

Town of Huntington — Selectboard Meeting

Monday, February 17, 2014—6:30 pm

RECEIVED 

Town Office Building - downstairs

DATE March 6, 2014

APPROVED MINUTES

<p>Agenda</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes and Warrants • Public Comment • Highway Department – General updates • Public Input - Town Hall Committee \$30,000 Conservation Fund request • Funding Decision – Town Hall Committee \$30,000 Conservation Fund request • Town Hall Committee – VCDP Grant Requirements • Administrative Items – Town Plan draft from the HPC; Lister signatory request for Certification of No Appeal; Catering permits; General updates • Other / New Business
<p>Selectboard members present:</p>	<p>Jim Christiansen (Chair), Dori Barton (Vice-Chair), Everett Lewis, Jr., Roman Livak</p>
<p>Selectboard members absent:</p>	<p>Doug Graver</p>
<p>Staff/Officials present</p>	<p>Barbara Elliott (Town Administrator), Heidi Racht (Town Clerk)</p>
<p>Others present</p>	<p>Ruth Blodgett (Times Ink), Terry Boyle, Knox Cummin, Barbara Felitti, Linda Fickbohm, Alison Forrest, Duncan Keir, Gordon Miller, Rick Moulton, Rebecca Ryan, Mark Smith, Aaron Worthley, Meadow Worthley</p>
<p>Call to order</p>	<p>Christiansen called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.</p>
<p>Minutes (02/03/2014)</p>	<p>Livak moved and Lewis seconded to approve the draft minutes of 02/03/2014 with no amendments. Passed unanimously with 4 members present and voting.</p> <p>Prior to approving the minutes, the Selectboard reviewed and discussed proposed edits/amendments which had been submitted by Lucinda Hill on behalf of the Article 6 Committee. The Selectboard decided to approve the minutes as written.</p>
<p>Warrants</p>	<p>5 warrants were signed as presented.</p>
<p>Public Comment</p>	<p>No members of the public provided general public comment.</p>
<p>Highway Department</p>	<p>General Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selectboard members have received positive comments from the community about what a great job the crew did on our roads during Friday's storm. • The Road Crew has been straight out given all the snow. Fortunately, there were no equipment breakdowns during this last storm. • Road Foreman Alger placed the last salt order that will be covered by the current budget. Any additional sand or salt orders needed this fiscal year will result in a budget overrun. • Alger expects to have Town Highway 9 quotes for the March 17th meeting.
<p>Public Input - Town Hall Committee \$30,000 Conservation Fund request</p>	<p>Christiansen opened the meeting at 7pm for public input on the Town Hall (TH) Committee's application for a \$30,000 grant from the Huntington Conservation Fund. This application was endorsed by the Huntington Conservation Commission.</p> <p>Comments from the public included: Alison Forrest: Supports the application. She attended contra dances at the TH before moving here 30 years ago. It is a remarkable venue and has the potential for revenue-generating uses besides contra dances such as parties and classes.</p>

