

Board: Board of Selectmen/ Water Commissioner's Meeting
Date: Wednesday, April 17, 2019
Location: Senior & Community Center, 1 Care Drive, Erving, MA 01344

Selectmen Present: Scott Bastarache, William Bembury, Jacob Smith
Also, Present: Bryan Smith, Glenn McCrory
Press: Melina Bourdeau, Greenfield Recorder

At 6:30 PM **Chairman Bastarache** called the meeting to order.

Discussion of Senior & Community Center HVAC

Glenn McCrory, Highway Foreman, joined the Board to discuss the current status of his research into HVAC options and funding sources. Additionally, the Board reviewed a memorandum from Bryan Smith, Administrative Coordinator, explaining that the Town's consultant has indicated that the anticipated energy savings from an air-sourced heat pump system versus ground-sourced heat pump system is not significant enough to use Green Communities funding. Glenn explained that he had been in contact with the Clean Energy Center to discuss what had occurred with the geothermal system. The Center may be able assist with some funding for a retrofit of the system depending on feedback from a geothermal specialist. Glenn added that he had reached out to two (2) geothermal companies that were recommended by the Center and is awaiting a return call.

The Board discussed their views on trying to retrofit the existing system or to transition to an air-sourced system. The Board agreed that the Town has experienced difficulty with the operation of the system since its initial use and that the resulting maintenance costs are grossly exceeding any potential energy savings. The Board concurred that they would be in support of transitioning to an air-sourced heat pump system. Bryan explained that the Town has had ECI conduct a comprehensive review of the building envelope and has requested plans for improvements to the air barrier. Additionally, it may be viable to explore solar panels to help power the Center and offset electrical costs.

The Board discussed funding source options, noting that scheduling a Special Town Meeting and requesting use of existing Free Cash was a prudent option. **Chairman Bastarache** noted that the article would request sufficient funding from Free Cash and in the article information it could be made clear that the Board would use any and all available grants and utility rebates to lessen the overall cost to the Town. As an alternative, **Selectman Smith** asked to have the financial staff review the FY2019 budget to see if there are any funds available that could be repurposed by the Board and the Finance Committee for the HVAC system at the Senior & Community Center. Bryan explained that he would review with the Town Accountant and report back to the Board. **Selectman Bembury** raised concerns with the logistics of trying to move appropriations and the risk of reducing an operating budget that may later experience a shortfall. **Selectman Bembury** expressed his support for scheduling a Special Town Meeting. The Board will revisit this topic on Monday, April 22, 2019.

Selectman Bembury acknowledged that some residents will want to know what the Town has done to try to fix the existing system. The Board agreed, and the members discussed having a simple explanation of the work that has been done to attempt to correct the system. **Selectman Smith** added that the contrast in estimates between retrofitting the existing system versus a transition to an air-sourced heat pump system, that would provide system resiliency with multiple condensers and multiple zones, is compelling.

Selectman Bembury stated that he would like the Town to investigate options for the Town to install a solar array to help power municipal operations. Bryan acknowledged that there is interest amongst residents in pursuing a project like that in hopes that it could be expanded to benefit residents. Bryan noted that such a project is complex and would require the services of a dedicated specialist to guide the Town. The Board agreed that this should be explored for a future project.

Review of Exterior Storage Building Bid Submissions- 1 Care Drive

The Board reviewed the procurement process memorandum and the quote submissions. As of the deadline of April 12, 2019 at 1:00 PM the Town received two (2) quote submissions that conformed to the requirements. The quotes were:

- Valiant Group, LLC 10 West Rockland Farm, S. Dartmouth, MA 02748 \$16,182.45
- Kenney Masonry, LLC PO Box 2506, Amherst, MA 01004 \$42,489.00

The rule for award was the lowest quote from a responsible and responsive bidder for the specified work. Glenn McCrory, Highway Foreman, explained that he contacted references provided by Valiant Group and that the responses were all positive. Bryan Smith, Administrative Coordinator, explained that the quoted amount is higher than originally anticipated, but that he had spoken to two (2) other contractors that had considered responding to the solicitation who had stated that they couldn't build the storage building for less than \$17,000. Bryan explained that this helped to inform that the low quote received is realistic within the market. Bryan added that the necessary funding is available within the special appropriation and the Town Buildings general expense account. **Chairman Bastarache** made a motion to award the contract to build the Exterior Storage Building for the Senior & Community Center to Valiant Group LLC in the amount of \$16,182.45. **Selectman Smith** seconded. **Vote:** Unanimously approved.

Consideration of Cultural Council Appointment – Jean Galbraith

The Board reviewed a memorandum from Bryan Smith, Administrative Coordinator, regarding the request to appoint Jean L. Galbraith to the Erving Cultural Council along with a letter for interest from Jean. **Chairman Bastarache** made a motion to appoint Jean Galbraith to the Erving Cultural Council for a three (3) year term to expire on June 30, 2022. **Selectman Bembury** seconded. **Vote:** Unanimously approved.

Review of Meeting Minutes for April 01, 2019

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes for Monday April 01, 2019. **Chairman Bastarache** made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for April 01, 2019 as written. **Selectman Smith** seconded. **Vote:** **Chairman Bastarache** abstained. Passed.

Review of Meeting Minutes for April 08, 2019

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes for Monday, April 08, 2019. **Chairman Bastarache** made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for April 08, 2019 as written. **Selectman Bembury** seconded. **Vote:** Unanimously approved.

Adjournment

At 7:31PM **Chairman Bastarache** made a motion to adjourn. **Selectman Smith** seconded. Unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted



Bryan Smith
Administrative Coordinator