

## **Minutes of the Town of Westport Regular Board Meeting on March 8, 2016**

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

The Assembly was led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present on a roll call were:

Councilperson Page  
Councilperson Paquette  
Councilperson Viens  
Councilperson Morrison  
Supervisor Tyler

Others present:

George Hainer, Zoning & Codes Officer  
Julie Schreiber, Town Clerk  
Laura McDaniel, Gladys Siarkowski, Philip Siarkowski, James Herrmann,  
Bill LaHendro, Simone Stephens, Heidi Sweet, Keven Severance

### **RESOLUTION #70 MINUTES FEBRUARY 23, 2016**

On a motion by Councilperson Viens, seconded by Councilperson Morrison, and approved on a roll call vote.

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Morrison, Tyler  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the February 23, 2016 Regular Town Board Meeting as received.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**YOUTH COMMISSION** – Councilperson Morrison attended their last meeting. They are working on the summer program and the baseball program. There was also discussion on the ski program, where an internal issue had come up.

**TOWN HALL PROJECT** – The contract is still being put together and the architects are working on the drawings. When the drawings are complete, the cost estimate will be compared to the budget before a final decision is made on whether or not to proceed with the project.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

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**WADHAMS SEWER PROJECT** – Supervisor Tyler mentioned that the plan to apply the \$400,000 grant to a new UV system might change. The UV may not be necessary and they are looking at alternatives. The town received a violation notice from the DEC. Supervisor Tyler met with the project engineer, the county engineer, Mike Mascarenas, and Dawn St. Louis and will be sending a response, which will include a game plan for addressing these issues. The town received a second notice from the DEC, regarding the Disinfection Engineering Report. This will be addressed in a separate response by the supervisor.

**NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION LETTER** – At the last meeting, council members were given a copy of letter in which the NWF asked for support in calling for a Federal ban on the transport of oil along Lake Champlain.

Supervisor Tyler stated that other towns are not voting to support this. The trains have a speed limit of 35 mph and new regulations on train cars make them safer.

Councilperson Page said that it's important to support this; it's a chance to say that we don't want this stuff going through our town. Even though train cars and tracks are being improved, they are still not safe because this is a gradual process that will take years.

Improvements should have been made before transport began and it's still too risky. The town would not be able to handle an evacuation if there were a spill or derailment.

Councilperson Viens said that he is not ready to jump on board, but this is definitely a concern.

Councilperson Morrison asked what type oil is in the tanks. Dennie responded that it's Number 6 crude oil.

Councilperson Paquette stated that this oil is much more explosive than gas and that it's being shipped overseas. He said that there is nowhere in the county that can handle a disaster by this company.

**RESOLUTION #71**  
**NWF LETTER SUPPORT**

On a motion by Councilperson Page, seconded by Councilperson Paquette, and defeated on a roll call vote.

2	Ayes	Page, Paquette
2	Nays	Viens, Morrison
1	Abstain	Tyler

**RESOLVED** to support the National Wildlife Federation's call for a Federal legislatively imposed ban on the transport of oil along Lake Champlain.

After the vote, Supervisor Tyler stated that there must be a reason that other town boards are voting against this and he will do more research on the issue.

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**JUSTICE AUDIT** – The annual audit of the Justice Court was completed on February 24, 2016 at 10:30 a.m.

**RESOLUTION #72**  
**MEO SALARY ADJUSTMENT**

On a motion by Councilperson Viens, seconded by Supervisor Tyler, and approved on a roll call vote.

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Morrison, Tyler  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to amend the Teamsters Local 294 Contract’s MEO salary by increasing it \$.75/hour to \$14.71/hour, effective at the next pay date.

**RESOLUTION #73**  
**UNION SICK DAYS**

On a motion by Councilperson Viens, seconded by Councilperson Morrison, and approved on a roll call vote.

4 Ayes Page, Viens, Morrison, Tyler  
1 Nay Paquette

**RESOLVED** to amend the Teamsters Local 294 Contract to read: that the number of unused sick days which an employee may accumulate will be 225 days. Employees shall be entitled to count 165 days accumulated but unused sick leave as time worked for the purpose of retirement and Section 41j of the New York State Retirement System shall apply.

