



**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, February 5, 2015
5:30 p.m.**

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

Others Present: Joseph Kellogg, Administrative Assistant
Sharon Fleck, Administrative Secretary
Mark Carson

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 5:37 p.m.

The Board held the minutes of the January 5, January 12, January 21 and February 4, 2015 meetings.

Berkshire Housing Development Corporation – Under this agreement, Berkshire Housing would have the authority to subordinate a mortgage to homeowners. The Board decided not to sign this agreement at this time.

School Bond – Selectmen Nathaniel Yohalem moved to call a Special Town Election for March 18, 2015 and to place the following Proposition 2-1/2 override referendum question on the ballot for said Special Town Election:

Question No. 1

“Shall the Town of New Marlborough be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so called, the amounts required to pay the Town’s allocable share of the bond issued by the Southern Berkshire Regional School District (“SBRSD”) for the purpose of paying costs of SBRSD Roof/Boiler Project at Mt. Everett/Undermountain School, 491 Berkshire School Road, Sheffield, MA 01257 replacing the entire roof and three boilers, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto?”

The motion was seconded by Selectman Shalaby and passed unanimously.

The Town of New Marlborough will hold a Special Town Meeting on Monday, March 16, 2015. The Board was advised by Joe Kellogg that once a Town has called a Special Meeting, it must take place, regardless of how other Towns voted on the bond. **A motion was made seconded, and so voted to hold a Special Town Meeting on Monday, March 16, 2015 at 7 p.m.**

A further discussion took place regarding the State's agreement to pay 39.21% of the grant and whether or not this was an actual commitment by the State. Joe Kellogg stated he spoke with Dave Hastings who would endeavor to get a firm commitment from the State confirming their contribution of 39.21%.

Useful Life Vote for Departmental Equipment – Joe Kellogg presented a paper for the Board to vote on approving the Maximum Useful Life of the Fire Truck and the Dump Truck with Plow. **A motion was made, seconded and so approved to set the Maximum Useful Life of the Fire Truck valued at \$550,000 for 25 years and the Dump Truck with Plow, valued at \$228,000 for 15 years**

Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources – Per a discussion Nat Yohalem had with Dennis Sears, a letter will be sent to Mr. Bram Claeys at the Department of Energy requesting a “carve out” be added to the CMR to allow municipal and regional school districts to take advantage of the “small” system “minting” process in order to obtain 10 years Alternative Energy Credits upfront. **A motion was made, seconded and so voted to have Chairman White send a letter to Mr. Claeys requesting a “carve out” be used for “small” system “minting.”**

Humes Request for Vo-Tech Tuition – A request and proper paperwork was received from Mr. and Mrs. Humes to pay for tuition of \$7992 for the school year FY16 for their son. Michele Shalaby asked that the Board receive, in writing, that the Humes will provide transportation to and from the school in Canaan, Ct., verification of residency in New Marlborough. A further suggestion was made that the request for Vo-Tech education be placed on the warrant each year. A discussion followed indicating the need for a vocational school in the Southern Berkshires.

Administrative Updates

Finance Committee - Joe Kellogg advised the Board that a warrant article was suggested to either increase the Finance Committee personnel to seven or decrease it to five; a bylaw change would be necessary. The Committee currently has six members, with the Treasurer being the seventh. It was felt it would be easier to obtain a quorum with either of those changes. Both the Attorney General and the Finance Committee would have to approve a change.

Joe Kellogg will also write-up a position description for a part-time Town Administrative Assistant.

The Board has been advised that Jenn Goewey has taken a position outside of Town. Joe Kellogg will put an ad in the paper for a new Treasurer.

Chairman's Updates – Chairman White indicated the need to have the computer returned from Mr. Skorput as soon as possible. Joe Kellogg to follow-up with Mike.

Chairman White also wanted to revisit the discussion for Town Hall renovations.

Legislative Breakfast Meeting, Friday, March 13, 2015 at the Fire Department from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

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 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Fleck
Administrative Secretary