



TOWN HALL | 39 SOUTH STREET | HINSDALE, MA | 01235 | 413-655-2300

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Executive Session

July 2, 2019 at 6pm

Community Room, Downstairs

posted on 8:40pm on 7/08/2019

Members present: Select Board members Vivian Mason, Ray Bolduc;

Also: Town Administrator Bob Graves; Finance Chairman Shaun Galliher; Jay Talerman, Esq.; Ed Munch, Peru Select Board member; Bill Adams, Cummington Select Board Member

Meeting began at 6pm.

Open session

Ray made a motion to move to go into Executive Session to discuss the strategy with respect to possible litigation concerning the April 6 Wahconah school building vote, and that the chair declare that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the body and not reconvene in open session. [Exemption 3] Chair so declared. Ray said Yes, Viv said Yes.

Jay Talerman of Mead, Talerman & Costa spoke about possible legal strategies and asked questions about what we were hoping to achieve. Mr. Munch spoke about how the trust between the towns and the district has been broken and how sad that was. Mr. Adams spoke about problems Cummington has had in trying to withdraw from the district. Vivian said she was disappointed that the only official response to her letter to the superintendent had been a list of meetings and a copy of the Yarmouth/Dennis court case.

The group discussed finances and what the legal costs might be. Also discussed was division of legal bills, if any and how billing would work. Mr. Talerman advised each town would be billed separately if they agreed to participate and the towns in the group would have to come up with an equitable way to split the bill. Also noted if legal representation could be stopped at any time with a phone call.

Discussed what we were looking for going forward. Each town to discuss and revisit this question.

Viv asked for a vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:35pm. Ray said Yes, Viv said Yes.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynne Baumgartner