

March 16, 2010

Hamilton & Wenham Joint Selectmen Meeting
Monday, February 22, 2010 ~ 7 PM
Wenham Town Hall, 138 Main Street

7:01 PM - With a quorum present, Mr. Swart opened the Wenham Board of Selectmen meeting. David Carey opened the Hamilton Board of Selectmen meeting.

Present:

Hamilton Selectmen David Carey, Chair; Jennifer Scuteri, William Bowler; Town Administrator Candace Wheeler

Wenham Selectmen Lawrence Swartz, John Clemenzi, Harriet Davis; Town Administrator, Jeff Chelgren; Catherine Tinsley, Minutes Secretary

Abbreviations used:

BOS – Board of Selectmen

H/W – Hamilton / Wenham

Fire Department

Present: Hamilton Fire Chief Phil Stevens; Wenham Fire Chief Bob Blanchard

Chief Blanchard and Chief Stevens announced that four firefighters have completed the Mass Fire academy program of 160 classroom hours

These men were publicly thanked and recognized for their achievements; Ben Blanchette, Gerald Dolan, Lou Planchette ; Roberto Raines; The Selectmen acknowledged their time and work

Ann Marie Cullen recognized the Emergency Center Operation (ECO) dispatchers that worked the day of the rescue at Pleasant Pond; Brian Pratt, and Kirby Brandt received an accommodation from the BOS for outstanding performance in the line of duty at Pleasant Pond.

Ms. Cullen announced that the ECO is celebrating the 50th anniversary.

H-W Capital Management Committee

ESCo (Energy Service Contracts) Presentation:

Mr. Chelgren gave a brief overview of the CMC and introduced the members. He said that this

committee has been working on the ESCO Process for over a year and two grants the CMC is involved in; Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant EECBG and Green Communities Program

Sue Patroliia, Consultant for the GCP was introduced,

It was noted that both Ms. Patroliia and Mr. Cotton, Service Provider for the ESCO, from Johnson Controls are both paid for by state funds energy sustainability coordinator.

Present: Representative Brad Hill

Representative Hill reported that both Towns applied for funding through the energy efficient and conservation block grant program a few months ago. He spoke regarding his support of the towns and reported that the Towns each received a letter informing the towns they have been awarded a grants in the amount of \$150, 000 each for performance contracts through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Department of Energy.

The Administrators were commended for their work to get the grant through.

Mr. Chelgren stated that the grants will be added with money already in place for ESCo.

Senator Tarr was present and also spoke briefly in support of the grant.

Mr. Cotton talked about the policy and timeline. He gave a power point presentation including: The objectives to reduce energy consumption; Add renewable energy; Improve facilities performance; standardization; Utilize Financial incentives; Timeline through implementation in May 2010; Program summary including cost, rebates, funds, service cost, annual guaranteed savings, simple payback in years

Facility improvement Measures for Hamilton and Wenham; environmental impact Annual Carbon Footprint Reduction.

The Boards reviewed two scenarios; lease options vs. bonding options.

The Finance Committees from each town will make individual recommendations as to the towns and enter into separate contracts.

School Energy Service Co Proposal - The CMC encouraged the Joint-Selectmen to meet with the School Committee in order to discuss the potential benefits of undertaking an ESCo program for all school buildings. The CMC has indicated that they would be willing to assist the efforts of the School Administration as a means of minimizing the demand on its resources. With 50% of the municipal buildings being schools, the CMC is estimating \$100,000 in annual energy savings if the school participates.

Green Communities

Present: Sue Patroliia, the New Green Communities Sustainability Grant Consultant, outlined the Green Communities Program, and identified what both towns will be required to accomplish in this effort.

There was a discussion of how zoning ordinances will be modified.

The towns noted their differences in adopting as Right of Siting saying that Hamilton has one designated site for wind turbine at the landfill, and Wenham is choosing many one acre sites for solar photovoltaic.

The third week in March was set for a deadline from the Zoning Board to submit a recommendation.

It was the consensus of the BOS for the Town Administrators to continue working on the Green Communities grant application.

Department of Education (DOE) Data

DOE data to be released and discussed at the upcoming Budget Process Committee meeting on Wed., February 24th and additional future discussions are to be announced at a later time.

Organic Waste Program

Present: Gretal Clark

Ms. Clark provided the Selectmen with an update on the status of the Organic Waste pilot program saying that the towns received a state grant to purchase bins. Although the grants did not cover the cost for all the bins, donations have been received to cover the cost, and there will be no funding necessary from the towns.

Ms. Clark explained that the contract before the Selectmen allows Hamilton to manage the funds; a DEP grant; a requisition / invoice to allow Hamilton to order and pay for bins.

The waste will be collected biweekly and each participating household will pay \$75 per year for pick up and receive free compost.

Ms. Clark reported that this will save the towns in Tipping Fees by removing organic waste from the trash.

This will make the towns a zero waste community by cutting trash fees by 50%.

The Selectmen noted their concern lest the program bring additional cost to the towns.

Optic Fiber – Comcast

Comcast has agreed to install a new optic fiber line between the Tozier Road facility and the High School CATV studio in order to improve video quality and reception. Comcast will need the two Boards of Selectmen to sign an agreement authorizing this work.

Ms. Wheeler reported that old copper links between the studios of the HS will be replaced by Comcast but in return is requesting to be relieved of responsibility of maintenance of the remaining copper wires.

The BOS reviewed a draft of the agreement which will be updated to include the concerns.

Miscellaneous

The Selectmen talked about the Winthrop School possibly not being used and how the towns would potentially work through an agreement. Because the building is in Hamilton, the Hamilton BOS will come up with an analysis and proposal. The schools lease the building from the towns.

Studies are being done as three elementary schools are costly.

9:12 Mr. Clemenzi made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Davis seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

The Hamilton Selectmen continued their meeting.

Respectfully submitted by
Catherine Tinsley