

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, October 11th, 2016

Minutes

The Board of Selectmen met on Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Clark Room. Those present were Nathan Brown, William Risso, Claude von Roesgen, and Kerry Kissinger. Not present was Luke Ascolillo.

Also in attendance:

Timothy Goddard, Town Administrator
Police Chief John Fisher
Deborah Bentley, Energy Task Force
Dr. Alan Lewis, Resident/IES Expert
Scott Triola, Finance Committee chair
James Darr, Finance Committee

Community Input:

Lyn Lemaire distributed handouts to the Board of Selectmen explaining that she's starting a campaign on public participation in Town Government by creating practices that afford much greater transparency, notice, and opportunities for the public to get involved on important issues including the Minuteman High School, Need for Fiscal Discipline, Town wide understanding of Hydrogeology, Public Safety and Wastewater Treatment Facilities. See attached for a full copy of presentation.

Award Police Cruiser

The board met with Police Chief John Fisher regarding the purchase of a 2016 Chevy Tahoe. The price of the vehicle is \$37,357.50 plus \$13,162.45 for police outfitting. The total purchase price is \$50,519.95.

The Police Chief was asked to attend tonight to discuss the concerns and questions raised at the last Board of Selectmen meeting. He explained that there are two other similar vehicles within in the fleet. The Tahoe is not particularly fast but feels it is what's needed during the winter months to get to difficult locations in town. The older Expedition has been the primary vehicle used in bad weather and he has occasionally opted to use his own personal pick-up truck instead of the other cruisers in bad weather conditions. There are five (5) police qualified vehicles on the state bid list but he feels that the large size SUV is the best fit for Carlisle and for safety reasons as well.

To address the concerns regarding fuel consumption, Chief Fisher has been looking into anti-idling devices. There are two (2) types of police vehicles on the state bid list with this technology installed. These vehicles will automatically shut off when idling and an auxiliary battery allows the other police equipment to stay running until power is depleted. The big drawback to these vehicles is that the technology does not allow the heat or air conditioning and/or radar equipment to remain on for immediate access. There is a Canadian company that has developed an anti-idling device with an auxiliary battery that will shut off the engine and turn it back on as needed. Unfortunately, this device is in the testing stage and will not be available until March 2017. He has already contacted the company to ask if the Town of Carlisle could participate in the testing round but was told that only police departments with a much larger fleet were being considered but he made sure that Carlisle is still in the pipeline. The cost to purchase this particular device is approx. \$3K which he feels would pay for itself in fuel savings by reducing idling by 4,000 hours annually based on studies.

Claude von Roesgen pointed out that the Town of Carlisle became a Green Community in 2011. The goal of the Community is to reduce town-wide fuel usage. In Columbus, Ohio there was a ban on driving all large sized SUVs. The Columbus PD wanted to purchase a Chevy Tahoe which was conditionally approved with an anti-idling device being installed to mitigate the fuel usage. His concern is that the Town of Carlisle has made it a goal to reduce fuel usage but the Police Department has requested approval to increase the fleet from two to three large sized SUVs.

Upon the request of selectman von Roesgen, the Police Chief agreed to allow the DPW vehicles to call into dispatch to report their fuel usage as part of the fuel log-in which will assist the Energy Task Force (ETF) report to the state regarding reduction in fuel usage.

Kerry Kissinger questioned whether the device is portable? Chief Fisher explained that the installation process involves ten parts so it is not an easy install.

Last year, the Police Department spent \$13,343.00 on fuel. The fleet consists of seven police vehicles and five of them are used regularly. Chief Fisher estimated that the department could save approx. 20% in fuel costs with the device installed. Mr. Kissinger questioned why the larger size SUV (with a V-8 engine that will only get 15 miles per gallon) is preferred over a less horsepower vehicle with a V6 engine with 20 miles to the gallon which would save 20%. Chief Fisher doesn't really feel there is that much more in savings. He also spoke about the added benefit of having similar vehicles in the fleet because the location of equipment is the same from a safety perspective.

Mr. Kissinger asked if an introductory offer to outfit the vehicle was an option? It was explained that the current package offer is considerably different and is a much better bargain because of the LED lights and there are flashing and dimming options to prevent blinding vehicles parked in front of a cruiser and oncoming traffic.

On the motion made by William Risso and seconded by Kerry Kissinger, it was unanimously VOTED that the Board of Selectmen award the purchase of a 2016 Chevy Tahoe from Colonial Chevrolet through the GBPC collaborative purchasing program outfitted with associated Police equipment in the amount of \$50,519.95 to be paid from designated capital account along with the trade in value of 2010 Ford Taurus and the remaining balance to be paid from the equipment account.

Military Leave Policy

F/T Police Officer Christopher Arguoyan will be departing for active military duty starting October 24th through March 14th 2017. Chief Fisher has requested the ability to pay the difference in Officer Arguoyan's current salary and his military pay during time of leave. The estimated difference in salary is \$20,478.69 for a 20 week period which is approx. 3% of the police department's personnel budget. The Chief has already notified his department about rescheduling shifts to accommodate this request and response so far has been very positive and no grievances have been filed. Chief Fisher confirmed that there are no other members of the department that actively serve in the military and is only seeking board's approval to make this one exception at this time.

Town Administrator Timothy Goddard explained that the Town's Personnel Policies do have a provision regarding military leave but it is limited to two weeks. The Board of Selectmen must vote to approve the exception to extend the leave from two weeks to 20 weeks.

On the motion by William Risso and seconded by Kerry Kissinger it was unanimously VOTED by the Board of Selectmen to make an exception for Police Officer Christopher Arguoyan and approve the extended

military leave from 2 to 20 weeks and to further request that the Personnel Board review the existing policy and impact on future requests.

Appointments - Special Police Officers

Chief Fisher explained that the Police Department has been running low on part-time officers and requests the appointment of three (3) Special Police Officers to cover the four vacant part-time patrol shifts. Police Officer Sean Dineen currently works for the VA, Police Officer Erick Koukos currently works full-time in Bolton, MA and Police Officer James Mastrogiovanni currently works full-time in Millville, MA

On the motion made by William Risso and seconded by Claude von Roesgen, it was unanimously VOTED that the Board of Selectmen vote to appoint Sean Dineen, Eric Koukos and James Mastrogiovanni as Special Police Officers for a one year term to expire June 30, 2017.

CETF Chair Deb Bentley – Streetlights project

The board met with Energy Task Force (ETF) member Deborah Bentley and resident/expert Dr. Alan Lewis who has a Ph.D. in Physiological Optics and a member of IES (Illuminating Engineering Society of North America). It's being recommended that the number of street lights be reduced from 167 to 87. Many of the existing streetlights are not in a location that helps with safety on the roads. Dr. Lewis has reviewed and agreed the specification of the actual lamps to ensure that the light from the lamp only illuminates the road rather than residence behind the lamps. A map was provided showing street lights in the center of town and at all roadway intersections. The Police Chief was present to state that he had no objections with the recommended street lighting plan as presented.

William Risso cautioned the board about making a quick decision to avoid a similar situation in the Town of Concord where it was decided to remove streetlights deemed as “too bright” based on a study but the Town paid to reinstall them later.

Kerry Kissinger agrees that there are very dark areas in Carlisle and he recommended that the board not change the configuration of the existing lights to avoid risking the grant money to replace all of the existing street lights with LED bulbs which will save the Town money.