**RESOLUTION #74**  
**WESTPORT WATER RATES**

On a motion by Councilperson Morrison, seconded by Councilperson Viens, and approved on a roll call vote.

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Morrison, Tyler  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to lower Westport Water District One’s operation and maintenance charge from \$58.00 per year to \$28.00 per year, effective on the third billing cycle of 2016 (July 1, 2016). Water rates apply to all properties that have a water hookup with water meter(s) or flat rate users that appear on quarterly billing reports.

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**RESOLUTION #75**  
**WESTPORT SEWER RATES**

On a motion by Councilperson Viens, seconded by Councilperson Page, and approved on a roll call vote.

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Morrison, Tyler  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** for Westport Sewer District One to implement an operation and maintenance charge of \$30.00 yearly, effective on the third billing cycle of 2016 (July 1, 2016). Sewer rates apply to all properties that have active sewer hookups that appear on quarterly billing reports.

**RESOLUTION #76**  
**COMBINE WADHAMS SEWER DISTRICTS**

On a motion by Councilperson Viens, seconded by Councilperson Morrison, and approved on a roll call vote.

4 Ayes Page, Viens, Morrison, Tyler  
1 Nay Paquette

**RESOLVED** to combine Wadhams Sewer District Two and Wadhams Sewer District Three for a combined sewer rate of \$300.00 yearly per customer, effective on the third billing cycle of 2016 (July 1, 2016). Sewer rates apply to all properties that have active sewer hookups that appear on quarterly billing reports.

**RESOLUTION #77**  
**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

On a motion by Councilperson Page, seconded by Councilperson Morrison, and approved on a roll call vote after discussion.

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Morrison, Tyler  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to authorize the payment of bills on Abstract 3A in the amount of \$13,596.89 for Vouchers 2016-136 through 2016-165.

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**DISCUSSION** – The bill from Clark’s Truck Center was pulled and will be held until the company is contacted. Councilperson Page was concerned that there is no breakdown shown for a labor charge (no indication of how many hours or hourly cost). Supervisor Tyler had a question on a bill from Kinsley. Dennie explained that it’s for planned maintenance on generators and is part of a yearly contract.

**RESOLUTION #78**  
**GOVERNMENT DAY CONFERENCE**

On a motion by Councilperson Page, seconded by Councilperson Viens, and approved on a roll call vote.

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Morrison, Tyler  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to approve all interested employees and board members to attend the Annual Adirondack Park Local Government Day Conference April 13-14, 2016 and payment of their actual and necessary expenses.

**DPW SUPERINTENDENT REPORT** – A few small water leaks have been fixed along with a large leak at the All Tucked Inn. Water meters have been read, including those at homes that have water turned off. The dock decking is almost complete and weatherproof cable ties will be added to hold it in place. Brush is still being cut and tomorrow Dennie will attend Advocacy Day in Albany to lobby for CHIPS money.

**TOWN CLERK REPORT** – The supervisor is in receipt of the town clerk’s February report.

**SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS** – Supervisor Tyler said that he isn’t sure if the litigation will be covered by the town’s insurance. Board members were given a copy of the year-to-date budget in their packets.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Heidi Sweet brought in a copy of photos of three damaged “Welcome to Westport” signs. With the board’s approval, she will look into replacement options.

Simone Stephens sent an email to Betty Little about paving Main Street. She received a phone call in return, telling her that that project isn’t on the DOT’s list, but they would see what they could do. Supervisor Tyler said that he will check with his contact again before contacting Betty.

Laura McDaniel asked if there was anything that can be done about the speed of traffic through town. The flashing signs only seem to slow traffic in that immediate area. She also asked about the condition of the crosswalks and the signs that were in place last year.

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Supervisor Tyler responded that the state is responsible for the painting of crosswalks. Dennie said that the signs were destroyed. Simone commented that the signs were difficult to drive around.

**RESOLUTION #79**  
**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Councilperson Paquette, with a unanimous second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Julie Schreiber, Town Clerk