

Shutesbury Selectboard Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2024 Virtual Meeting Format

Selectboard members present: Rita Farrell/Chair, Melissa Makepeace-O'Neil and Eric Stocker

Staff present: Becky Torres/Town Administrator

Volunteers & Other Staff present:

Guests: Susie Mosher, Tom Siefert

Farrell calls the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

Agenda Review: As posted.

Public Comment:

None

Review of Minutes: No minutes are available for tonight's meeting. The Selectboard has not yet filled the Admin Secretary position.

Discussion Topics:

1. Receive Concom Member's Resignation

Mary David resigned from the Conservation Commission, and Zoning Board of Appeals

VOTE: Farrell makes a Motion to approve the resignation from Mary David from Conservation Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals; Makepeace-O'Neil moves, Stocker seconds. Roll call vote: Makepeace-O'Neil: aye, Stocker: aye, and Farrell: aye; the motion carries

2. Improving Hybrid Meeting Discussion

The Selectboard could meet in a smaller room, put curtains on the windows to absorb sound, or invest in new equipment. Melissa will research options that expand the OWLs function, potentially adding a speaker bar. Eric will research what microphones he has.

3. Google Calendar Melissa explained her idea for an out of office calendar. It will be an out of Office

Calendar for Dept Heads, possibly others the Selectboard decides to be include on the calendar. Melissa will write up a policy for using the Dept. Heads Calendar. It will be set up using Google Calendar.

4. Review Annual Town Meeting (ATM):

Selectboard observed that this ATM was less controversial than some years. They also questioned whether the attendance at Annual Town Meeting (ATM) was lower than we had at the last four outdoor town meetings. Town Clerk thought turnout was low for an indoor meeting. One negative factor for outdoor ATM is the cost of the tent at \$3000. Would the addition of clickers to ATM shorten meetings and draw more residents to the meeting? Rita will follow up with Moderator, Paul Lyons, about the clickers.

5. Response to Open Meeting Law (OML) Complaint

The OML complaint is regarding the April 9 agenda Executive Session notice does not identify the potential litigating party. The Selectboard letter of response to the Complaint was reviewed and approved.

VOTE: Makepeace-O'Neil makes a Motion to approve the OML Complaint Response; Farrell moves, Stocker seconds. Roll call vote: Makepeace-O'Neil: aye, Stocker: aye, and Farrell: aye; the motion carries

6. EV Charger Proposal from Livingstone Update:

The remaining question is do these Electric Vehicle chargers meet the library needs. The library has limited parking and they cannot afford to have wasted spaces in their parking lot. The parking spaces must be open for handicap parking irregardless if the car is an electric vehicle or not. Town Administrator will get specific information to see if this EV proposal is a fit for the new library.

7. Lake Wyola Advisory Committee (LWAC) Request for a Storm Water Grant Task Force:

Jen Wallace outlined the work the new Task Force hopes to accomplish. Their goal is to address storm water erosion of Lake Wyola and secure grant money to address storm water issues around the lake. Who will the Task Force report to? Projects will be determined through a collaborative process. Rita volunteered to make updates to the proposal to put it in the form of a committee charge for review at the Selectboard meeting.

8. Emergency Management Team (EMT) Meeting possible date.

The Selectboard requested an EMT meeting be held on either May 15 or May 22, 2024. The Fire Chief, Police Chief, Highway Superintendent, School, Selectboard, Public Information Officer, Ham Radio Operator, EMT Secretary will all need to be notified.

9. Fulltime Appointment of Ben Field to the Shutesbury Highway Dept.

Ben Field worked as an intern last summer for the highway dept. He plowed for the highway dept in the winter. Ben has a hoisting license but did not have a CDO. A CDL, commercial driver's license, is required by the highway dept. Ben started his CDL classes.

VOTE: Makepeace-O'Neil makes a Motion to approve the appoint Ben Fields as a fulltime Equipment Operator; Farrell moves, Stocker seconds seconds roll call vote: Makepeace-O'Neil: aye, Stocker: aye, and Farrell: aye; the motion carries.

10. Administrator Updates:..

Tighe & Bond looking for another well location for the gasoline issue on the westside of 50 Leverett Rd. Town Administrator (TA) is working on sending out letters with lab results to residents. Lab results have required the installation of 3 new PFAS carbon filters point of entry treatment (POETS) in PFAS district. TA has been delivering five-gallon jugs with electric pumps to impacted residents homes. TA placed order the new highway dept generator. Mary Lou Conca raised a question about her person residence. She wanted to know if the Town would be responsible to install a carbon filter POET at her home if she

tested positive for PFAS. TA explained that LSP Jeff Arps has clarified this situation. Mary Lou's property was tested by DEP but was never in the the 500' radius of homes being tested as a result for the Town being determined the responsible party of the fire station source PFAS. But Conca's property is not the Town's responsibility and is no longer being tested.

Farrell Motions to Adjourn (7:35 pm); Makepeace-O'Neil moves and Stocker seconds roll call vote: Makepeace-O'Neil: aye, Stocker: aye, and Farrell: aye; the motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Kiely
Assistant Town Clerk