	<p><u>Knox Cummin:</u> Supports the application. This investment is small relative to the cost of constructing a new building. Looking out 10 years, the need for space will only increase and it would be short-sighted not to support this beautiful building.</p> <p><u>Terry Boyle:</u> Supports the application. Offered the procedural suggestion that letters of support be read aloud into the record. Christiansen stated that Selectboard members had reviewed the letters prior to the meeting. Boyle noted he has been a member of both the TH Committee and the Huntington Historical & Community Trust (HHCT) for 7 years. The HHCT has committed \$5,000 to the TH restoration – which is 1/3 of their resources. 8-10 individuals have made HHCT contributions this year specifically designated for TH restoration.</p> <p><u>Duncan Keir:</u> Supports the application. The Union Meeting House is a great facility but is challenging to use for meetings of 30-40 people. The TH can easily hold meetings of 100 or more people. The TH has value for public meeting space.</p> <p><u>Mark Smith:</u> Supports the application. Believes the application meets established criteria for the Conservation Fund in a big way.</p> <p><u>Barbara Felitti:</u> Supports the application. The TH Committee has done a lot of work. The amount requested is the minimum amount of funds needed to support the VCDP grant conditions.</p> <p><u>Aaron Worthley:</u> Supports the application. Noted that he brought the detailed working plans that have been drawn up for the TH restoration should the Selectboard want to review them.</p> <p><u>Linda Fickbohm:</u> Supports the application. Noted that the TH is very specifically called out as a valuable resource in both the current Town Plan and the proposed draft that has been presented by the Planning Commission. She further noted that recreation is not just about outdoor space – it’s about indoor space as well.</p> <p>Hearing no further requests to offer input, Christiansen closed the public input portion of the meeting at 7:16pm.</p>
<p>Funding Decision - Town Hall Committee \$30,000 Conservation Fund request</p>	<p><u>Additional Information</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christiansen requested Worthley review the working plans for the TH restoration. Worthley reviewed the drawings and answered questions. • TH Committee will look at ways to solve the upstairs landing roof design as the current design will direct runoff over the downstairs rear exit door. • TH Committee is applying to the ZBA for setback variances. • The TH Committee’s vision is that the upstairs could be available for municipal meetings, performances, theater, parties, dances, music, school events and performances, classes such as arts camp and martial arts, and much more. Possible downstairs uses include municipal office space and kitchen facilities. • The ‘real gem’ of the building is the upstairs – which will be made accessible through these renovations. <p><u>Decision Making</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lewis supported the application, having heard no negative comments regarding the application. • Barton supported the application, indicating that from her review of the criteria the application meets most of the general criteria and many of the historic criteria outlined for use of Conservation Funds. • Livak supported the application, stating it is a good fit for the fund criteria. He indicated that from a Selectboard perspective work needs to be done regarding the future of the building – however that does not influence his support for this application. • Christiansen supported the application.

<p><i>Follow-up: Elliott to prepare Article introduction and summary notes</i></p> <p>MOTION – Correspondence regarding accessory dwellings</p> <p><i>Follow-up – Elliott to confirm Town Plan public hearing timeframes</i></p> <p><i>Follow-up: Elliott to contact CSWD regarding The Rover</i></p> <p><i>Follow-up: Selectboard to review meeting guidelines</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selectboard reviewed and discussed each article. Elliott will prepare and distribute to the Selectboard a draft summary for each article that includes the Selectboard member responsible for introducing the article, general notes and resources that will be included in the Selectboard’s Town Meeting Resource Binder. <p><u>Communication Regarding Rental of Accessory Dwellings</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selectboard reviewed the letter they had requested Elliott prepare in response to communication regarding the rental of accessory dwellings. • Livak moved and Lewis seconded that the Selectboard Chair sign the letter as written. Passed unanimously with 4 members present and voting. Christiansen signed the letter. <p><u>Town Plan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selectboard requested Elliott confirm the statutory timeframes for Town Plan public hearings. • Once the Selectboard holds their hearing for public comments, they can: adopt the plan as is; adopt the plan with minor corrections (non-substantive changes); or send the plan back to the Planning Commission for additional work. <p><u>Certification of No Appeal or Suit Pending</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Town Listers requested the Selectboard sign the Certification of No Appeal or Suit Pending. Livak moved and Lewis seconded that the Selectboard accept the Certificate of No Appeal or Suit Pending as presented by the Huntington Listers. Passed unanimously with 4 members present and voting. The 4 Selectboard members present signed the certificate. <p><u>Other Business:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catering Permit – JRS Corporation: 02/22/2014 at Sleepy Hollow • Selectboard Institute – will be held 03/22/2014 in Montpelier and 04/12/2014 in Rutland • The CSWD Rover is scheduled to come 09/27. Selectboard requested Elliott ask if CSWD would schedule 2 visits per year (spring and fall) based on our level of participation in the program. • Town Fair – 03/09/2014 from noon to 2pm at the UMH. The Selectboard will promote this at Town Meeting. • Selectboard Meeting Participation Guidelines – Elliott presented a draft set of guidelines that can be used to set expectations at Selectboard and other committee/commission meetings. Selectboard would like to review and adopt this annually at their Organizational Meeting (1st meeting following Town Meeting).
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Livak moved and Lewis seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm. Passed unanimously with 4 members present and voting.</p>
	<p>02/17/14 – Meeting date 02/26/14 – Preliminary draft minutes to Selectboard / Clerk, Treasurer & Auditors 03/03/14 – Final minutes approved by Selectboard 03/06/14 – Approved minutes sent to Town Clerk</p>