

Minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting on February 14, 2012

Supervisor Connell called the meeting to order at 6:35p.m.

The Assembly was led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present on a roll call were:

Councilman Tyler
Councilman Paquette
Councilman McCormick
Supervisor Connell

Absent:

Councilman Sherman

Others present:

Sheila Borden, Town Clerk
Dennis Westover, DPW & Highway Superintendent
Elizabeth Lee, Director Youth Commission
George Hainer, Zoning & Codes Officer
Nancy Page, James Herrmann, John McWilliam

RESOLUTION #50 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2012 Regular Town Board Meeting with the following correction on page 4 under Youth Commission-stating that the Town Board agreed that they would not have to advertise the position for Summer Camp Director but would offer the position again to Vera Martin.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

YOUTH COMMISSION

Councilman McCormick reported that the Summer Camp Director position had been offered to Vera Martin and she has accepted.

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RESOLUTION #51
APPOINTMENT OF SUMMER CAMP DIRECTOR

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to appoint Vera Martin as Summer Camp Director for 2012 at the same salary as 2011.

Councilman McCormick further reported that the tentative dates for the summer program is July 2nd through August 3rd. They plan to interview for the counselors in March so notices will go in the paper soon. They will be holding the American Challenge Soccer Program at school this year starting August 3rd.

TAX COMMITTEE – Nancy Page reported that they had met and had gathered some very good information on pilots.

OLD BUSINESS

WADHAMS WATER – Supervisor Connell asked John & Dawn to review the list of things that are still not done and he has given that to Jim Dougan of AES.

SEMO/FEMA – Things are still moving along in the process.

TOWN HISTORIAN – This year after serving faithfully for ten years Betty White has turned in her resignation, which the Town Board accepted with their sincere thanks for the exceptional job she did. The Town Clerk has been keeping notes of items since the first of the year and has agreed to take that position over for the Town.

RESOLUTION #52
APPOINTMENT OF TOWN HISTORIAN

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to appoint Sheila Borden as the Town Historian for 2012 at the designated salary.

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HIGHWAY GARAGE UPDATE – Peter Gibbs from Engineering Ventures is working on the floor drain issue. He has been in contact with NYS DEC.

MINIMUM MAINTENANCE ROADS – The hearing was held prior to the start of our board meeting this evening on declaring the McMahan Road and the Mountain Spring Road as Minimum Maintenance Roads. Certified letters were sent out to all property owners bordering those roads notifying them of this and stating that they could come to the hearing, call with comments or send in comments and/or questions. Nothing was received.

RESOLUTION #53
DECLARATION OF MINIMUM MAINTENANCE ROADS

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to declare the Mt. Spring Road from the school bus turnaround past Harry Sherman to Fish & Game Way and the McMahan Road as Minimum Maintenance Roads.

NEW BUSINESS

UNRESTRICTED FUND BALANCE – The Board discussed the adoption of a fund balance policy.

RESOLUTION #54
FUND BALANCE POLICY

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to adopt the following: The Town of Westport has, by resolution, adopted a fund balance policy that states the Town of Westport must maintain a minimum unrestricted fund balance of 15% of the general fund operating budget. Unrestricted fund balance below the minimum should be replenished within the succeeding fiscal year.

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FORESTER REPORT & MAP – There is an issue getting to some of the areas that need to be reached by going through the Getman and McCutcheon property. They will have to be contacted.

ADIRONDACK LANDFILL SERVICES, LLC – Mr. Geoffrey May is presenting his contract for the 2012 Post-Closure Monitoring at a cost of \$2,071 which is the same price as last year.

RESOLUTION #55
CONTRACT LANDFILL POST-CLOSURE MONITORING

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize Supervisor Connell to sign the contract with Adirondack Landfill Services.

RESOLUTION #56
RESOLUTION OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

On a motion made by Councilman Tyler with a unanimous second,

RESOLVED to acknowledge the courageous actions of Alexander Steele, who resides with his family in Westport, NY and currently is a senior at Westport Central School,

WHEREAS Alexander Steele in the early morning hours of February 8, 2012 this seventeen year old young man while sound asleep in his home suddenly awoke to the smell of smoke,

WHEREAS Alexander Steele's first concern was for his younger sister Moria he quickly made his way to her room where he encountered thick black smoke which made breathing and visibility difficult,

WHEREAS Alexander Steele woke Moria leading her safely back to his room where he was able to break out his bedroom window climbed out on the roof leading his sister behind him, jumped ten feet to the ground suffering injuries and still being so concerned about his sister that when she was hesitant to jump, continued to eventually persuade her to do the same, even helping to break her fall,

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Westport wishes to recognize Alexander Steele for his heroic efforts that not only saved his life but that of his sister,

FURTHERMORE let this resolution serve as a public notice of achievement of a young man when put in an extreme emergency situation exemplified the behavior any grown man would wish to emulate.

