

05-27-2008 4th Tuesday Regular Town of Westport Board Meeting 7:00 PM

The May 27th 2008 4th Tuesday Regular Town of Westport Board Meeting was held at the Westport Town Hall and was called to order by Supervisor Connell at 7:08 PM with the following members present on a roll call

Councilman Tyler
Councilman Sherman
Councilman Smith Excused due to Illness
Supervisor Connell

OTHERS PRESENT: Brenda McCooey, Town Clerk; Jerry Sherman, DPW Superintendent; George Hainer, Building Codes Zoning Officer; Gordon Decker; James Herrmann; Karen Tromblee, WCS Superintendent; Judy Howell.

Assembly was led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RESOLUTION # 123
MINUTES APPROVAL

On a motion by Councilman Sherman seconded by Councilman Tyler the following was approved on a roll call

AYES 3 Tyler, Sherman, Connell
NAYS 0

Resolved to accept the minutes of the May 13, 2008 Regular Town of Westport Board Meeting as presented.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR-KAREN TROMBLEE-Mrs. Tromblee congratulated Supervisor Connell on a well-attended Town Meeting.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR-JUDY HOWELL-Ms. Howell offered her assistance for the Community Development Project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **YOUTH COMMISSION**-No meeting since last Town Board Meeting-Supervisor Connell stated Director has been hired for the Summer Program, the Camp Councilors will be paid for one training, but not for both. There is time to apply for the lunch program, if so desired.
- **GARAGE**-Meeting of committee was held prior to Town Board Meeting-The Town would be the Lead Agency. Supervisor Connell to seek counsel. Memorandum of Understanding is necessary between parties. Councilman Sherman inquired if this project would be voted upon by the Public, no, it will not but the Public will have many opportunities to speak at the various Public Hearings and Meetings. After discussion, Supervisor Connell invited citizens to attend meetings and receive information first hand.

OLD BUSINESS

- **ZONING**-George Hainer has been notified, Ellen George of the APA has reviewed the proposed amendments, and Brian Grisi is reviewing her comments. Councilman Sherman would like to begin process of amending the Land Use Law for the Hamlet- If Town has not heard from Mr. Grisi by next Town Board Meeting, the Town Board will begin the process for Hamlet.
- **USDA/RURAL DEVELOPMENT CLOSING**-The local closing on the Water Project was held on Friday May 23rd, 2008 with the formal closing Thursday May 29th.
- **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**-Meeting on Thursday May 22 was well attended with over 100 interested people in attendance. Information gathered at this meeting will be reviewed at the Thursday May 29th Meeting at the Town Hall.
- **REQUEST FROM TIM SHERMAN**-After discussion Mr. Sherman has withdrawn his request to purchase a town owned tract of land adjacent to his property. Mr. Sherman inquired if signs could be posted 500 feet from his and Katnick's property lines, and some trees along the perimeter be cut. Supervisor Connell to contact Association of Towns for counsel on posting of town property and will be addressed when full board present.
- **COUNCILMAN POSITION**-Discussion followed on a vacated councilman seat and uncertainty of length of councilman absence due to illness the following resolution was approved.

**RESOLUTION # 124
COUNCILMAN POSITION**

On a motion by Councilman Tyler seconded by Councilman Sherman the following was approved on a roll call after discussion

AYES 3 Tyler, Sherman, Connell

NAYS 0

Resolved to notify Press Republican and Valley News of a vacancy on the Town Council, appointed position will be filled until December 31, 2008.

**RESOLUTION # 125
RESOLUTION # 124 AMENDMENT**

On a motion by Councilman Tyler seconded by Councilman Sherman the following was approved on a roll call

AYES 3 Tyler, Sherman, Connell

NAYS 0

Resolved to amend Resolution # 124 by adding letters of interest shall be received no later than June 17, 2008 at 12:00 Noon.