Mr. Brown suggested installing all the LED bulbs and not activate the lights where residents have requested the they be turned off.

No decision is needed from the Board of Selectmen at this time and Ms. Bentley will contact the Mosquito to publish an update on the LED Street Lighting project with a link to the map as presented this evening to request input from residents.

Town Hall Insulation Project Update – Ms. Bentley informed the board that this project has been cancelled because the initial contractor failed to include prevailing wages in cost estimate. The other issue is that National Grid will not sign off on the incentive grant and the funds for this project will now be available for the LED Street Lighting project.

FY18 Budget Coordination Meeting #1 with FinCom

The board met with Finance Committee chair Scott Triola and Jim Darr to discuss the FY18 budget planning process and timeline.

FY2017 Budget Recap

Town Meeting approved a total operating budget of \$28,800,000, a 2.3% increase over FY2016 in the operating budget. The total property tax was a bit higher at 4.1% and the average household tax factor and growth has 3.8%. The tax increase was due to lowering the amount of free cash contribution to offset High School debt. Town meeting approved a balanced budget with \$380K in Long Term Capital Projects. The Finance Committee will continue to track expenses and there are no outlying items to report.

FY2018 Budget Planning

Limited avenues for increasing revenue because of the Town's small commercial base and is estimated to be the same as last year. Finance Committee continues to focus on balancing the needs of the Town with the burden placed on the taxpayer and rather than focus on revenues the Finance Committee tries to limit the rate of increases and expenses with thorough budget planning process requiring full participation by town departments. This process involves budgetary tradeoffs and prioritization.

Mr. Triola emphasized the importance of the Board of Selectmen's input in formalizing the list of priorities.

Debt Service

High School debt remains at similar level as last year. Other projects on the radar include Library, Telecommunication Study, and Town Infrastructure

The budget letter is the initial call for information. Finance Committee has not met with any departments as of yet but the Council on Aging is scheduled for later this month and Police, Fire and Library have confirmed to meet in November. The next budget coordination meeting with Board of Selectmen will include more details regarding department requests.

Other items to consider include potential increases in group health insurance (10%) and county retirement (8%), unfunded liability (OPEB)

Finance Committee is happy to see the cost savings projects moving forward to include the LED street lights, transfer station, and technology initiatives.

Mr. Triola requested that the Board of Selectmen let the Finance Committee know about any potential expense items/warrant articles before the budget guidelines are issued in December. The Finance Committee does not anticipate having an override this year and they will continue their efforts to maintain healthy reserves levels. He feels the budget is in a good place compared to prior years.

FY17 BOS Goals

This agenda item has been rescheduled to the next scheduled Board of Selectmen meeting on October 25, 2017 when a full board is present.

BOS Liaison Assignments -

Agricultural Commission – Claude von Roesgen
Center Park Standing Committee – Kerry Kissinger
Scholarship Committee – Claude von Roesgen & Kerry Kissinger

Senior Tax Advisory Committee – Kerry Kissinger
Dog Committee – *vote to appoint BOS member at future meeting*
Bow Hunting Committee – *vote to BOS appoint member at future meeting*
Land Stewardship Committee – *confirm membership requirements*
Conservation Restriction Advisory Committee – *confirm membership requirements*

Action Items from previous meetings

1. **Review Town Bylaw & Building Regulations** - Notification to abutters/30-day comment period for building permits and review current zoning for the allowed size of a secondary building on two-acre parcel.
 - Building Inspector has agreed to draft language.
 - **Sent request to the Planning Board. 10/4/16**
2. **Delinquent Tax Payers** – Withhold approval of licenses and permits. Scheduled for 11/08/16 agenda
3. **LED Streetlights** - Evaluate the existing location of street lights to determine if they all need to be replaced.
 - 7th Option recommended by Historical Commission & Safety Committee forthcoming
4. **LED Crosswalk Signals**
 - Police Chief researching options on low profile fixtures at the request of the Historical Commission.
5. **Comcast** – request for town-wide coverage
 - Schedule meeting in October with Comcast Representatives
 - Map where coverage does not exist.
 - **Sent Service Area map to Selectman von Roesgen.**
6. **Greenough Barn Property** – Informal discussions with demolition/salvage companies
7. **Deer Task Force Committee Charge**
 - Approved with amendments on 9/13/2016.
8. **Municipal Aggregation Plan** - Submitted to the DPU

The board added two more action items to the list as follows:

9. **Personnel Board** – Reduce membership from 5 to 3 members and keep 2 citizen-at-large positions.
10. **Finance Committee** – 3-Year Plan from all town departments, boards and committees.

Town Administrator's Report

1. Sign Policy - Town Administrator Timothy Goddard informed the board that a number of complaints have been received regarding political signs on public property and at the Rotary. The Police Department has been responding to similar complaints from homeowners that political signs have placed in front of their property without their knowledge. Town Counsel in reviewing the existing sign policy adopted by the Board of Selectmen in 1991 found sections #2, #3, and #4 unconstitutional and not enforceable. The board has been asked to consider adopting a new policy "Placement of private signs on public property" that would apply to temporary signs on all public property including the right of way.

After careful review, it was agreed to amend proposed policy to include language that would restrict private signs in the right of way located in front of a residence or business without the permission of the property owner.

On the motion made by Claude von Roesgen and seconded by William Risso, it was unanimously VOTED to authorize the chair Nathan Brown to review and approve the revised policy on behalf of the board regarding private signs on public property.

2. Pumpkins on the Common - The Garden Club has requested the use of the Town Common on October 15th for the annual "Pumpkins on the Common" event and have already received the permission from the First Religious Society.

On the motion made by Claude von Roesgen and seconded by William Risso, it was unanimously VOTED to approve the request of the Carlisle Garden Club to use the Town Common on October 15, 2016 for their annual "Pumpkins on the Common" event

3. Appointments

Cultural Council - On the motion made by William Risso and seconded by Kerry Kissinger, it was unanimously VOTED to appoint Jennifer Sagalyn of 98 Wolf Rock Road as a member of the Cultural Council for a term to expire on June 30, 2017."

Affordable Housing Trust - On the motion made by William Risso and seconded by Claude von Roesgen, it was unanimously VOTED to appoint Kerry Kissinger of 207 Elizabeth Ridge Road as a member of the Carlisle Affordable Housing Trust for a term to expire June 30, 2017."

4. OML complaint - The Board received copies of a letter from Lyn Lemaire requesting agenda time to discuss the call Fire Dept. and her pending OML complaint. Mr. Brown informed the board that he responded to this request and informing Lyn Lemaire the matter would not be on tonight's agenda but the board would discuss whether or not we would add the item to a future agenda

5. Minuteman Regional Meeting - There is a meeting of Town officials in all Minuteman member communities next Monday, October 17th at 8:00am at Lexington Town Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss Belmont's intention to call a Town Meeting to vote whether or not to withdraw from the District. -- Kerry Kissinger volunteered to attend on behalf of the board.

