday, June 24, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in Avon Middle/High School's auditorium to re-vote the budget. Fifty (50) voters are needed for a quorum. All residents are urged to attend.

On Tuesday, June 25, 2013, a Special State Election will be held. Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

At 9:00 p.m., with all business completed, Mr. Rose made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. All were in favor.

On behalf of the Board, Chairman Hegarty wants to wish all residents a safe and happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!

Respectfully submitted,



Miriam Rothstein  
Secretary