NEW BUSINESS

- **BEACH & LIFEGUARD**-Have two applications thus far for lifeguards-ad has been placed in the paper-applicants will be told job includes removal of seaweed from the water. Assistance from Moriah Shock inmates will be asked for to initially clean up the beach.
- **SIDE WALK**-No report
- **AUDIT**-Auditors still here.
- **UNION CONTRACT**-Union Business Agent has been contacted to begin contract negotiations. Supervisor Connell will contact Union Agent again.
- **CLOSEOUT SMALL CITIES GRANT**-NYS CDBG Project # 1241IT240-06, Certificate of Completion approval of closeout of the Office for Small Cities Grant.
- **OUTDOOR FURNACES**-Councilman were given 2 Local Laws concerning outdoor wood furnaces which may be addressed at next Town Board Meeting.
- **ASSESSOR TRAINING**-The assessor has submitted a request to attend training.

RESOLUTION # 126 ASSESSOR TRAINING

On a motion by Councilman Sherman seconded by Councilman Tyler the following was approved on a roll call

AYES 3 Tyler, Sherman, Connell

NAYS 0

Resolved to authorize Town of Westport Sole Assessor to attend training.

- **INN ON THE LIBRARY LAWN STREET LIGHT REQUEST**-Councilman Sherman stated the owners of the Inn on the Library Lawn are still seeking a solution from streetlight shining into rooms at night. Councilman Sherman to forward telephone number of Bill Johnson of National Grid, to the owners of the Inn.

RESOLUTION # 127 AUDIT OF BILLS

On a motion by Councilman Tyler seconded by Councilman Sherman the following was approved on a roll call

AYES 3 Tyler, Sherman, Connell

NAYS 0

Resolved to pay the bills as audited on Abstract 5B Voucher #'s 2008-320 to 2008-346 in the amount of \$39,798.49.

Discussion followed in event the State does ban open burning, how would brush be disposed of. Discussion followed on possibility of moving Transfer Station to brush dump site and selling property current transfer station occupys since the Town pays taxes on this property to Elizabethtown. Supervisor Connell to contact Town Attorney to research. A letter was sent to the SPCA concerning pooper scooping, Supervisor Connell to readdress.

DPW SUPERINTENDENT REPORT/REQUEST-DPW Superintendent Sherman has researched the animal waste disposal bags and signs, DPW Superintendent Sherman to order signs, when DPW Crew was cleaning up for Memorial Day a large pile of waste was found inside the fence of the play equipment. Gates need to remain closed to ensure animals cannot go into play area. DPW Crew has been ditching and grading roads, mowing lawns and cemeteries, brooming roads, burned the brush pile, repaired a water leak in Wadhams, hauled item 4 to stock pile, completed a sewer hook up on Sisco Street, repairing manhole rings, still encountering sump pump violations, Town will need to address, meeting with representative from Rural Water and will discuss smoking the system for violations, DPW Crew attended Safety Meeting and will need to reschedule confined space training. DPW Superintendent Sherman stated the Town would be repairing the sewer main at 52 Champlain Avenue. Councilman Tyler inquired on time frame for paving of Marks Road-date hasn't been set yet. Councilman Sherman inquired on the status of the Merriam Forge Road-awaiting engineering firm report.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS-Supervisor Connell stated a Wadhams Water Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday June 4 at 6:30 at the Town Hall. A meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM May 28th at the Wadhams Fire station to discuss possibly moving the Westport Voting District # 1 Polling place to the Town Hall.

COUNCILMAN COMMENTS- Councilman Tyler-the noise level emanating from the Sewer Treatment Plant needs to be addressed. Supervisor Connell to speak with Wayne Ryan on this issue. Councilman Sherman-Craig Russell inquired if area around his Vet Hospital could be rezoned commercial-Mr. Russell needs to make a formal request to the Planning Board before it can be addressed.

RESOLUTION # 128
ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilman Tyler with a unanimous second to adjourn at 8:33 PM.

Respectfully Submitted _____ Brenda McCooey/Town Clerk