

Minutes
Town Of Marlboro Select Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 26, 2023

Attendees: Molly Welch – SB Vice-Chair; Jeff Skramstad – SB Member; Nick Morgan – SB Assistant/Town Admin; Rebecca Sevigny – Asst. Treasurer; Kate Kirkwood – Energy Committee (ZOOM); Warming Center Committee – Gail MacArthur, Marcia Hamilton, Edie Mas (ZOOM); Linda and Don Fuhrman, Jean Boardman – Residents.

Recognized that Molly and Jeff formed a quorum, Meeting Called to Order @ 6:02pm

Regular Select Board Meeting Agenda

Identify Any Changes to Agenda: None

Scheduled Business:

Unscheduled Open Public Comment: None

Approval of Minutes from September 14, 2023 – (Welch/Skramstad – Passed unanimously)

Signature of Pay Orders - Done

New Business:

MCC Warming Center Update: Gail, Marcia, & Edie came to the Board to provide an update on the Warming Center project at the MCC. Gail reported that having received grant funding from Senior Solutions, a generator was purchased and is in the process of being hooked up to fuel source and tested with the system fully functionable by October (pending gas company completing the hook-up. As discussed in previous meetings the Warming Center Project plans to be able to provide a location at the MCC for people who are in need of a place to be warm during extreme winter conditions. The acquisition of a generator for the MCC will serve two purposes: One, in the event of extreme cold combined with extended power outages, the MCC heating system will be able to function, providing a Warming Center for town residents in need. Two, the generator will also work to protect the MCC's infrastructure (water pipes, etc.) in the event of an extended power outage during extreme cold conditions.

The Board expressed its appreciation to Gail, Marcia, & Edie for their work. As the MCC is such an important part of the Town Center, and the Warming Center will be a big help to many residents, The Committee also used this time to request that the Town provide funding in the budget to help defray the maintenance costs (~\$300/yr) and fuel costs (~\$1,200/yr) of the new Generator system, at total of ~\$1,500 for 2024, and to cover fuel for the remainder of 2023 at ~\$500.

The Board agreed that this would be a good use of Town Funds and passed the following motions:

Move to approve an allocation of approximately \$500 for the remainder of 2023 to cover potential fuel costs for the generator at the MCC (noting that should this not be sufficient the Board would be open to future requests). (Skramstad/Welch – Passed unanimously)

Move to approve a line item in the 2024 Marlboro Town Budget in the amount of \$1,500 to cover maintenance and fuel costs for the generator at the MCC. (Skramstad/Welch – passed unanimously)

Please note that a letter to the Select Board from the Warming Center Committee is attached to these minutes as an addendum.

Review & Discussion of 9/16/23 Town Warning Public: The Board noted that the meeting went well and Nick advised that over the coming weeks prior to the next meeting on November 18, 2023, he and Town Clerk, Forrest will be drawing up a template ballot incorporating the suggestions presented at the meeting, which will be posted on the town website, so people will have something to review and discuss, and help to possibly advance other articles to be incorporated into the 2024 Warning/Ballot.

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Treasurer Department: Rebecca Sevigny (Asst. Treasurer) came to the Board to present an overall snapshot of the current finances (Taxes, Expenses, Maintenance Costs, Debt Load, etc.) of the town and to discuss how such information could be presented to the Board moving forward. After discussing the process, all parties agreed that a monthly summary presentation would be advantageous to the Board's work.

Old Business

Town Administrator Report:

FEMA Update – Nick reported that he, Andrew, and the Treasurers are working with our FEMA representative on providing all documentation necessary for the Town to receive FEMA reimbursement for the conditions caused by the July Rains on Shearer Hill and North Pond Roads. He noted that paperwork should be completed in October and would continue to update the Board.

MERP Update – Marlboro has been approved for two building energy assessments (Town Office Building and Town Garage in the second phase of the MERP program. Marlboro is currently in the second group to receive the assessments and Nick will continue to apprise the Board of the status.

Highway Garage Mold Condition and Insurance Coverage for Mitigation – On September 21, the PACIF (Town's Insurance Company) designated engineer inspected the Highway Garage in the first step of requesting insurance to pay for the mitigation of the Mold condition. Once the engineer's report is sent to PACIF, there will be a determination by PACIF on our coverage. As more information becomes available, Nick will continue to update the Board.

Motion to Adjourn @ 6:55pm (Welch/Skramstad – Passed unanimously)

September 26, 2023

Dear Marlboro Selectboard,

The ad hoc warming center committee would like to inform you of the progress which has been made. As stated earlier, the availability of a lighted, warm space with running water, a bathroom, cooking facilities and an inviting area for gathering is in the best interests of the citizens of Marlboro. This idea is supported by the Planning Commission, Marlboro Cares, the Marlboro Community Center and the Marlboro Meeting House, as well as many other individuals. We are pleased to inform you that we were able to secure a grant through Senior Solutions for a generator which has now been installed. We are waiting for the gas hookup in late October for the center to be functional.

Marlboro Cares has reached out to neighbors of the town center and has a good list of volunteers who will be available to open and staff the center during prolonged power outages in town and whenever the Community Center is closed.

We are submitting the following proposal for your consideration for the ongoing expense of operating the warming center. The expenses are expected to include a \$300 annual maintenance fee and propane. The fuel consumption is able to be monitored by the unit. We suggest that these expenses be assigned to the Emergency Management line item in the budget and that an additional \$1500 be added to the 2024 Town Budget.

In addition, we would like to point out that the Meeting House is a valuable community resource, hosting public informational meetings, the Town Meeting lunch, the upcoming Energy Fair, etc., for which there is no obligation by the Town. It is in the best interest of the Town to maintain the building and keep the heat on during power outages and it is an appropriate use of town funds. As Marlboro develops a plan for the Town Center, the costs for the generator might be better included in a new line item such as "Town Center Improvements".

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Jennifer Mazur, Gail MacArthur, Edie Mas, Marcia Hamilton