6. Subcommittees/Working Groups - There are a large number of subcommittees, working groups/task forces. The Town Administrator and Executive Secretary are compiling information on each of these committees to make sure that have been properly created with specific charge/mission.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

October 25, 2016

FY Goals/Liaisons,
Municipal Facilities Committee charge
Deer Committee & Dog Committee appointments

November 8, 2016

FY16 Audit Report,
FY17 Tax Rate Classification hearing
Policy re: delinquent taxpayers
Renewal of licenses

Liaison Reports

William Risso

Board of Health recently issued a town-wide ban on non-essential outdoor watering. Also being discussed is a ban on kitchen sink grinders/ disposal systems. 2. Financial Mgmt Team – Town Clerk has announced that early voting for the November 8th Presidential Election will begin Oct. 24th through November 4th during normal business hours. Last day to register to vote is October 19th Town Clerk's Office will be open until 8PM. Absentee voting ends on November 7th. Town Accountant and Finance Director attended a training seminar on the Municipal Modernization Act that becomes enacted on Nov. 7th. Minuteman Health Group has started reviewing insurance rates for next year and it is anticipated that rates will be increased.

Claude von Roesgen - Energy Task Force

Pamel Cady, Project Manager overseeing the Town of Carlisle Green Community projects last day was today. Her duties will need to be shift along to the Town Administrator and Building Inspector to assist with filing necessary applications and reports with the State. Mr. von Roesgen agreed to submit a list of ETF goals to the Board of Selectmen for review.

Mr. von Roesgen attended the October 5th public forum "What If" regarding the opioid crisis which was sponsored by the Board of Health and Carlisle Police Department educating parents and families on how to take steps to prevent abuse.

Minutes Approval

On the motion made by William Risso and seconded by Kerry Kissinger, it was unanimously VOTED to approve the amended minutes from September 27, 2016.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Gibbons

Documents presented:

Public Participation handout by Lyn Lemaire dated 10/11/2016
2016 LED Street lighting Project update 10/11/2016
Letter to the Office of the Attorney General dated 10/7/2016
Open Meeting Law Complaint filed 7/13/2016
Letter to the Office of the Attorney General dated 7/12/2016

Public Participation in Town Governance

Getting People in the Know about
Changes that May Be in the Works for Carlisle

October 11, 2016 LL

Minuteman High School

Farm Out the Recommendation

- Analysis by Building Committee
- Controversies
 - Size
 - Design
 - Extremely Expensive
- No Good Venue to Work Out

BOS Driven Analysis

- Frequent Updates at BOS
- Group to Analyze – Site Visit
 - Finance
 - Educational – Test Scores, Etc.
 - Amended Agreement
- LWVCC Sponsored Forum
- Extensive *Mosquito* Coverage
- All Sides – Including Opposition

Issues on the Horizon

- Need for Fiscal Discipline
 - 2% Limit? (Feb. 2016 - ... *"5%+ okay"...*)
 - Compare Types of Expense: E.g. - One-time vs. Adding to Union Payroll
- Need for Town Wide Understanding of Hydrogeology
 - Long Ridge Road 40B Actions
 - 40B Approach – 10% of Units vs. 1.5% of Buildable Land Area
 - Goff Property Issues – Wastewater Treatment Plant/Facility
 - (WWTP = Potential Trap for the Unwary)
 - Wastewater Issues Related to Stormwater and Drinking Water
- Public Safety – Growth – Is It Needed?

Limitations re: Hydrogeology

- Ledge and Wetlands – *Intensity Should Be Examined in Subsurface*
- Bedrock Wells
 - Obtain Drinking Water from Fractures in Bedrock
 - Bedrock has Natural Fractures - Run from NE to SW (sometimes NW to SE)
- Unusually Shallow Overburden (Soil Layer on Top of Bedrock)
 - Significance = Less Opportunity to Filter Septic Effluent
 - Key Question = ***Hydraulic Connectivity***
 - Chance that Contaminants in Overburden Will Flow into Fractures
 - Undetected Contaminants in Drinking Can Be Very Risky – Especially Infants
- Long Ridge Road – Unacceptably High Nitrate Levels in Overburden

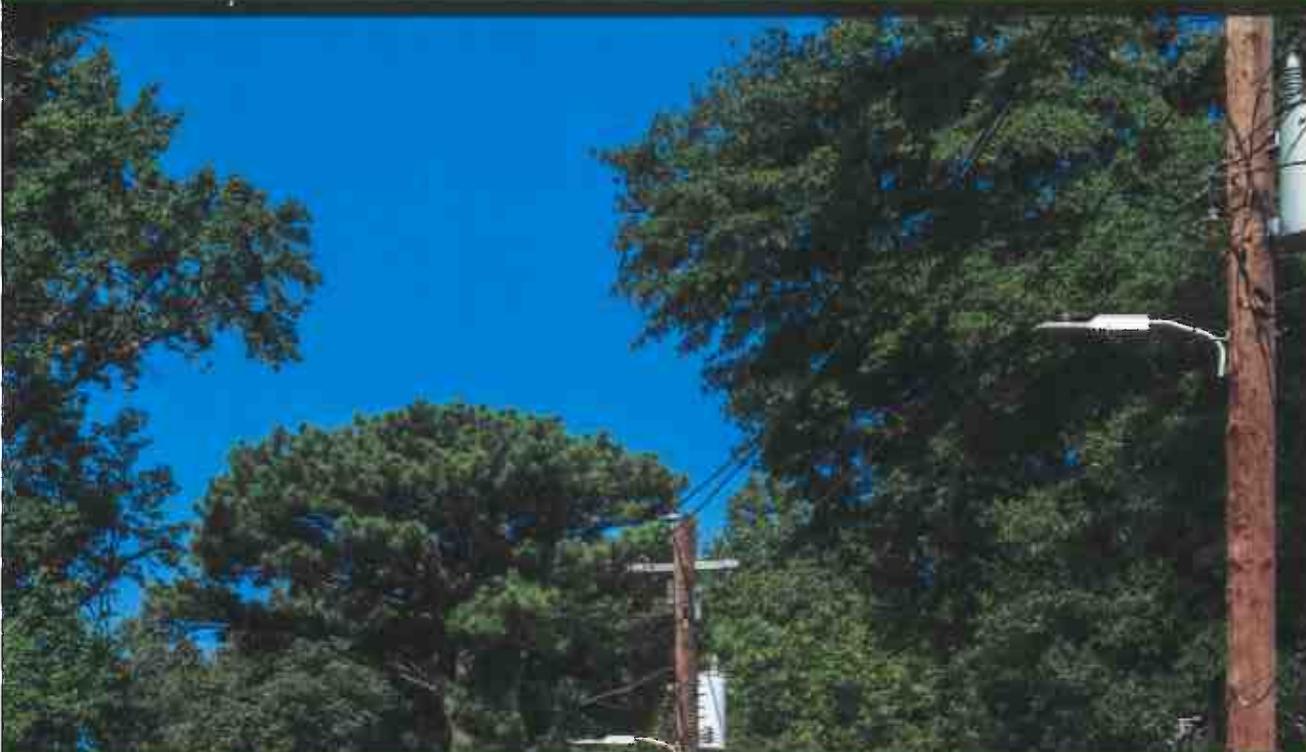
WWTF = Traps for the Unwary

- Wastewater Treatment Facilities
 - Expensive Maintenance
 - Expensive to Expand – If Required to Do So
- Potential for Mandatory Sewer District?
- Water Districts for Stormwater Drainage and Drinking Water
- NB: Chapter 40R Identifies “*Rural Village with a WWTF*” as an
 - “Eligible Location”
 - Common Objection to 40R – “Cede a Portion of Town to the State ...”

