



**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NEW MARLBOROUGH
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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**Tara B. White, Chair
Michele Shalaby
Nathaniel H. Yohalem
Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting
Thursday, August 7, 2014**

Board Members Present: Tara B. White, Chairman
Michele Shalaby
Nat Yohalem

Others Present: Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant
Sharon Fleck, Administrative Secretary

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 2:29 p.m. and went back into Regular Session.

Spiess Property – Chairman White spoke with Sullivan & Sullivan regarding auctioning the Spiess property. They recommended either Saturday, September 27 or Saturday, October 4, 2014. Sullivan & Sullivan indicated they did not feel there would be a problem with the sale because of the Right of Redemption clause. Land Court does not usually grant property back to the original owners after it has been through their system. Chairman White to call Ron Berenson requesting additional clarification on the Right of Redemption's rights of the original owner, so these facts can be given to potential bidders.

Rt. 57 – Chairman White indicated she had spoken with Sandisfield who heard that Monterey was getting the State to pay for the maintenance of Rt. 23. She did find out that the State is going to pave Rt. 23 from the Monterey line to the Monterey line. Melissa indicated that Monterey had to pay for the engineering, but felt that it was only \$20,000. Chairman White then indicated she called Sandisfield to get information on Rt. 57; they are currently working with a Grant Writer in Tolland, who is not charging anything for the grant writing for Tolland Mountain and only on their side. Lisa Blackmer, Town Administrator for Sandisfield, and Chairman White will have a meeting to discuss how the two towns can structure a plan for engineering from Monterey through Sandisfield and into New Marlborough, thereby spreading the engineering costs over three towns.

Police Chief Goals – Police Chief Graham Frank indicated that some of the goals he would like to bring to the Town would be a higher level of service between the citizens and the Police Department, with integrity and to the best of his ability. Short term goals include the Department's mission statement, working with community events, RAD classes, setting

individual goals for officers. The Police roster includes Kyle, Ed, John, and Daniel. Graham will train the officers on the use of the new police log system (IMC). He also indicated that certain modifications/additions will have to be made to the IMC system. Graham would like to be on call all the time, but definitely Sunday night through Thursday night, with part-time coverage on Friday and Saturday. Police Chief Graham presented a Department Employment Policy that he would like to continue to use with some changes. He spoke of the need for Department ID's according to Massachusetts Law. There is a set of policies and procedures for the Town of New Marlborough police officers that he will review and have the officers sign.

The need for tasers was discussed. The Police Chief also indicated he is writing a policy for the use of tasers and that policy must be sent to EOPS in Boston for review and approval. Police Chief Frank has several quotes – one for \$4,557.99 for two tasers. This, however, did not include training. There are taser trainers in Sheffield who can certify the officers. Although there was money allocated to buy the tasers in the FY14 budget, it was not carried forward to FY15. Chairman White suggested that the Police Chief take the funds to buy tasers out of his budget now; and the budget can be adjusted at the end of the year. Chairman White requested Chief Frank to get the final numbers together for the cost of the tasers, submit it to Michael Skorput, who will then present it to the Board for approval.

Police Chief Frank explained that Scott Farrell had paid for part (50%) of college tuition in the past, and that he has three classes to take in order to finish his Criminal Justice degree. He will take two classes this fall and one in spring at BCC. There are funds in the Police budget to cover his college classes.

Police Chief Frank then presented two copies of a Police Chief's contract for the Board to review, one from the State and one from West Stockbridge, as well as one that Scott Farrell had written. The Board will further discuss these contracts with the Police Chief at the August 25, 2014 Selectmen's meeting. The Police Chief he would like to do a bi-monthly, or monthly, meeting to review the activities of the Police Department.

Trees on the Green - Michael Skorput stated he received a telephone call from Peter Marks stating that some Town trees had to be removed and/or pruned on the Green, preferably before Burritt Day, at a cost of \$1600.00. Selectman Shalaby expressed concern about the Maple Trees in front of New Marlborough Central School. Michael Skorput will request from Peter Marks a list of trees he's planning on pruning and/or removing this year, as well as ask him to look at the trees at Central School.

Trash Compactor – Michael Skorput advised that, as soon as the proposal is okayed, he'll meet with the supplier as well as Joe Wilkinson at the Transfer Station to determine where to sight the new compactor; Mike Skorput has already spoken with Dan Litchfield to do the electrical work.

Being that there was no further business to be brought before the Board, a motion was made, seconded and so voted by all members to adjourn the meeting at 3:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Fleck
Administrative Secretary