

**TOWN OF WEBSTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
ROBERT MILLER, CHAIRMAN
DONALD BOURQUE, VICE CHAIRMAN
ANDREW JOLDA
MARK DOWGIEWICZ
WILLIAM STARZEC**

A Board of Selectmen's Meeting was held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at the Town Hall on Wednesday, November 5, 2014. Chairman Miller called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

Attendance: William Stazrec, Mark Dowgiewicz , Andrew Jolda, Robert Miller

Absent: Don Bourque

Pledge of Allegiance: Selectman Miller led the Selectmen in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Miller thanked everyone who turned out to vote in yesterday's election. He said all the candidates did a great job.

Karen Munkacy, MD – Medical Marijuana Growing Facility

Mr. McAuliffe stated the proposed parcel eyed for the medical marijuana growing facility is zoned industrial. He stated the medical marijuana growing facility would probably fall under the qualified use. He stated the Town is seeking to do a zoning amendment at the Special Town Meeting. He stated there will also be an amendment to the hours of operation. He stated Town Counsel have already approved the language. Karen Munkacy came forward. She stated she is the President to Garden Remedies. She stated she has breast cancer and went through very painful chemotherapy. She stated she did not want people to suffer like she suffered through the pain. She stated she is looking to have a cultivation center here in the Town of Webster. She stated the product grown in Webster will be sold in her dispensary in Newton. She stated as they move forward she will present the Board with plans of the proposed cultivation center. She stated her cultivation center will support Webster in three ways. She stated it will produce jobs in Webster, it will bring the Town in tax revenue and it will enter into a Community Host Agreement. Selectman Dowgiewicz asked how many jobs will be created. Dr. Kunkacy stated there will be approximately forty to eighty (40 to 80) jobs created. Selectman Starzec asked what the next steps would be to continue to move this forward. Dr. Munkacy stated having the zoning changed at the Special Town Meeting would allow them to move forward. She stated the Board could also issue a letter of support or non-opposition. She stated after the Town Meeting Approval they would need to submit plans to the State for their review. She stated they would then start the build out and go through numerous State Inspections. Mr. McAuliffe stated Garden Remedies already has a license approved from the State. He stated the Board has called a Special Town Meeting for Monday, December 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at Bartlett High School.

Deb Keefe – SWCCC – Update

Deb Keefe came forward. She stated she is the Chairman of the South Worcester County Communication Center (SWCCC). She stated the Town of Dudley is looking to go live very soon. She stated she is willing to stay on the Committee but would like to open it up to the Board to see if one of them would like to take her spot. She stated they meet every other Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Police Station. She stated it is vital they the new appointee will be able to attend the meeting during the day. She stated it has been a long process to combine the two Towns.

Motion: made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Starzec to re-appoint Deb Keefe to the South Worcester County Communication Center Committee.

Vote: Mr. Starzec – yes, Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Mr. Jolda – yes, Chairman Miller – yes.

Selectman Starzec asked if there was any other Towns interested in joining the regional dispatch. Ms. Keefe stated Oxford is interested in joining. She stated they are currently involved in talks. She stated the Committee would need a letter of intent from Oxford by February to go out for grant funding. She stated she would suggest one of the Selectmen join her when she goes to speak with their Selectmen.

Mr. McAuliffe stated if a Town decides to come in before next June then they would be treated as if they were involved all along. Chairman Miller stated grants will be more favorable if more Towns are involved. Mr. McAuliffe stated Webster has been very lucky. He stated the State is pulling away from funding single dispatch centers. Ms. Keefe stated the Town could take up to five (5) Towns through regional dispatch. She stated they have a very close working group. Mr. McAuliffe stated the Town will definitely see three communities. Ms. Keefe stated she will keep the Board updated.

Proposed Worcester County Sheriff's Office Community Corrections Center – Discussion

Chairman Miller stated everyone received a handout from the public hearing. He stated this has been a hot issue within the Town. He suggested people forward their concerns and/or questions to the Board so they can forward them to the Sheriff's Office for answers/certifications. He stated all parties want to see a plan. Selectman Starzec asked that the Board gets this information soon because they need to make a decision. Earl Gabor suggested sending a letter to the communities that host a Correction Center already and ask them how it impacts their community. He stated he would also like to see the Harvard Study. He stated this new program could open at their old location but would have to go out to bid for a permanent location. He stated no other Town wants this program in it. Mr. McAuliffe stated he would have to see if there was any zoning issues. He stated special zoning would apply if that location. Selectman Dowgiewicz stated he would like to see something in writing before they rescind their vote to defund this program. Deb Keefe stated there is really nothing the Board can do to stop this. She stated this is a live business. She stated that this is not a Town Building or a Town Program. She stated there is little the Board can do.

Other Business Unknown at Time of Posting

Chairman Miller stated he has been receiving complaints regarding the Compost Facility. He stated the leaves haven't even fallen off the trees and the Compost Facility is closing. He stated he would like Mr. McAuliffe to see into the cost of keeping the Compost Facility opening longer in the year and add additional times for people to dump their leaves.

Adjournment

Motion: made by Selectman Starzec, seconded by Selectman Jolda to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Vote: Mr. Starzec – yes, Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Mr. Jolda – yes, Chairman Miller – yes.

Respectfully Submitted,
Courtney Friedland