



**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, September 12, 2016  
6 p.m.**

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

**Others Present:** Mari Enoch, Town Administrator  
Sharon Fleck, Administrative Secretary  
Richard Long  
Tom Stalker  
Joe Poindexter  
David Hosford

**The meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 6:03 p.m. The minutes were read. A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve the minutes of the August 29, 2016 minutes, as amended.**

**Broadband**

Richard Long reported that September 15, 2016 will be the release date of the Request for Proposal (RFP), with responses due October 15, 2016. A Special Town Meeting will be necessary, as residents will need to approve a Home Rule Petition, which allows the Board of Selectmen to commit the Town to enter a contract longer than three years. The Warrant will have to be posted two weeks before the Special Town Meeting. Rep. Pignatelli would like to present this to the State Legislature in early November. It was noted that if the Home Rule Petition is granted by the Legislature, any financial obligations would have to be approved by the Town. Discussions revolved around the timeline, Prop 2-1/2 override and exclusions.

**Surplus Highway Vehicles Award**

Only one valid bid was received for the surplus highway vehicles. Upon the recommendation of the Highway Superintendent, the bid was awarded to Keith Wilkinson.

**A motion was made, seconded and so voted to award Keith Wilkinson the following vehicles:**

<b>One</b>	<b>2004 Ford F550 Flat Bed Dump Truck 6.0 Diesel</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>
<b>One</b>	<b>2008 Ford F350 Door Flat Bed 6.4 Diesel</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>

**Historical Commission**

Joe Poindexter and David Hosford, representing the Historical Commission, presented the Board of Selectmen with a list of signs they would like to replace. Joe acknowledged Highway Superintendent, Chuck Loring, and expressed his appreciation for Chuck's responsiveness to the Historical Society. The signs were originally installed in 1976, but have either worn out over time or have disappeared; however, duplicates of those signs had been made at the time the originals were made. A list of the signs to be replaced is attached. Joe and David were instructed to check with both the Highway Superintendent and Police Chief to insure the signs do not interfere with snow plowing or traffic.

**A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve the installation of nine historical signs, pending approval from the Highway Superintendent and the Police Chief.**

**Town Administrator Updates**

Clayton Mill River Road Culvert

The installation of the new culvert is complete. Guardrails are scheduled to be installed on Friday, September 16, 2016, and it is anticipated that the road will be open that day. Paving of this culvert will take place later this fall.

Vacation

A request was received from Highway Superintendent, Charles Loring, to take vacation from September 19-23 and September 29-October 4, 2016.

Town Administrator, Mari Enoch, has four remaining vacation days to be used by October 6. She would like to take one day a week and, if necessary, carry any remaining days later into October.

The Board of Selectmen granted these vacations requests to both Charles Loring and Mari Enoch.

**Selectmen's Updates**

MassWorks Grant on Clayton Mill River Road Project

Board of Selectmen Chair, Nat Yohalem, advised that through the efforts of Rep. Pignatelli, Verizon dropped its price to moving wires from \$63,399.62 to \$54,940.17. The Town had already paid Verizon \$1,000 to evaluate the work needed to be done. This \$1,000 will be deducted at the time a contract is signed with Verizon.

A revised contract was offered by the State for the Town to set its own timeline and costs for work to be done on the Clayton Mill River Road Project.

**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

Historic Information Signs, created and posted by the New Marlborough Bicentennial Commission - 1976. Over the years, the nine signs have either disappeared or become nearly illegible from weathering. Fortunately, the Commission made a duplicate set, which the New Marlborough Historical Society would like to reinstall. They are:

#### UMPACHENE FALLS PARK

A Housatonic Indian chief, Umpachene, who once fished in these waters, is commemorated here in the falls and in the stream which now bear his name. The park, comprising about 5 acres, was the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Robert K. Wheeler and maintained for the use and enjoyment of the people of the town of New Marlborough.

to be installed on a signpost next to the fence separating the park lawn from the parking area

#### SITE OF THE FIRST SETTLER'S CABIN

First among the early settlers in this area was Benjamin Wheeler, who arrived here in 1639 from the town of Marlborough, Middlesex County. He built a small log cabin nearby and lived there alone throughout the "memorable hard winter" of 1739-1740, thus becoming the pioneer settler of New Marlborough township.

to be installed on Route 57 at Stone Manor Road

#### TURNER AND COOK, INC.

Four generations of Turners have played a major role in this enterprise, which began as a tannery in 1791. Over the years, its products have included rawhide whip cores, buckskin whip lashes and riding crops. Rawhide mallets and hammers and rawhide hinge pins for lacing power transmission belts are among the more recent product developments.

to be installed near the entryway to the main Whip Shop building

#### HISTORIC TOWN MEETING

On July 11, 1774, the people of New Marlborough township assembled in their first meeting-house here to record their opposition to certain acts of the British parliament. On that day--nearly a year before the Battle of Bunker Hill--they approved resolutions condemning the tax on tea as "unconstitutional and oppressive" and proposing a boycott on goods of British manufacture.

to be installed on North Road opposite the Old Inn on the Green

#### KONKAPOT RIVER

Some 8 miles to the northeast, as the crow flies, the Konkapot rises in Lake Garfield. About 4 miles to the southwest, it empties into the Housatonic. Called the Iron Works River in earlier times, it now bears the name of a chieftain of the Housatonic Indians who were the original inhabitants of this area.

to be installed near the bridge on the Great Barrington Mill River road

#### NEW MARLBORO: THE STAGECOACH ERA

In the year 1834, a handsome coach of the "Red Bird" line drew up here and set down its passengers for an overnight stay at the village inn. With this event, thereafter a daily occurrence, New Marlboro became the bustling midway station on the main-traveled Hartford-Albany stage line. Facing the green opposite, the restored Old Inn is today a reminder of this colorful era.

to be installed near the entryway of the Old Inn on the Green

#### THE MILL RIVER PAPER MILLS

Within a mile-and-a-half of this bridge, in the mid-1800s, 11 dams harnessed the river's fall to provide water power for as many mills. Most of these produced paper. A thriving industry here for 50 years, with products ranging from manila to fine writing papers. Eventually, lack of rail facilities forced the closing of the Mill River paper mills; the last one was shut down in 1887.

to be installed behind the library

#### ROUTE OF THE OLD TURNPIKE

The 15th Massachusetts Turnpike, completed in 1829, was a major link on the fast stage route between Hartford and Albany. From New Marlboro, it followed present Route 57 to this point, but took a short cut here by turning left to bypass Hartsville and avoid a steep grade on the paved road to Great Barrington. The house on right was once a stage stop on the old turnpike.

to be installed on the island at the intersection of Route 57 and Adsit Crosby Road

#### SITE OF THE OLD CLAY WORKS

Near this spot stood the 19th century clay works for which Clayton was named. It was established in 1866 and operated until 1908. The fine white clay, dug from beds bordering the Konkapot River, was widely used for pottery and papermaking. Crockery and other kiln-fired products were also produced here.

to be installed near the Clayton Chapel or at Clayton Four Corners