

Minutes of the Rescheduled 2nd Tuesday Regular Westport Town Board Meeting held on December 10, 2008

The December 10, 2008 Regular Town Board meeting was held at the Town Hall and called to order by Supervisor Connell at 7:00 p.m.

The assembly was led in the Flag salute.

Members present on a roll call were: Supervisor Connell, Councilmen Tyler, Paquette, & Sherman

Absent: Councilman Smith

Others present: Sheila Borden, Deputy Town Clerk
Jerrold Sherman, DPW Superintendent
William McHone

RESOLUTION #252 MINUTES APPROVAL

A motion was made by Councilman Tyler and seconded by Councilman Paquette to approve the minutes of the November 25, 2008 Regular Town Board Meeting. Councilman Sherman further moved to add a copy to those minutes of the letter dated 11/12/2008 from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation on the purchase of a parcel of land at Split Rock Mountain.

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to approve the 11/25/2008 minutes with the addition of the letter from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

William McHone expressed his thoughts in regards to resurrecting a road bypass around the town of Westport particularly for larger truck use with the possibility of this being considered within President Elect Obama's Road & Bridge Infrastructure program. It was mentioned that this should be something pursued through the Future of Westport program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **GARAGE** - At the Garage Committee meeting on 12/2/08 the decision was made to hire AES Northeast of Plattsburgh, NY as the engineer on the project.
- **YOUTH COMMISSION** – Councilman Sherman informed the Board that Jeff Schwoebel had resigned from the ski program. Bridgett Blemel is currently taking over the operation of the program. The school bus availability will be the same unless the school experiences state budget cuts.

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Carolyn Rubino's dance program is taking place at the Heritage House.

Eric Gay is heading up the basketball program that will start after Christmas at the school.

The Youth Commission board is looking at sportsmanship guidelines for youth and for parents.

Supervisor Connell welcomed Essex County District Attorney Julie Garcia who entered the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

**RESOLUTION #253
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Councilman Sherman with a second by Councilman Tyler to enter into Executive Session at 7:22 p.m.

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell

RESOLVED to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of the employment history of a particular person.

**RESOLUTION #254
CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION –RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING**

Motion was made by Councilman Tyler with a second by Councilman Paquette and approved on a roll call vote

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to close Executive Session and return to the Regular Meeting at 7:50 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

- **FUTURE OF WESTPORT** – The members are currently signing up to serve on different action committees.
- **UNION CONTRACT** – One error was identified on page 7 of the contract – “with the exception of Independence Day” needs to be removed.

**RESOLUTION #255
UNION CONTRACT BETWEEN TOWN OF WESTPORT HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
AND TEAMSTERS LOCAL 294**

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A motion was made by Councilman Sherman with a second by Councilman Tyler and approved on a roll call vote

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to ratify the contract between the Town of Westport Highway Department and the Teamsters Local 294.

- **WADHAMS WATER CONTRACT** – Agreement received from HydroSource Associates for water drilling in Wadhams.

**RESOLUTION #256
WADHAMS WATER SYSTEM**

A motion was made by Councilman Sherman with a second by Councilman Tyler and approved on a roll call vote

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize Supervisor Connell to enter in a contract with HydroSource Associates, Ashland, NH, for well installation and drilling in Wadhams.

- **ENGINEERING SERVICES WADHAMS WATER SYSTEM**

**RESOLUTION #257
ENGINEER CONTRACT WADHAMS WATER SYSTEM**

A motion was made by Councilman Tyler with a second by Councilman Sherman and approved on a roll call vote

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize Supervisor Connell to sign the contract with AES Northeast, Plattsburgh, NY as the engineers on the Wadhams Water Project in the amount of \$13,800.00.

- **MERRIAM FORGE ROAD** – Notice of Bid Award was received from Schoder River Associates.

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RESOLUTION #258
MERRIAM FORGE ROAD BID AWARD

A motion was made by Councilman Tyler with a second by Councilman Sherman and approved on a roll call vote

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to award the contract bid from Kubricky Construction Corporation of Glens Falls, NY, for the Merriam Forge Road Alignment.

- Noise Evaluation Water Treatment Plant – Received a proposal to evaluate the situation.

RESOLUTION #259
NOISE EVALUATION WATER TREATMENT PLANT

A motion was made by Councilman Sherman with a second by Supervisor Connell and approved on a roll call vote

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize Supervisor Connell to sign contract with AES Northeast of Plattsburgh NY for an amount not to exceed \$4,000 for them to evaluate the level of noise generated at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

- **ZONING DISCUSSION** – Mr. Hainer is currently reviewing the items and they should be able to be brought before the Board in January.

