

Jacob Edwards Library

Special Meeting

Minutes of May 5, 2015

The Library Trustee meeting of May 5, 2015 began at 1:00 PM. Present at the meeting of were Trustees Gary Bridgman, Robin Weber, Maureen Gullekson, Acting Town Manager Kevin Paicos, Chairman Dick Whitney and Library Director Margaret Morrissey. Tammie Darling was present to record the minutes.

Acting Town Manager Kevin Paicos discussed his blight eradication vision for the Town of Southbridge. The property at 10 Wardwell Court has been demolished at a cost of \$39,000 to the Town. Next was a discussion regarding the property at 28 Foster Street. Acting Manager Paicos discussed the possibility of the Library purchasing the property and the Town would then demolish the property at the Town's cost. With both properties demolished, there is an opportunity for future parking expansion which Mr. Paicos stated that the Town would pay for the architect and parking since it is Town property.

Gary Bridgman stated the three reasons to purchase the property which were blight eradication, expansion and parking. Gary did not see a reason to purchase the property under any of these categories and would rather save the money for a future project rather than parking. Dick Whitney stated that he sees a strategic importance for the future of the library. Maureen Gullekson discussed blight and it's effect on the Library and parking. Robin Weber had mixed views regarding blight but views the purchase as an opportunity to partner with the Town.

Maureen Gullekson motioned that the Trustees contribute funds not to exceed \$50,000 to go toward the purchase of 28 Foster Street subject to deed restrictions on the 28 Foster Street deed and the 10 Wardwell Court deed, that the two properties be subject to control by the Jacob Edwards Library Trustees. Robin Weber seconded. Three in favor, one opposed. So voted.

Gary Bridgman made a motion to adjourn, Robin Weber seconded. The meeting ended at 2:35 PM.

Approved May 26, 2015