

Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Tuesday, February 1, 2016 – 7:00 PM
Sanford Hall
155 Village Street

Present: John Foresto, Chair; Maryjane White, Vice Chair; Richard D'Innocenzo, Clerk.

Absent: Dennis Crowley, Member; and Glenn Trindade, Member.

Staff Present: Michael Boynton, Town Administrator; Allison Potter, Assistant Town Administrator; Carol Pratt, Finance Director; Bob Weiss, Energy Manager; Susy Affleck-Childs, Planning and Economic Development Coordinator; Stephanie Mercandetti, Director, Community and Economic Development; Tom Holder, Director, Department of Public Services.

At 7:00 PM Chairman Foresto called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcement:

Mr. Boynton reported on two separate incidents. First, he extended thanks and appreciation to the staff in Public Services for handling of what turned out to be unexpectedly higher than anticipated snowfall two weeks ago. The snow came earlier than expected and the teams were mobilized quickly. Second, he announced that Officer Matt Reardon was instrumental in breaking up long-time criminal activity, the result of which was an arrest. This was an outstanding effort by Police Department.

Public Comments: None.

Presentation – Medway Community Farm, Board of Directors:

The Board reviewed the following information: (1) Introduction Letter; and (2) Annual Report.

Present: Kathleen Yorkis, President, Medway Community Farm, Board of Directors;

Ms. Yorkis stated their desire is to increase the visibility of the Community Farm and our presence in the community, noting that they had a very successful discussion with Mr. Boynton, Ms. Potter and Ms. Mercandetti. She briefly described what the farm is all about, producing food through shares, Fall Festival, activities in the schools and community education. At this time, she introduced the rest of her group as Kevin Overshiner, Farm Manager; Devon Reed; Marcia Coakley, Clerk; and Carol Collord, Treasurer.

Continuing, Ms. Yorkis stated that they are all proud to be member of the Medway Community Farm in a Green community, and an important goal of ours is to explore the possibility of a long-term lease. A long-term lease would allow some long-range objectives such as construction of a barn.

Mr. Reed provided highlights of the annual report, noting that he joined the Board of Directors in August. From a farming perspective, it is a very productive farm, with over 6 acres to work with. It supplies food to approximately 250 members of the community through crop shares utilizing three different fields. A new greenhouse is under construction. The farm donates about \$4500 worth of groceries to First Medway Church for the food pantry. There are new Board members as well as an increase in volunteers.

Ms. Collord presented a brief financial overview. This is another year with a positive net income. We have a couple of investments and paid the last payment on a loan in December. The money we make going forward can be invested back into the farm. We have been able to invest in some safety measures such as the rollover bar on the tractor. The net income this past year was \$14,000.

Ms. Coakley reported that she gets to meet the members on the pick-up days and can discuss how they are using the food products, recipes, etc. Moreover, it is inspiring to see all the children involved. Our strategic planning is to improve the farm so that it can be expanded to handle more people and be more efficient.

Mr. Kevin Overshiner, Farm Manager, stated that Brittany, his wife, was the one who started the farm and is moving on to another opportunity. The farm is based on a strong CSA program for members who pay in advance then pick up their produce weekly. We want to build up and improve the Farmers Market that has been going on for a couple of years as well as be able to donate to the Boston Food Bank. He emphasized that smart environmental stewardship of land is an important contribution to the community as a whole.

Responding to a question from Selectmen D’Innocenzo, Mr. Overshiner stated that shares are available now to members, and later to the general public. Due to a waiting list, it could take a year or two to clear that wait list before getting in.

Chairman Foresto thanked them for their hard work, emphasizing that they are putting in this effort as volunteers. He added that it is great to see people step up to fill important roles such as this. Ms. Yorkis responded that some senior citizens have indicated this is the way they contribute to the community as they do not have children in the schools.

Mr. Boynton stated he would confer with Town Counsel to see what options are available on the lease.

Grant Expenditure Authorization – Greater Boston Real Estate Board Grant, \$2,300:

The Board reviewed the Notice of Grant Award, dated January 20, 2016.

Present: Tom Holder, Director, Department of Public Services

Mr. Holder reported that TC Scoops donated \$1000 and Jeff Bailey donated masonry services to do a lot of the stone work. Medway Gardens donated some of the trees, while Home Depot in Bellingham donated mulch and some trees. Realtors donated \$2,300. Additional work was donated by Fasolino Landscaping.

Mr. Holder also reported that the department has identified two additional pocket parks along Route 109 in the area that will be up for reconstruction this year.

Selectman D’Innocenzo moved that the Board authorize the expenditure of the Greater Boston Real Estate Board Grant in the amount of \$2,300 for improvements to the Mechanic Street Pocket Park; Selectman White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 3-0-0.

Grant Expenditure Authorization – EMPG Grant, \$3,220:

The Board reviewed the following information: (1) Notice of Grant Award, dated January 14, 2016; (2) Contract form; (3) Invoice for wireless software & Tablets; and (4) Grant explanation.

Mr. Boynton explained that the purpose of the grant request is to purchase electronic equipment that would enhance the department’s capabilities to track various storms or disaster-related incidents that occur in Medway. Computer software is part of this request. Utilizing a tablet that would be interfaced with the departmental computer network would assist them in maintaining full control of incidents such

as road closures and road openings, downed wires, electrical issues, and locations of flooded areas, to name a few. Mr. Boynton asked the Board to authorize the grant for the emergency operations center and the associated work at the fire station.

Selectman D’Innocenzo moved that the Board authorize the expenditure of the Emergency Management Performance Grant in the amount of \$3,220, as presented; Selectman White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 3-0-0.

