



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

**Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting  
Monday, October 24, 2016  
6:30 p.m.**

**Board Members Present:** Nathaniel H. Yohalem, Chair  
Tara B. White  
Michele Shalaby

**Others Present:** Mari Enoch, Town Administrator  
Sharon Fleck, Administrative Secretary  
Jan Johnson  
John Miller  
Tom Brazie  
Eli Cook  
Richard Long

**The meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 6:30 p.m. The minutes were read. A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve the minutes of October 17, 2016 as amended.**

Agricultural Commission

Four prospective members to the Agricultural Commission presented themselves before the Board of Selectmen to be considered as members of the Commission. Questions were asked as to how often it should meet and what was required. They were advised the Commission could meet as often as it needed to; agendas would have to be posted 48 business hours prior to a meeting, per the Open Meeting Law; and the first meeting should include electing a Chairman and a Vice Chairman.

**A motion was made, seconded and so voted to appoint the following residents to a term that would start October 24, 2016 and terminate on June 30, 2017:**

**Jan Johnson  
John Miller  
Tom Brazie  
Eli Cook**

**A motion was made, seconded and so voted to relieve the Board of Selectmen of the duties imposed on it to act as the Agricultural Commission prior to the appointment of an Agricultural Commission.**

Names, telephone numbers and email addresses of the Commission were given and will be sent to all of the members. The members of the Commission were advised they would have to be sworn in by the Town Clerk, Kathy Chretien, prior to its first meeting. The first meeting of the Agricultural Commission is scheduled for Monday, October 31, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

### Broadband Updates

Richard Long informed the Board that MBI is soliciting contributions so it can recover some of the monies it has expended on outside advisors who worked on the New Marlborough RFP and contract. The Towns of Monterey, Sandisfield and Tolland have shared the New Marlborough contract. He further stated that Sandisfield has committed \$500.00 to MBI as its contribution. .

Board of Selectmen, Chair, Nat Yohalem, had three comments to make regarding any contribution to MBI:

1. MBI never asked, or consulted with, New Marlborough in advance regarding recovering any monies to cover the fees of outside lawyers.
2. MBI chose to bring in outside people, not the Town of New Marlborough. MBI is a governmental agency.
3. New Marlborough wants the \$900,000 plus grant money and good will from MBI.

The Town of New Marlborough will consider contributing left over monies after the \$5,000.00 MBI Planning Assistance grant has been used to cover the Town's direct expenses.

Richard went on to say that MBI will not be responsible for the pole surveys as was originally agreed and that MBI may require a Cable Franchise Agreement with a vendor.

### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES**

Town Administrator, Mari Enoch, advised that Ed Harvey, Emergency Management Director, applied for a \$2,600 grant from MEMA for a trailer to transport emergency equipment. The Board authorized Mari to sign the paperwork

Sharon Fleck informed the Board that MassWorks grant monies do not have to be spent in the month in which it was allocated, as long as those FY17 monies are spent by June 30, 2017.

## SELECTMEN'S UPDATES

Board of Selectman, Michele Shalaby, prepared a letter to be sent by the Board to the Veterans in town, celebrating their service with honor and thanks. The Board signed the letter. Included with that letter will be a list of Veteran's Day activities.

Selectman, Tara White, has been in touch with two possible contractors regarding replacing some slate on the Town Hall roof, one of whom will visit Town Hall on Wednesday, October 26 and the other on Friday, October 28, 2016.

**A motion was made, seconded and so voted to have Town Administrator, Mari Enoch, sign the Cultural Council contract on behalf of the Town.**

Nat advised there is a holiday luncheon at Mt. Everett School on December 1, or in case of bad weather, on December 2. Reservations are required.

Town Hall will be staffed by the Board of Selectmen on Halloween from 5-7 p.m. as follows:

5:00 – 5:40 p.m.	Tara B. White
5:40 – 6:20 p.m.	Nat Yohalem
6:20 – 7:00 p.m.	Michele Shalaby

A decision will be made on Wednesday, October 26, as to whether or not there will be a Board of Selectmen's meeting on Monday, October 31, 2016.

**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 7:27 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Fleck  
Administrative Secretary