



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

**Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, May 18, 2015**

Board Members Present: Michele Shalaby
Nathaniel Yohalem
Tara B. White

Others Present: Joseph Kellogg, Administrative Assistant
Sharon Fleck, Administrative Secretary
Mari Enoch
Charles Loring
Brien Mikesell
Deb O'Brien
Nancy and Chris Weaver
Josh Irwin and Emily Rachael

Reorganization –A motion was made, seconded and so voted by all members to have Michele Shalaby take over the Chairmanship of the Selectmen for the next year.

The Minutes were read. **A motion was made, seconded and so voted by all members to approve the minutes of May 11, 2015 as amended and to hold the minutes of May 4, 2015.** The minutes of May 13 will be separated, showing both the regular Selectmen's Meeting as well as the Executive Session and will be held until the next meeting.

Library Drainage Problem – Brian Mikesell and Deb O'Brien advised the Board of the drainage problem at the library especially when the winter snows melt and flood the walkway. Both Brian and Deb will work with Highway Superintendent, Charles Loring, in an effort to resolve this problem.

Rhodes and Bailey Road – Nancy and Chris Weaver presented the Board with the problems they've experienced on the road in winter and spring mud season. They are looking for a long-term solution; Chris Weaver suggested an asphalt spreader (available rebuilt for \$75,000) could be a solution to the problem, saving both time and labor. Chuck Loring stated that his grader can accomplish the same goal and suggested he use additional limestone to try and rectify the situation. Chuck stated that there are approximately 90 miles of roads in the Town of New

Marlborough and it is a challenge to maintain them all with the funds available.. Selectman Yohalem stated an analysis is underway to determine those Town roads that require the most attention. He further stated that the State of Massachusetts has only given the Town \$51,673 to repair the damage done to the roads over the winter. Selectman Nat Yohalem spoke of the debt the Town could incur, i.e. the school bond and Wired West could amount to over \$5 million, and that additional funds required to fix the roads and bridges would be left to the residents vote. Joe Kellogg then advised the Weavers that the State controls the amount of money the Town can raise and that the Town of New Marlborough acquires their funds mostly from the taxes collected.

Taco Tuesdays at Cantina 229 – Josh Irwin and Emily Rachel advised the Board they would like to reopen the Cantina for the summer, serving tacos quesadillas, guacamole and salsas. They are doing extensive work on the building and hope to open it as a full-service restaurant in 2016. They will apply for a liquor license after the summer; but in the meantime, they would like eight one-day beer and wine permits commencing Tuesday July 7 and ending August 25, 2015, from noon to 9 p.m. They have spoken with both the Board of Health and the Building Inspector. They will be given the information to apply for the one-day permits.

Clayton Mill River Road at Great Barrington Mill River Road Stop Sign – Select Chair, Michele Shalaby, indicated the danger at that intersection as cars fail to slow down. Highway Superintendent, Charles Loring, will obtain and erect the stop sign. **A motion was made, seconded and so voted by all members to approve the erection of a stop sign for northbound traffic.**

Mill River Great Barrington Road – Chuck advised that the road is being ground on Tuesday, May 26, and resurfacing will occur shortly thereafter.

Town Administrator Contract - Selectman, Nat Yohalem, made several changes to the contract. **A motion was made, seconded and so voted by all members (Tara White recused herself from the vote) to approve the contract for the Town Administrator.**

Moving of Offices – The Board felt moving the offices of the Treasurer/Accountant upstairs and moving the Tax Collector’s office downstairs would best serve the needs of the Town. Notices will be posted advising the residents of this change. The Highway Department will assist with this move. **A motion was made, seconded and so voted by all members to approve the move of the offices of the Treasurer/Accountant upstairs and the Tax Collector’s office downstairs. Tara White recused herself from this vote.**

Name Plates – Selectman, Nat Yohalem, suggested that name plates be made for Town Hall employees that also identifies their position in Town.

Solicitation – A request has been made of Vivint to solicit Town residents for the purpose of introducing solar panels. Vivint would like information on what permits are required by the Town in order for them to proceed. Joe Kellogg will contact Counsel to determine what is needed. If the residents do not want solicitors, they can erect a “no solicitation” sign that does offer them protection. It was recommended that a by-law be written to cover solicitors.

Administrative Assistant Updates – Joe Kellogg advised that Mari Enoch has started training with him, and she may change her Tax Collector hours in order to be available for additional training. Joe will reduce his hours and will be available for the Monday evening Selectmen’s Meetings, and Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Selectmen's Updates – An email was received from Roger Levine suggesting that the 40 yard roll-off dumpster be sold to Valley Roll-Off for \$2,750. Joe Kellogg advised that this must be bid.

Elm Trees at Town Garage – Selectman, Tara White, advised that the elm trees planted by the Land Trust may be in need of care. Martha Bryan will be contacted to discuss this issue.

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 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Fleck
Administrative Secretary