Public Safety

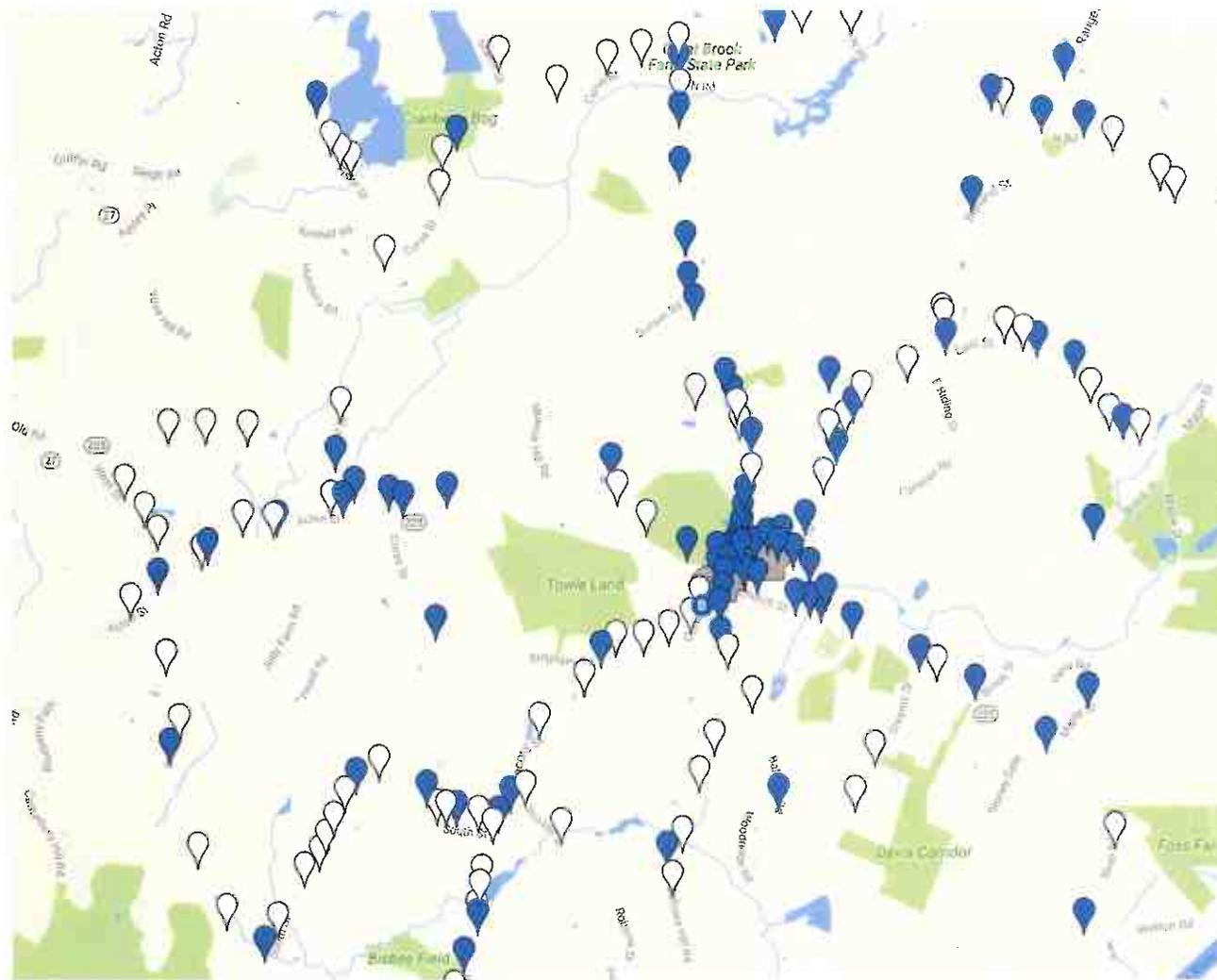
- Maintain *Call* Fire Department
 - Better Pay for Availability
 - Better Pay for Longevity
 - More Appreciation ... a *Firefighters' Ball*?
- Need to Go to All Full Time Police Department?
 - Part Time Advantages
 - Full Time Costs
- Telecommunications Network
 - Sudden Appearance of Article 13 on 2016 Annual Town Meeting Warrant
 - What's Going On?

Carlisle Energy Task Force



LED STREET LIGHTING REPORT





HISTORY

Carlisle's 169 streetlights, first installed in 1911 by the Edison Company, have been laid out in an ad-hoc manner. Streetlights appear to have been installed if people requested them outside their home, therefore you can assume if a house has a streetlight outside it was constructed before 1950. The majority of the lamps date from the early 1990's and are high pressure sodium (HPS) lamps. There are 30 incandescent lights with 1,000 lumen light output. Town Hall has written to these residents advising them of the proposed streetlight changes.

Map Key:

- Blue: HPS streetlights that should remain
- White: Streetlights that can be removed

Outside the town Center there is no rhythm of one streetlamp on every second telephone pole as in other towns. (Note the long distance between lamps on Westford St, a thoroughfare.) This map is available on <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1JjVO4EZXRJTcVqWWEIvgQ92ock&usp=sharing>

TOWN CENTER

Lighting frequency increases at the center of town. There are 17 lamps within the Historic District. Only the last 2 on Lowell St. have historic arms and the rest are modern.



Grey outline shows the Historic District boundary



Older style arms

Many of the streetlights are not in a location that helps safety on the road. We have indicated on the map in Blue the streetlights that are at road junctions or beacons for driving. The lights in white could be removed. Some residents have approached the ETF asking that streetlights outside their house be removed. The number of retained streetlights is 87, approximately half of the current total.

GREEN COMMUNITY GRANT

In June 2016 DOER awarded the Town of Carlisle **\$41,085.50** in Green Community Competitive Grant funds to replace all remaining energy inefficient streetlights with highly efficient LED's that will provide equivalent lighting while consuming substantially less energy. The **\$50,872** project will be fully funded by the grant award along with an incentive from Eversource.



The Town will also enjoy these benefits:

- Reduced maintenance costs due to longer fixture life
- Visible commitment to efficiency
- Improved safety through enhanced visibility
- Decreased light trespass and light pollution
- Instant-on / instant-off feature
- No mercury, lead, or other known disposable hazards

LED streetlights may be installed in unmetered, municipally-owned streetlights. Due to existing utility tariffs, however, local streetlights which are owned by utilities cannot currently be converted to LEDs. DOER is working with the state's electric utilities to develop a coordinated approach to overcome barriers (including tariff issues) and bring the option of LED streetlights to all municipalities in Massachusetts. (MA Green Communities)

The benefit of having LED Streetlights, and control over the maintenance in our rural community will be huge. During CETF's informal lighting survey, we found numerous bulbs "out" or on all day. The new lamps are light sensitive, coming on only when needed, and should last a lifetime.

LED STREETLIGHT REPLACEMENT PROJECT SCOPE OPTIONS

On July 23rd 2016 the Selectmen requested the following options for the streetlight installation.

