

SELECTBOARD SPECIAL MEETING DRAFT MINUTES – Aug 3, 2021 06:00pm

Selectboard Members Present: Leigh Davis, Steve Bannon, Ed Abrahams, Eric Gabriel

Town Staff Present: Sean Van Deusen (DPW), Charles Burger (Fire Dept.)

1. Meeting called to order at 6:00pm.
2. Housatonic Community Discussion
 - a. Steve read the rules of the meeting.
 - b. Mark explained that this forum is a space where the Town will provide basic updates on Housatonic projects.
 - i. The first one is regarding the Housatonic Waterworks company. The Town has developed a capital plan and a cost estimate. AECOM recently held a public hearing.
 - ii. Housatonic Community Center: Competitive grant for light fixtures, roof installation awarded in full. This is nearly complete. The Town is also installing WiFi at the Center.
 - iii. Housatonic School: HIC is making a formal recommendation to the Selectboard by early October about what to do with the school.
 - iv. Sean's update –
 - v. Division St Bridge Project: Much progress, going out to bid this Fall. Completion targeted for late Spring, Summer 2022.
 - vi. Ramsdell Library: Design for ADA compliant entrance being completed this Fall.
 - vii. Parks Need Assessment: Focusing on long-term maintenance & capital
 - viii. Main St Sidewalk Project (Hous): Wrapping up soon.
 - ix. Rail Trail Housatonic (Main St- south): Adding gravel, cleaning up
 - x. Storm Water Survey: Reviewing areas with improvements needed
 - xi. Fire Station Roof Project: Will be completed this Fall.
 - xii. Ramsdell Library's boiler will be replaced this Fall.
 - c. Steve noted that everyone has 5 minutes to speak. Public Comment begins.
 - i. Bob Olinski, Housatonic: Concern about sidewalk project. Too many signs & flashing lights at crosswalks. Waste of money, ducks cross the road all the time and don't get hit. The scale is way out of line for Housatonic.
 - ii. Jim Dale, Housatonic: Question about ADA compliance of sidewalk project. Sean replied that it is in fact ADA compliant.
 - d. Chris's updates (joined late):
 - i. Fiber Optic cable to Housatonic: Town will get results of study very soon.
 - ii. Cook's Garage: Much contamination, we now know what it would take to remediate the building. The selectboard will soon take this up.
 - e. Back to Public Comment:
 - i. Michelle Loubert, Housatonic: Question regarding number of attendees: 24 attendees. Regarding Cook's Garage site, Michelle would like the meeting recording posted. She also would like additional police presence

due to the increased tagging & beer bottles & speeding (particularly on Van Deusenville Rd).

- ii. Carol McGlinchey, Housatonic: Regarding Cook's Garage, is there a possibility of accessing water from there? Chris responded that it is not possible, because the Town would need to own everything within 400 feet of the source.
- iii. Trevor Forbes, Housatonic: Wanted to add on to Michelle's earlier comment about speeding. He noted that Route 41 has also had some substantial speeding problems.
- iv. Dan Bailey: Inquiry regarding fire hydrant testing. Chief Burger replied that he is somewhat concerned with the flows from the hydrant although there is no quick fix.
- v. Jenise Forbes, Housatonic: Water quality continues to be an issue. Suggested a rebate from Housatonic Water.
- vi. Michelle Loubert: Agrees with Jenise Forbes with respect to full-price water cost for substandard product. Wonders if there is a grant for water filtration system? Also, wells were dug on Taft Farms – would be great if Town could use these wells.

3. Selectboard Time:

- a. Eric expressed appreciation for turnout.

4. Media Time:

- a. None

5. Meeting adjourned at 6:42pm

Respectfully submitted by Tate Coleman, Board Clerk.