NEW BUSINESS

- **BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW – TERM EXPIRATION**

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RESOLUTION #260

REAPPOINTMENT – ULRICH HOFFMAN

Councilman Tyler moved with a second by Councilman Sherman and approved on a roll call vote

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell

0 Nays

RESOLVED to reappointment Ulrich Hoffman to the Board of Assessment Review for a five year term 10/1/08-9/30/13.

• **BUDGET TRANSFERS**

RESOLUTION #261

BUDGET TRANSFERS

On a motion made by Councilman Paquette and with a second by Councilman Sherman to authorize the following budget transfers was approved on a roll call vote

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell

0 Nays

Water One Appropriations

<u>Amount</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
\$6,503.38	SW1 9710.6a Serial Bond Principal	SW16420.4 Forester Expenses
General Appropriations		
\$34.00	A1990.4 Contingent	A1220.43 Super. Public Relations
\$500.00	A1990.4 Contingent	A1460.1 Records manage Wages
\$50.00	A1990.4 Contingent	A5010.1b DPW Super Salary
\$1,500.00	A1990.4 Contingent	A8160.1 Shuttle Station Wages
\$2,000.00	A1950.4 Contingent	A8160.4a Shuttle Station Op. & tipping
Sewer One Appropriations		
\$2,500.00	SS1 8130.4a Engineering	SS3 8120.4 Operating Exp.
\$100.00	SS3 8130.4a Engineering	SS1 8110.4 Administrative Exp.
\$5,000.00	SS1 8130.4a Engineering	SS1 8130.1b Assistant Wages
\$100.00	SS1 8130.4a Engineering	SS1 9030.8 Employer Share Social Sec.
Water Three Appropriations		
\$500.00	SW3 1990.4 Contingent	SW3 8310.1b Assistant Wages
Sewer Three Appropriations		
\$50.00	SS3 8110.4 Adm. Exp.	SS3 8110.1 Clerk to District
\$300.00	SS3 8130.4 Sewer Treatment	SS3 8130.1b Assistant Wages
Highway Appropriations		
\$2,500.00	DA 5110.1 Maint. of Streets Labor	DA 5130.1 Repair mach. Labor
\$6,000.00	DA 5130.4 Repair of Machinery	DA 5142.4 Snow and Ice Removal

RESOLVED to approve the above listed transfer of appropriations.

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- **TOWN CLERK'S NOVEMBER REPORT** – Supervisor Connell is in receipt of the November Report from Betty White, Town Clerk.

RESOLUTION #262
AUDIT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Councilman Tyler, with a second by Councilman Sherman and approved on a roll call vote

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize the payment of bills as audited on Abstract 12A Vouchers 2008-718 through 2008-748 in the amount of \$22,106.73.

- **DPW SUPERINTENDENT REPORT** – Jerrold Sherman
Superintendent Sherman reports that two of the county employees will come and help put up the detour signs for the Merriam Forge Project.
The staff has been reading the water meters, plowing and sanding.
A new method has been designed to help count the number of times dousing takes place at the Wadhams sewer plant.
There is some thought that the riser extensions on the tank in Wadhams should be changed and that is being looked into.
The rails are all installed on the upper section at the Westport sewer plant.
The roof drains have been re-routed at the Danzeisen property.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS

- Supervisor Connell discussed letter that was sent to those employees who were affected by the 27 pay periods this year.
- The announcement of the 2009 IRS mileage rate provided to the Board.
- A copy of Essex County Real Property Tax Offices budget analysis and evaluation of the 2009 Tax Rate given to Councilman.
- A letter has been received from Marc Atz and Bobbi Degnan regarding a fence that was damaged during the last snow season.
- The Board was provided with membership lists for the following:
 - Zoning Board of Appeals
 - Planning Board
 - Youth Commission
 - Board of Assessment Review
- New health insurance rates for 2009 were received from Excellus of Rochester, NY.

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- The next regular Town Board meeting will be 12/23/08 and it will be the Year-End meeting. The Reorganizational Meeting should be around January 5 or 6, 2009.

COUNCILMAN COMMENTS

Councilman Sherman stated that the Blue Ribbon Committee hasn't met but should be getting together again.

He also applauded the County for getting on board with the lawsuit against the Adirondack Park Agency.

Councilman Paquette mentioned his concern with Charter Cable raising rates and deleting channels.

Concern was also expressed about the excess accumulation of water on Mr. Wright's lawn on Sisco Street. DPW Superintendent Sherman will come back next month with cost of putting in a meter pit at the road.

Question was asked about a letter being sent to a resident on Sisco Street regarding their sump pump.

RESOLUTION #263

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Tyler at 9:12 p.m. Unanimous second. Carried.

Respectfully submitted

Sheila Borden
Deputy Town Clerk