Carlisle LED Streetlight Project - 2016	1. GCC GRANT	2. With replacement arms only	3. With replacement arms and diming capacity for town	4. With replacement arms and diming capacity + controls for HD only	5. with replacement arms , diming capacity for the whole town, and diming controls for the HD only	6. With replacement arms and diming capacity,+ controls whole town
	A + B + C	A + B + C + D	A + B + C + D + E	A + B + C + D and (E + F partial)	A + B + C + D + E (and F partial)	A + B + C + D + E + F
A: 169 LED Lamps	\$ 37,864	\$ 37,864	\$ 37,864	\$ 37,864	\$ 37,864	\$ 37,864
B: Automatic on/off via Photocells	\$ 2,592	\$ 2,592	\$ 2,592	\$ 2,332	\$ 2,332	(n/a)
C: Eversource Utility Rebate (to AECOM)	\$ 9,701	\$ 9,701	\$ 9,701	\$ 9,701	\$ 9,701	\$ 9,701
D: 39 Replacement Armatures	-	\$ 5,753	\$ 5,753	\$ 5,753	\$ 5,753	\$ 5,753
E: Dimming Capacity Upcharge	-		\$ 1,590	\$ 261	\$ 1,590	\$ 1,590
F: Controls				\$ 12,680	\$ 12,796	\$ 38,477
TOTAL	\$ 50,158	\$ 55,911	\$ 57,501	\$ 68,591	\$ 70,036	\$ 93,386
ADDITIONAL COSTS taken from other projects in original grant	\$ -	\$ 5,753	\$ 7,343	\$ 18,434	\$ 19,878	\$ 43,228
TOTAL SAVINGS in kWh	38,805 kWh	38,805 kWh	38,805 kWh	38,805 kWh	38,805 kWh	38,805 kWh
Total annual electricity cost savings	\$ 5,821	\$ 5,821	\$ 5,821	\$ 5,821	\$ 5,821	\$ 5,821
FY17 savings due to not paying 5 mos. of Eversource maint. as budgeted	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Actual cost to Town in FY17	\$ (5,000)	\$ 753	\$ 2,343	\$ 7,680	\$ 14,878	\$ 38,228
Payback of project in years (state's perspective using their grant money)	7.0 years	7.9 years	8.2 years	10.1 years	10.4 years	14.4 years
Payback in yrs (Town's perspective w/ grant + electricity savings)	0.0	1.0	1.3	2.2	3.4	7.4
Payback date to Town w/savings from cancelling Eversource maint. contract	Immediate	Jan-17	Mar-17	Jun-17	May-18	Mar-20

FINANCING ADDITIONAL STREETLIGHT WORK

DOER has confirmed that the town can take monies allocated to the school LED project and use them against the additional needs of the LED Streetlight project. There was an error in the estimate for the Town Hall attic Insulation. The quote that we received from the contractor did not include prevailing wages. The original contractor withdrew his quote, and the two additional quotes came in at \$50,000. The Energy Task Force recommends that we use the grant monies for of \$18, 294.50 to pay for the additional expenses for the streetlights. We will upgrade some of the specifications on the other projects to help use all the grant monies. Hopefully we will increase the carbon reduction in these projects. This means that we will not reduced the school project as previously disussed.

At the Energy Task force meeting of 12th September they unanimously recommended that the town should allow for the replacements arms and installed lamps that could be set at different percentage of output rather than dimmable. This is due to the fact that the lamp posts are not evenly distributed in town, so the future capacity of smart lampposts will not apply and the up cost of having dimmable controls in either just the historic district or the rest of the town is substantially higher.

LAMP COLOR

The preferred lamp color temperature is 2,800 kelvin or 3,000 kelvin. Chelmsford's lamps are 4,000 kelvin, which is a whiter, harsher color. LEDs last 3 - 4 times longer than our existing High Pressure Sodium (HPS) streetlights.

- The Safety Committee would prefer to have all the streetlights the same color temperature.
- The Historic District Commission prefers the 2,800k bulb. They are concerned that the lumen output will be considerably more and would like CETF to complete a light meter test on the existing lighting and compare them to the proposal.
- If the lighting level is higher, the HDC would like to install dimmers in the town center and/or decrease the lumens of these 17 lamps. Light dimming does not change the color of the lamp, only it's intensity.

BULB SAMPLES: It is not possible to get a sample of actual the lamp without additional cost. CETF has lightbulbs with the various relevant color options for consideration.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

STREET LIGHTING LEVEL REQUIREMENTS

Dr Alan Lewin of Carlisle is one of the world's experts on how we see with the combination of LED streetlamps and car headlights. In 1999 he became President of The New England College of Optometry from which he retired in 2006. Lewis has had an active research career, specializing in the interactions between the environment and visual performance. He has over 50 publications in scientific journals, books, and in the automotive engineering literature. A Fellow of IESNA and of the American Academy of Optometry, he currently is the former President of the United States National Committee of the International Commission on Illumination (CIE-USA). He has met with the Safety Committee to advise them of exactly what will be installed.

LAMP SPECIFICATION

Dr Lewis is reviewing the specification of the actual lamps to ensure that the light from the lamp only illuminates the road rather than residents behind the lamps.

REPLACEMENT ARMS

The cost estimate is for replacing 39 arms, which is 1/4 of all of our light supports. The Town of Lincoln only needed to replace one armature, but did need to pay for wiring on 17 poles at \$20/ft, each pole needing 12' of wiring. The \$5,000 allowed is probably a good amount for any unknown contingencies.

Most LED fixtures are rated to maintain at least 70% of their light output for 100,000 hours, which is about 20 years and double the warranty period of 10 years. In addition to the extended lifecycle and lower replacement costs, LEDs result in reduced light pollution at night and improved and more uniform light quality. Because they use less energy, LEDs also help to reduce carbon emissions. LEDs also make colors look brighter and more "true" to natural color. Trees look green instead of brown, a blue car looks blue instead of grey. Due to the improved color rendition things appear brighter and sharper under LEDs which is why police and other safety personnel prefer LEDs.

DIRECTION OF LIGHTS AND DARK SKY ISSUES

LED lamps are more directional and, as the light is more white, have better visual functionality. This before and after comparison of lighting in the City of Los Angeles illustrates the dramatic differences in the quality of light (note LA probably installed 4,000k lamps): <http://www.forbes.com/sites/uciliawang/2014/09/10/bright-lights-big-profits/2/#362581fd338f>

PROJECT TIMELINE

The Town of Carlisle's letter requesting the light fittings purchase was sent in the 2nd week of August. The 90 day limit for Eversource to complete the transaction will be mid-November. The consultants and the contractor need at least a 2-3 week lead time. This gives a latest installation date of the 1st and 2nd week of December. The installation will take 10 working days, but could run a few days longer if there issues with rewiring some of the streetlights. The work has to be complete by January 15th 2017 in order for CETF volunteers to complete the grant report by the DOER deadline of February 24th 2017.

POLICE DETAIL & SAFETY CONCERNS

The Police Chief is concerned about the installation of the lights and traffic safety as many of these lamps are at intersections. He is also concerned because the installation is likely to occur in the winter. The proposal does not include police detail which would need to be provided by the Town. Our AECOM consultant and the contractor will liaise with the police chief prior to the project start to ensure that the roads are safe during installation. The Town Administrator will discuss the cost of this detail with the Police Chief and report to the Selectmen.

For a video of the installation process, watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZUKQA3QSI9Q>

MAINTENANCE AND WARRENTY

The contractor will return to replace any lamps that have failed at the end of the one year liability period. There is an additional 5 year manufacturer warranty on the lamps, but the town would have to cover the installation cost. The town can purchase an additional 5 year warranty from the manufacturer if they wish at \$12 per fitting.

GREEN COMMUNITIES GRANT PROJECT MANAGEMENT.