RESOLUTION #57
INDUCTION HALL OF FAME-BEAUVAIS

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to purchase a quarter page ad in honor of Tom Beauvais as he is inducted in the Basketball Hall of Fame for \$75.00.

RESOLUTION #58
JUSTICE AUDIT REPORT

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to accept the audit report done by the Audit Committee on the two Justices and it was reported that there were no major discrepancies.

REQUEST FROM RAGNAR RELAY ADIRONDACKS 2012

The New York Race Director, Courtney Mitchell is requesting permission for the Ragnar Relay Adirondacks to run through Westport on September 28 & 29, 2012. It is a 200-mile overnight running relay race from Saratoga Springs to Lake Placid, NY.

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RESOLUTION #59
SUPPORT OF THE RAGNAR RELAY ADIRONDACKS 2012

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED that it be known that the Town Board of the Town of Westport is in full support of the Ragnar Relay Adirondacks 2012 to be held September 28 & 29, 2012 which is a 200-mile overnight running relay race from Saratoga Springs to Lake Placid, NY running through the Town of Westport.

TOWN CLERK'S JANUARY REPORT

Supervisor Connell is in receipt of the Town Clerk's January report and support documents.

RESOLUTION #60
APPROVAL OF BILLS

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to approve the payment of bills on Abstract 2A for Vouchers 2012-70 through 2012-109 in the amount of \$63,902.98.

DPW SUPERINTENDENT REPORT & REQUEST – Dennis Westover

The MSHA Training is being held on President's Day again. This will mean overtime for the crew, therefore I am requesting authorization for them to attend.

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RESOLUTION #61

ATTENDANCE AT MSHA TRAINING

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize the Highway Crew to attend the MSHA Training class and receive the appropriate overtime pay since it falls on a holiday.

Superintendent Westover reported that the new radios have been installed. The highway crew has been busy cutting brush along the roads. The brush issue at the Depot Theatre has been discussed with Mrs. McCormick and a plan is in place for cleaning it up. The outside boiler at the garage is leaking water in the firebox and we are looking into the issue but it is a 15-year-old wood furnace.

RESOLUTION #62

APPLY FOR OUTSIDE WOOD BOILER PERMIT

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize permission to apply to the NYS DEC for the permit for an outside wood boiler.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

The Town has received the mortgage and sales tax from the County.

COUNCILMEN'S COMMENTS

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RESOLUTION #63
APPRECIATION OF JERROLD SHERMAN

On a motion by Councilman Tyler with a unanimous second the following resolution was approved,

WHEREAS, Jerrold Sherman, was raised in Westport, attended Westport Central School, resided here with his wife Debi where they raised their two children and then began working for the Town of Westport in 1985 as a Heavy Equipment Operator, and

WHEREAS, Jerrold Sherman was a faithful, cooperative and dedicated Town employee from 1985 through 2011

THEREFORE in the year 2004 the Town Board offered the position of DPW and Highway Superintendent to Jerrold Sherman to which he faithfully served until his retirement in August of the year 2011.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Westport Town Board and the citizens of Westport wish to acknowledge the twenty-six years of dedicated service given by Jerrold Sherman to the Town of Westport and to express their sincere thanks for many years of a job well done.

RESOLUTION #64
EAGLE AWARDS

On a motion by Councilman Tyler with a unanimous second the Town Board will issue its congratulations for earning there Eagle Scout Awards to Frederick Conway, Harry Hudson and Alan Jacques.

Frederick Conway – Cleaning up Lee Park Trail
Harry Hudson – Make Picnic Tables for Fish & Game Club
Allen Jacques – Cleaning up beach at Port Henry

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nancy Page asked about the letter the Assessor was to send out on exempt property-if it had been sent out yet. Supervisor Connell will check on it.

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RESOLUTION #65
ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilman Paquette with a unanimous second the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted.
Sheila A. Borden, Town Clerk