

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH TUESDAY WESTPORT TOWN BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 27, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Connell at 7:00 p.m.

The Assembly was led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present on a roll call were:

Councilman Tyler  
Councilman Paquette  
Councilman Sherman  
Supervisor Connell

Others present:

Sheila Borden, Town Clerk  
Jerrold Sherman, DPW Superintendent  
George Hainer, Zoning & Codes Officer  
John Gallagher, Westport Superintendent of Schools  
Tom Kohler, School Board Member  
Jana Atwell, School District Clerk  
Elizabeth Lee, Youth Commission Director  
Rick Hoffmann, George Maffey, James Herrmann, Bridgette Blemel, Barbara Breyette, Sheera Broderick

**RESOLUTION #98**  
**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion by Councilman Tyler seconded by Councilman Paquette and approved on a roll call vote.

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 13, 2010 as received.

**SCHOOL BUDGET PRESENTATION** – Supervisor Connell introduced Superintendent of Schools John Gallagher who was in attendance to make his annual budget presentation to the Town Board.

A summary of the proposed budget was handed out showing an increase in expenditures of \$128,551 and an increase in the Tax Levy of 4.45%. Mr. Gallagher reviewed the budget and time was then allowed for questions from those present.

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The topic of Non Resident Students was discussed and the question asked if this is not a gift of public funds since parents do not pay tuition.

Also asked was the amount of fund balance being used to balance the budget? Mr. Gallagher had previously stated it was to be \$50,000 and now it is \$130,000. The retired treasurer of the school district publicly stated that she was extremely concerned over this amount as it already puts the district behind for the next budget year and Mr. Gallagher agreed that yes this was risky.

There was discussion on the guidance counselor positions and if they had any teaching responsibilities along with counseling.

It was indicated that assessments should not be changing much but the State of New York is reducing the value of Enhanced Star exemptions meaning an additional tax burden of approximately \$94.30 and reducing the value of the Basic Star exemption meaning an additional tax burden of approximately \$49.80.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**YOUTH COMMISSION** – Youth Commission Director Elizabeth Lee described the process she has been through getting organized. Bidy baseball is up and running and she is looking at a possible fishing program and swimming lessons. She stated that the program is always in need of volunteers.

**RESOLUTION #99**

**YOUTH COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS**

On a motion by Councilman Tyler seconded by Councilman Paquette and approved on a roll call vote.

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to appoint Elizabeth Lee as the Official Representative for the Town of Westport on the Youth Board/Planning Committee 962 4756 and further appoint Sheera Broderick and Bridget Blemel to serve on the Youth Commission along with student representatives as follows: Delaney Sears, Alexa Mitchell, Alternate-Alison Sherman.

Discussion took place on counselor and counselor in training positions. No action taken.

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**WESTPORT MUNICIPAL CENTER** – AES Engineering has made an offer to make colored posters at a cost of \$200 for one set on the proposed center to be made available to the public.

**RESOLUTION #100  
MUNICIPAL CENTER POSTERS**

On a motion by Councilman Sherman seconded by Councilman Tyler and approved after discussion.

3 Ayes	Tyler, Sherman, Connell
1 Nay	Paquette

**RESOLVED** to authorize AES to produce one set of colored drawings.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**WADHAMS WATER** – We have heard from Ag & Markets-everything is okay with them. The Planning Board meets on the project tomorrow night.

**HAMLET EXPANSION** – Friday they will be walking through the properties.

**SEMINAR ON APPRAISING**

**RESOLUTION #101  
APPROVAL FOR TRAINING**

On a motion by Councilman Paquette seconded by Councilman Sherman and approved on a roll call vote.

4 Ayes	Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell
0 Nays	

**RESOLVED** to authorize David Galarneau to attend the conference at Cornell University on July 12-16, 2010 for \$380.00.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**JACOBS – AMTRAK IMPROVEMENT REQUEST**

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**RESOLUTION #102  
AMTRAK IMPROVEMENT REQUEST**

On a motion by Councilman Sherman seconded by Councilman Tyler and approved on a roll call vote after discussion.

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to authorize the Supervisor to sign the agreement with Jacobs Project Management Co. that allows the work to be carried out as scheduled.

**RESOLUTION #103  
APPROVAL OF BILLS**

On a motion by Councilman Tyler seconded by Councilman Paquette and approved on a roll call vote.

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to authorize the payment of Abstract 4B of Vouchers 2010-194 through Vouchers 2010-217 in the amount of \$150,062.69.

**DPW SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – JERROLD SHERMAN**

Work is continuing with ditching, putting in culverts and mowing lawns. We had to purchase some material for Sisco Street and put in two sections of sidewalk on Sisco. There is a 2010 Highway School in Ithaca that Mr. Sherman would like to attend.

**RESOLUTION #104  
APPROVAL FOR TRAINING**

On a motion by Councilman Tyler seconded by Councilman Paquette and approved on a roll call vote.

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to authorize Jerrold Sherman to attend the 2010 Highway School in Ithaca.

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**SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS**

The County has entered into a contract that is a more economical method of storing highway salt.

A letter was received from Griffith Energy regarding the change to E10 gasoline in the country and the effect that will have on the Town.

As previously stated in the budget presentation we have been notified that there will be a reduction in the ENHANCED STAR exemption creating an additional tax burden of approximately \$94.30 and a reduction in the BASIC STAR exemption creating an additional tax burden of approximately \$49.80.

**COUNCILMEN'S COMMENTS**

Councilman Tyler mentioned that the Hoisington Bridge needs to be pressure washed and stained. He will get some estimates.

**TOWN CLERK** presented the Board with a beginning Plan of Action for the Municipal Center Vote for them to take home and review.

**RESOLUTION #105  
ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Councilman Paquette with a unanimous second it was resolved to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted

Sheila Borden, Town Clerk