This project will be installed after the current Energy Manager has left her post, therefore the town will need to allow some financing of the completion of the project managing and report writing as demanded by the Green Communities Grant. The Project timeline indicated the amount of outstanding work will still have to be completed after October 14th, when the Energy Manager post ends.

2016 GREEN COMMUNITIES GRANT PROJECT MANAGEMENT															
PROJECT		GRANT VALUE	INCENTIVE	TIME FOR INSTALL	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL		
					1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30		
APPROVAL FROM DOER															
AEDOM															
SCHOOL LIGHTS		\$84,777.16	\$14,287.71	3-4 WEEKS											
LIBRARY LIGHTS		\$15,985.10	\$4,703.00	1 WEEK											
TOWN HALL LIGHTS		\$12,451.90	\$1,527.00	1 WEEK											
POLICE STATION LIGHTS		\$6,714.36	\$942.00	3-4 DAYS											
STREETLIGHTS	PURCHASE			90 DAYS MAX											
	INSTALL	\$40,677.25	\$10,194.91	2 WEEKS											
SMALL CONTRACTORS															
WWTP LIGHTING	BIDS	\$1,073.00	\$300.00												
	INSTALL			1 DAY											
WWTP HEAT PUMP	BIDS	\$9,990.00													
	INSTALL			2 DAYS											
FACUCETS	BIDS	\$3,451.00	\$372.00												
	INSTALL			2 WEEKS											
TOWN HALL INSULATION	BIDS	\$18,294.50	\$7,291.50												
	INSTALL			2 DAYS											
DPW DOORS	BIDS	\$8,817.05	\$402.00												
	INSTALL			2 DAYS											
DPW THERMOSTATS	DPW	\$150.00	\$50.00	1 DAY											
FINAL COMPLETION DATE FOR ALL PROJECTS															
TOTAL		\$202,381.32	\$40,070.12												
REPORTS TO DOER	INTERIM			5TH OCT											
	INTERIM			5TH JAN											
	FINAL			25TH FEB											
INSPECTION				MARCH											
ANNUAL REPORT				5TH DECEMBER											
GRANT SUBMISSION 17-18	RESEARCH														
	BIDS														
	GRANT WRITING			END OF MARCH											
PAYMENT FROM DOER	25%	\$50,595.33		END OF SEPT											
	50%	\$101,190.66		END OF NOV											
	25%	\$50,595.33		MID APRIL											
ENERGY MANAGER				15TH OCTOBER											

Lyn Lemaire
P.O. Box 164
Carlisle, MA 01741

October 7, 2016

By Priority Mail and Email

Division of Open Government
Office of the Attorney General
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

RE: OML Complaint – Carlisle Board of Selectmen – Lodged July 13, 2016
Request for Further Review
Relief Sought: Admonition and Guidance Regarding “subcommittees”

Dear Sir/Madam:

Further review of the Carlisle Board of Selectmen’s ongoing conduct of closed meetings regarding the town’s call fire department is hereby requested. The original Open Meeting Law complaint, with attachments, is filed with this letter.

FACTUAL SUMMARY – ONGOING OML VIOLATION

In his response, Town Counsel concedes that a “working group” comprised of two selectmen, the Town Administrator, and two firefighters should have adhered to the open meeting rules. However, Counsel argues that the group automatically ceased to exist upon the consultant’s submission of his report to the group. This argument must fail as a defense to an OML complaint for any and all of the following:

1. Two selectmen continued to meet with fire department personnel to discuss fire department changes, including issues identified in the report, after the consultant presented his report to the group, with Bill Risso taking John Gorecki’s place after the May 2016 town election¹;
2. The report was not submitted to the Board of Selectmen, and it only became public after another firefighter filed a public records request. (Because OML procedures were not followed, the consultant’s “study” was not properly authorized. As a result, the report should be completely disregarded.);

¹ This factual background reflects my understanding as of June 14, 2016, when I learned that the meetings were still being held. The OML Complaint was lodged on July 13, 2016. I was not officially informed of any meeting times or contents during my service as a Selectman.

3. A third selectmen, Luke Ascolillo, has been included “serially” in the deliberations about the fire department outside the public’s view;
4. The fact that new Selectman, Bill Risso, was not officially and publicly appointed to this constructive subcommittee enhances the need for intervention by the AG’s office. The fact that there was not even a general awareness that these deliberations were taking place requires remedy;
5. The preservation of our *call* fire department is a huge issue for the town.

Two selectmen (a “subcommittee”), with a third selectmen meeting separately, have been deliberating with fire department personnel about a consultant’s report and significant changes to the fire department. These deliberations invoke open meeting obligations – especially by the Board of Selectmen in a small town governed by Town Meeting.

CONTEXT – PRESERVATION OF CALL FIRE DEPARTMENT

The OML Complaint involves Carlisle’s *Call* Fire Department. The Fire Department is a treasure. Firefighters are mainly town residents who spend four evenings a month in rigorous training that is specific to Carlisle’s somewhat unique situations. Carlisle relies on private septic systems and wells; firefighting water supplies are often based on ponds or cisterns. Firefighters must know every parcel and structure in the town; they must master every aspect of each piece of equipment; and they must learn to work together cohesively.

One simple example is in the skill required to connect a hose to a water cistern in comparison to connecting to a fire hydrant. A hydrant provides water under pressure, but the water in the cistern must be drawn into the hose. Carlisle firefighters have an extra burden of needing to assure that the fittings are reliably tight so that the water will be available – quickly.

There has been scuttlebutt about transitioning to a full-time fire department and to place the Police Chief in charge. But, if the town is fully informed about all the benefits of the call Fire Department and the somewhat obvious steps to be taken to reinforce the “call” structure (better pay for availability and longevity, more appreciation and celebration), the town would likely embrace these sorts of coherent suggestions.

THE TIMELINESS ARGUMENT IS INCONGRUOUS

These are Open Meeting complaints. The only relief sought is that the Selectmen do their duty and govern with transparency and meaningful opportunity for residents to participate. The Town Meeting is perhaps the only remaining form of government that can be relied upon to be of, by, and for the people. In each of the two complaints (see, January 22, 2016 OML Complaint against the Carlisle Affordable Housing Trust, with 5 of 7 members from the Board of Selectmen), Town Counsel met with the public body in executive session instead of

trying to resolve the problem in the open and with the complainant. Then, the statute of limitations was offered as the main defense. A time-barred response is incongruous.

Town Counsel concedes that the Open Meeting Law has been violated. The same timeliness argument was made to last January's OML complaint. There are three things wrong with this argument in this situation: (1) two or three selectmen are continuing to meet and deliberate about the fire department in meetings outside the public's view; (2) even if the complaints were untimely (though this one is inarguably not too late), the assertion that yet another open meeting violation cannot trigger involvement of this Office because of the timing is misplaced – to the contrary, the concession of a violation demonstrates intentionality and pattern; and (3) harmless and innocent deviations from strict compliance are probably not worth the time of the AG's Office, but the reason for opacity – which would cry out for review - may not be obvious at the time of the violation.

When a public body, or subcommittee of a public body, especially the Board of Selectmen, meets behind closed doors to discuss matters of public concern, the secrecy is probably purposeful. But, the purpose may not be obvious until some later date.

