

TOWN OF GILL

MASSACHUSETTS



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SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 10, 2010

Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

Present: Ann Banash, Nancy Griswold and John Ward, Selectboard members; Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant

Others Present: David Detmold, Rick James; Timmie Smith

Approval of Minutes: The Board approved by consensus the minutes from 4/12, 4/27, and 4/28.

Fire Department Purchase Orders: The Board discussed four purchase orders from the Fire Department that were originally presented on March 29 and have been resubmitted for tonight. At the March meeting the Board declined to approve these POs, citing a desire to wait until the HRS study was completed in April. The Board again expressed support for all of these purchases, but noted a concern with the total cost compared to the amount of money remaining in the Department's budget for FY10. It was decided to hold off on the replacement of four sets of turnout gear until it's certain the funds will be available.

John made a motion, seconded by Nancy, to approve purchase orders to Firematic Supply for a hydrant assist valve (\$1,300), four air bottles (\$3,840), and eight 50 foot lengths of 1 3/4" attack hose (\$920). The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Bucket Truck: Ray reported that the bucket truck Gill is jointly purchasing with Northfield has been inspected by Raymond Repair of Bernardston, and was found to be in excellent condition. Accordingly, Gill will pay its share of the purchase price to Northfield. Additionally, Tracy Rogers has prepared a Shared Bucket Truck Agreement, with input from Ray and Mick. The Board asked that Town Counsel review the agreement.

Financial Audit: The rough draft report from the auditors is being reviewed by the Financial Management Team. We expect to have a final draft within one week, and the auditors would like to present their management letter to the Selectboard at their next meeting.

Fence for West Gill Cemetery: Ray updated the Board on the offer of a wrought iron fence for the road edge of the West Gill Cemetery. The Highway Dept. estimates it would be sometime this fall before they could work on the project. Mr. Graveline will meet with Mick to explain how the fence is installed so equipment needs can be determined. Cemetery Commission is still waiting for lawn care costs from Cardaropoli.

The consensus of the Board is that the Town would like the fence, and that we should make arrangements to have the fence delivered to the Highway Garage while the current owner is still willing to donate the fence, and while Mr. Graveline is still willing to deliver it from Shelburne to Gill.

Overweight Vehicle Permit: John made a motion, seconded by Nancy, to authorize the Chair to sign the annual application for a permit that allows the 2000 Sterling truck to carry loads up to its registered gross weight of 64,000 pounds. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Part-Time Police Officer: Nancy made a motion, seconded by John, to appoint Laurie Lankowski of South Deerfield as a Part-Time Officer for the Gill Police Department, effective 5/10/10 through 6/30/10. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Chain Saw Training: Mick & John Miner attended a free MIAA-sponsored training seminar on chain saw safety on April 29th in Sunderland. Ed Ambo volunteered to miss the training and remain in town to supervise catch basin cleaning. The training was very useful, and was put to use that afternoon (downed trees and wires near Town Hall and on Boyle Road). Training of this type counts toward credits that reduce our insurance premiums with MIAA.

Mass. Community Development Block Grants: Planning for the FY11 MA CDBGs has begun, and there is a possibility that Gill could be eligible for grant money to replace the 30-year old pumps at the sewer system pump station in Riverside. The Board expressed a strong desire to pursue the grant. The F.C. Regional Housing & Redevelopment Authority will assist in developing an application. The first step is to send an income verification survey to all users in the sewer district. We'd need a 90+% response rate, and results would need to show that 51+% of the users are low or moderate income. If we meet the income requirements, then a project study would be done to determine the severity of need. The final step would be to replace the pumps.

The Board asked Ray to find out if the survey asks for the actual income, or if respondents choose from income ranges. They also asked if there will be a way to know who has and has not returned the survey, so that follow-ups can be made in order to reach the 90% response rate.

Next Meeting: The Board set their next regular meeting for Tuesday, May 25th at 4:30pm.

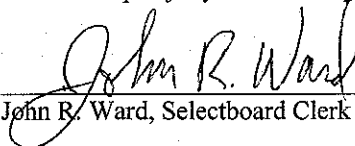
Fire Department Surplus Equipment: The Fire Department submitted a request to declare the following as surplus equipment: Motorola low band mobile radios, 5-watt portable radios, and Minitor IV and V pagers. The Board asked for more information – quantities and approximate value – before they will make the declaration.

Friends of Gill Picnic: Nancy made a motion, seconded by John, to allow the Friends of Gill to use the Town Common for their annual picnic on Saturday, June 19th from 10am to 2pm.

Warrant #23: The Board reviewed and signed Warrant #23.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant.



John R. Ward, Selectboard Clerk