Closing of May 9, 2016 Annual and Special Town Meeting Warrants:

The Board reviewed FY17 Budget and 2016 Town Meeting Calendars.

Mr. Boynton explained that there are not many articles other than general housekeeping articles on the Special Town Meeting Warrant. Once you close the Annual Town Meeting Warrant, the citizen petition phase is also closed. However, the Board can reopen the warrant if something comes up before the warrant is posted publicly. Mr. Boynton added that language has been proposed for an article specifying no hunting on Town-owned property.

Selectman D’Innocenzo moved that the Board close the May 9, 2016 Special Town Meeting Warrant on February 5, 2016; Selectman White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 3-0-0.

Selectman D’Innocenzo moved that the Board close the May 9, 2016 Annual Town Meeting Warrant on February 5, 2016; Selectman White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 3-0-0.

Update – Net Metering Program

There were no background materials. A document entitled “Medway’s Power Purchase Agreement” was distributed at the meeting.

Present: Bob Weiss, Energy Manager; Carol Pratt, Stephanie Mercandetti.

Mr. Boynton provided a brief update. Borrego Solar has gone live in a program in Carver that the Town of Medway has partnered with. The potential savings to the Town is substantial. The problem is that there is a provision in the statute which allows Eversource to issue the credits in the form of a check instead of energy credits. There are budgetary implications due to the credits coming in dollars which must be considered revenue.

Ms. Carol Pratt, Finance Director, reported that it was originally thought that the credit would appear on our regular invoices. Instead, it has come as a check and we are prohibited from applying the money to the bills. We have to consider it as revenue and deposit it into the General Fund. This may require some adjustment to the FY17 budget, as well as a potential Annual Town Meeting article to remedy the situation for this year. Discussion followed. Ms. Pratt noted that the Town will continue to work with Eversource to get the credit against our bill or in some other way other than a check. Mr. Boynton noted that anything other than a check is difficult if not impossible as the Town would have to figure out what accounts to apply it to. The full payment will go to NRG who will then distribute the money to the Town.

Selectman D’Innocenzo moved that the Board authorize the Chair to sign a letter to Eversource to declare Federal Road Solar 1, LLC as the ‘Designation of Representative for Host Customer’ to enable Federal Road Solar to receive and to make the disbursements of the monthly net metering credits sent by Eversource on behalf of the Town of Medway; Selectman White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 3-0-0.

Approval – Public Event Permits:

The Board reviewed the following information: (1) American Legion email request with Police Chief's recommendations; and (2) Melinda Currul's email request and Police Chief's recommendations.

The public events requested are the American Legion Scholarship Road Race on June 25, 2016 and the 5th Annual Shamrock Shuffle 5K on March 12, 2016.

Selectman D'Innocenzo moved that the Board approve special event permits for the American Legion and Melinda Currul to host road races on June 25, 2016 and March 12, 2016, respectively, subject to fulfillment of the Police Chief's recommendations; Selectman White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 3-0-0.

Approval – One-Day Liquor License Applications:

The Board reviewed the following information: (1) Application from Kate Davis with Police Chief's recommendations; (2) Application from Jeff Ingals with Police Chief's recommendations; and (3) Application from Cheryl Downey with Police Chief's recommendations.

The dates requested for use of the Thayer Homestead include February 14, 2015 (Kate Davis); April 2, 2016 (Jeff Ingals); and April 10, 2016 (Cheryl Downey).

Selectman D'Innocenzo moved that the Board approve one-day liquor licenses for Kate Davis, Jeff Ingals and Cheryl Downey for their events at the Thayer Homestead on February 14, 2016; April 2, 2016; and April 20, 2016 subject to fulfillment of the Police Chief's recommendations and evidence of appropriate insurance coverage; Selectman White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 3-0-0.

Action Items from Previous Meeting:

The Board reviewed the Action Items list.

There were no updates at this time.

Approval of Warrants:

The Board reviewed Warrant 16-32.

Selectman D'Innocenzo, Clerk, read aloud Warrant 16-32, dated 2/4/16, presented for approval:

Town Expense	<u>\$1,382,199.31</u>
TOTAL:	\$1,382,199.31

Selectman D'Innocenzo moved that the Board approve the Warrant as read; Selectman White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 3-0-0.

Approval of Minutes:

The Board reviewed draft minutes from October 13, 2015; October 19, 2015 (amended); and November 23, 2015.

Due to the absence of Selectmen Crowley and Trindade, the Board opted to postpone review of the minutes.

Town Administrator's Report:

Mr. Boynton reported that a member of the Tri-County School Committee needs to be reappointed as her term expires on June 30, and the reappointment has to be a joint effort. Chairman Foresto will connect with Linda Reynolds to learn if she wants to continue.

The Redevelopment Authority will have it kick-off tomorrow. Stephanie Mercandetti is hosting.

There will be an executive session on the 29th to discuss school security. We will hold it at the end of the meeting instead of before.

Mr. Boynton provided a brief FY17 budget update, noting that he believes it is a good budget with some projected additional revenue from the Commonwealth. It was encouraging to hear that the Governor's budget is more of a baseline budget. He will take a closer look at some departments such as Building to check on permits and other revenue-generating items. He hopes to present the budget at or near the meeting on February 16.

Selectmen's Reports:

Speaking as Town Clerk, Selectman White reported she is short one election worker so and will forward some names for consideration.

Chairman Foresto reported briefly on the meetings he attended this week on budgets with the schools.

**At 8:30 PM Selectman D'Innocenzo moved to adjourn; Selectman White seconded. No discussion.
VOTE: 3-0-0.**

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Galliardt
Night Board Secretary