For example, as noted in the previous OML complaint, Carlisle's Affordable Housing Trust met on September 9, 2015 to discuss, among other things, the need for Site Plan Review, for a proposed group home duplex. The agenda was conspicuously silent as to Site Plan Review, but the issue was at the core of the two-hour meeting – which started at 8:00 pm, included members and administrators from the various land use boards, and was attended by the Town Administrator. We were told that the Dover Amendment, which applies to schools, limited Site Plan Review to issues such as building height. It was only months later that the obvious error in that opinion became evident. Site plan review considers issues such as stormwater drainage and traffic safety; the review is an important part of any school building project. As described earlier, the CAHT ignored the Police Chief's recommendation for traffic safety changes at the site, and those risks remain unaddressed.

In the present case, there is a danger that a list of specific recommendations will be presented to the town. This "already-down-the-chute" tactic may effectively prevent the town from considering alternative recommendations without extreme effort. Yet, the alternatives may provide much better answers for the town as a whole.

CONCLUSION

The above-referenced OML Complaint is the second, and hopefully, but not necessarily, the final complaint to assure that the town's voters are afforded meaningful opportunities to understand and be heard about the potential – and fundamental - changes that appear to be in the works.

It is my hope that the Selectmen will meet their inherent duty to communicate fully, openly, and sincerely with the town's residents about potential changes that could alter the

town's character, as well as lead to substantial tax increases. The Board of Selectmen have an implicit (if not express) fiduciary duty to the town to allow voters (ultimately through Town Meeting) to make the decisions that belong to Town Meeting. I will be urging the Board to take affirmative steps to vastly improve communications and openness, but it may require this Division's pressure to provide an effective, pragmatic incentive. It is my hope that these OML complaints will be seen by the Board of Selectmen as a catalyst for creating inclusive practices and assuring open and well-informed governance. If so, I intend to withdraw this request for further review. Until that time, further review is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Lyn Lemaire
978-341-8698

enclosure: OML Complaint, with attachments

cc: Carlisle Board of Selectmen (By email and by hand) ✓
Carlisle Fire Department (By email):
Chief David Flannery
Deputy Chief Jonathan White
Captain J.J. Supple
Lieutenant Robert Koning
Lieutenant Matt Svatek



OPEN MEETING LAW COMPLAINT FORM

Office of the Attorney General
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

Please note that all fields are required unless otherwise noted.

Your Contact Information:

First Name: LYN Last Name: LEMAIRE

Address: P.O. Box 164

City: CARUSLE State: MA Zip Code: 01741

Phone Number: 978-341-8698 Ext. _____

Email: norwaydamm@gmail.com

Organization or Media Affiliation (if any): _____

Are you filing the complaint in your capacity as an individual, representative of an organization, or media?
(For statistical purposes only)

Individual Organization Media

Public Body that is the subject of this complaint:

City/Town County Regional/District State

Name of Public Body (including city/town, county or region, if applicable): CARUSLE BOARD OF SELECTMEN (BOS)

Specific person(s), if any, you allege committed the violation: _____

Date of alleged violation: ONGOING

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JUL 13 2015

TO: _____

Callahan

Description of alleged violation:

Describe the alleged violation that this complaint is about. If you believe the alleged violation was intentional, please say so and include the reasons supporting your belief.

Note: This text field has a maximum of 3000 characters.

In June 2015, the BOS created a Working Group (WG) purportedly to study ways to reinforce our "CALL" Fire Department. The WG was comprised of two (of 5) selectmen, two firefighters (neither is an officer), and the Town Administrator. Despite their expressed willingness to serve, neither the Chief nor the Deputy Chief, the two people with the most knowledge, were part of the WG. The WG meetings were not conducted under the OML requirements. A consultant was hired without any public process, and a seemingly damaging survey was conducted. The consultant delivered his report earlier this year.

I had assumed that the WG was ended after the consultant's report, but I learned on June 14 (2016) that the WG has kept meeting. A new selectman replaced the departing former BOS Chair on the WG, and I have been told that another new selectmen has met separately with the firefighters to reprise discussions. (See, Att. A, 7/12/16 letter to BOS)

The professional CALL Fire Department is part of the fabric of our town. (Attachment B, 7/12/16 letter to Chief Flannery). Also, there are significant financial benefits of the call method of mustering firefighters, who train regularly and must make themselves available, but who are not required to stay at the station. These professionals are made of special stuff, and they are members of our community. The Chief has indicated a desire to conduct more public forums, and once townspeople realize that the department may need more of the town's emotional and pocketbook support (See, Attachment B), I am sure that the support will flow. The private meetings with unknown agendas should cease.

ALSO See Attachment C. Resignation Statement read on June 14, 2016.

What action do you want the public body to take in response to your complaint?

Note: This text field has a maximum of 500 characters.

1. The private, closed-door meetings between selectmen and fire department personnel should stop;
2. The BOS should encourage attendance at the public forums to be conducted by Chief Flannery in the coming months;
3. The BOS should be admonished to adhere to both the letter and the spirit of the OML by refraining from placing fewer than a quorum in deliberative meetings under the guise of study groups.

Review, sign, and submit your complaint

I. Disclosure of Your Complaint.

Public Record. Under most circumstances, your complaint, and any documents submitted with your complaint, will be considered a public record and available to any member of the public upon request. In response to such a request, the AGO generally will not disclose your contact information.

II. Consulting With a Private Attorney.

The AGO cannot give you legal advice and is not able to be your private attorney, but represents the public interest. If you have any questions concerning your individual legal rights or responsibilities you should contact a private attorney.

III. Submit Your Complaint to the Public Body.

The complaint must be filed first with the public body. If you have any questions, please contact the Division of Open Government by calling (617) 963-2540 or by email to openmeeting@state.ma.us.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understood the provisions above and certify that the information I have provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

July 13, 2016

RECEIVED

For Use By Public Body

For Use By AGO

Date Received by Public Body: _____ Date Received by AGO: _____

JUL 13 2016

TOWN CLERK-CARLISLE

M. Flannery

Lyn Lemaire
P.O. Box 164
Carlisle, MA 01741

July 12, 2016

Board of Selectmen
Town Hall
66 Westford Street
Carlisle, MA 01741

RE: Open Meeting Law Complaint
Call Fire Department – Working Group

Dear Selectmen:

This letter is part of an Open Meeting Law complaint to be filed today or tomorrow. As you are aware, a working group was created in June 2015 to study ways to reinforce the “call” fire department. The membership was comprised of two selectmen, two firefighters, and the Town Administrator. Although I was on the Board of Selectmen at the time, I had neither prior knowledge nor input into the selection of the members of the Working Group. The two selectmen were then Chair, John Gorecki, and current Chair, Nathan Brown. The two firefighters were Brian Sorrows and Kevin Brown. I learned later that Brian Sorrows is the son-in-law of the Managing Editor of the *Mosquito*, the town’s only newspaper (which is delivered free of charge to every household in Carlisle on Fridays).

I opposed the creation of the Working Group because, despite the charge to reinforce the call fire department, the Group did not include either the Fire Chief or the Deputy Fire Chief –the two most knowledgeable people about the fire department. The Group met behind closed doors, without notice or minutes, for many months. A Consultant was retained who conducted a survey that cannot be considered objective in any way. In early April, the Consultant’s report, including the confidential survey results, was written about in an extensive article in the *Mosquito*. The article was inflammatory and damaging to the department. In stunning contrast, the *Mosquito* did not even send a reporter to the Fire Department Forum, which was held the week following the article. (See the attached letter to Chief Flannery thanking him for holding the Forum and outlining much of what we learned that evening.)

As of May, the Working Group had met in secret, the advertised Fire Department Forum was not covered at all in the *Mosquito*, and yet the Consultant’s uneven conclusion was reported over three pages in the *Mosquito*. Since the Consultant’s report had been submitted, I assumed that the Working Group was finished. Not so.

On June 14, I learned informally that a new member of the Board of Selectmen had taken Mr. Gorecki’s place on the Working Group and that another new member of the Board of Selectmen was meeting separately with fire department members to repeat discussion of the same issues.

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JUL 13 2016

TOWN CLERK-CARLISLE

Nathan

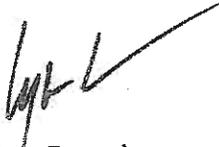
July 12, 2016

Although the time has gone by for a formal Open Meeting Law complaint directed at last June's creation of the Working Group, it is not too late to ask the Board to stop meeting in secret about the future of our call fire department. Beyond the technical violation of that sunshine statute, I believe the Board has a fiduciary duty to the town to refrain from all closed door deliberations.

As was requested at the Fire Department Forum in April, there should be several open forums during the upcoming year. Once the town gets to know the *call* fire department better, great support will follow. On some level, the town already realizes that the call fire department is a jewel. Please refrain from tarnishing this jewel by holding secret, divisive meetings. Let the town decide how to best nourish our call fire department.

Thank you, in advance, for ceasing the closed door meetings.

Sincerely,



Lyn Lemaire

cc: Chief Flannery
Deputy Chief White
Captain Supple
Lieutenant Koning
Lieutenant Svatek
Town Moderator (Wayne Davis)

A-2

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JUL 13 2016

TOWN CLERK

Handwritten signature/initials

Lyn Lemaire
P.O. Box 164
Carlisle, MA 01741

Chief David Flannery
Carlisle Fire Department
42 Westford Street
Carlisle, MA 01741

July 12, 2016

RE: April Forum
Carlisle *Call* Fire Department

Dear Chief Flannery:

Thank you so much for holding the Forum in April on our *Call* Fire Department. Those present, including myself, gained new respect and admiration for all of our firefighters and for the department. Some of what we learned included:

- Firefighters are made of special stuff. They run into burning buildings; they take great satisfaction in helping their neighbors; and they are part of the call fire department for reasons that go well beyond being on a committee or receiving financial reward. I am simply in awe of our firefighters and along with others who attended the Forum, expressed a great well of gratitude for the department;
- Members train two nights a month on fire fighting and one night each month on EMT in addition to attending regular and after action meetings;
- Firefighters must know *every* aspect of firefighting in Carlisle. This capability is particularly impressive because Carlisle may present many different firefighting situations, including such important tasks as assuring that the hoses fit tightly to the cisterns. Water from cisterns, unlike water from pressurized hydrants in towns with public water, must be drawn from the cistern. Firefighters must not only know every address in town but also be familiar with the communication, water supply, and truck maneuvering challenges at so many different settings;
- Perhaps the hardest thing that members must do is to be "available" for many hours each month while not having a large number of calls during the year. A firefighter may be called when he would rather spend the time with his family or continue on some project at work. Yet, when called – they come;
- It may take several years for a firefighter to become fully competent, so a reward for longevity is essential in our *call* fire department;
- Call fire departments are professional. The days of calling every able body for a bucket brigade are long past. Firefighters should be compensated in accord with

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JUL 13 2016

TOWN CLERK

B-1

cut pastor

July 12, 2016

their professionalism and with what makes sense for the town. For example, at the Forum, an “Availability Pay Matrix” was proposed as a starting point. The Uber demand pricing method was one additional suggestion;

- The main differences between a call fire department and a full time department are: (1) the method of mustering firefighters, (2) the need for generalized knowledge of all aspects of firefighting, and (3) the common sense to having firefighters available while not requiring that up to seven firefighters sit in a fire station 24 hours/day. The latter point is important. If Carlisle were to add two full time (per diem) fire fighters, those who were on call may resent the difference and be less willing to be part of the call firefighter fellowship;
- The Fire Department has deep roots in Carlisle. (Your photo of the town green from the high top of the extended ladder was a wonderful demonstration of a proud department and connection to the town.) Firefighters come from town. They are our neighbors. The call fire department is part of the fabric of the community;

Although I believe that there is almost universal support for the department, the town has not shown that support recently. The Town Moderator attended the Forum and enthusiastically requested that several more forums be held in the coming year. Once the town knows more about the department, the training, the spirit, and knows more firefighters, the support will undoubtedly flow. (I, for one, would like to help to organize a Firefighters Ball – 2016 style.) I look forward to more forums.

Many thanks, Chief. I will be happy to help with anything you need in support of this treasure in our town. With,

Highest regards,



Lyn Lemaire

cc: Deputy Chief White
Captain Supple
Lieutenant Koning
Lieutenant Svatek
Town Moderator (Wayne Davis)
Board of Selectmen

B-2

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JUL 13 2016

TOWN CLERK-CARLISLE



TO: Carlisle Board of Selectmen, Carlisle Town Clerk
FROM: Lyn Lemaire
DATE: June 14, 2016 (Presented at Board of Selectmen meeting)
RE: *Not in My Name* – Resignation from the Board of Selectmen

I'd like to focus on Article 13 – the repurposing of \$150,000, which was appropriated by the 2014 Annual Town Meeting for a much needed communications tower, a tower needed by the Fire Department. At this year's Town Meeting, Lieutenant Matt Svatek, along with two others, taught us – again – that the tower is essential for improved radio communications, especially at the scene, where firefighters may be inside a burning building. But, the monopole tower will not be built anytime soon. Instead, the funds will be used for the design of a multimillion dollar telecommunications network.

In addition to the questionable propriety of not having a separate, and well analyzed, Article for the proposed network, Article 13 highlights what I see as two deeply fundamental problems: (1) the Selectmen have not wholeheartedly supported our call fire department, perhaps even taking steps that undermined the department, and (2) the Board has acquired the habit of forming sub-committees or working groups comprised of two selectmen, and perhaps others, that meet in unannounced, closed sessions, with no minutes. Conclusions, such as the telecommunications study, are then presented, but the conclusions cannot be easily challenged.

Last year, the Board created a working group ostensibly to find ways to reinforce the call fire department. Despite the stated goal, the group did not include the two most knowledgeable professionals, Chief Flannery and Deputy Chief White, but it did include two firefighters, one of whom is the son-in-law of the *Mosquito's* Managing Editor. Unbalanced access to the town's only newspaper was added to the problem of opaque meetings by a group with a curious composition. The process feels wrong.

Our call firefighters are made of special stuff. They run into burning houses; they are professionals who train often and must become expert in every aspect of Carlisle firefighting; and they make themselves available during times when they might rather just settle in with their families. They have simply not been appreciated by the Board.

I voted in opposition to all of these actions, but I was in the minority. There seems to be a belief that once the Board has made a decision, all members must stand behind it. In my view, this thinking is very dangerous to civic health. Nonetheless, the belief is evidently widely held. To me, it is repugnant to be held responsible for Board actions that I believe reflect a breach of faith owed to the town. I cannot allow such actions to be made in my name. Accordingly, I hereby resign from the Board of Selectmen, effective immediately.

cc: Chief Flannery
Deputy Chief White
Captain Supple
Lieutenant Koning
Lieutenant Svatek

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JUL 13 2016

TOWN CLERK - CARLISLE

Carlinator